

Guildhall Gainsborough
Lincolnshire DN21 2NA
Tel: 01427 676676 Fax: 01427 675170

This meeting will be webcast and published on the Council's website

AGENDA

Prayers will be conducted prior to the start of the meeting.
Members are welcome to attend.

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Council will be held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall, Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough, DN21 2NA, on **Monday, 29th June, 2026 at 7.00 pm**, and your attendance at such meeting is hereby requested to transact the following business.

To: Members of West Lindsey District Council

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
To confirm and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Full Council held on 11 May 2026.

(PAGES 6 - 16)

3. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
Members may make any declarations of interest at this point and may also make them at any point during the meeting.

4. MATTERS ARISING
Setting out the current position of previously agreed actions as at 19 June 2026.

(PAGES 17 - 18)

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - i) Chairman of Council

Agendas, Reports and Minutes will be provided upon request in the following formats:

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- ii) Leader of the Council
- iii) Head of Paid Service

6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Questions, if received, under this Scheme will be published by way of supplement following closure of the deadline.

(TO FOLLOW)

7. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 9

Questions, if received, under this Scheme will be published by way of supplement following closure of the deadline.

(TO FOLLOW)

8. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NO. 10

Motion 1 - Improving Rural Transport Access for Young People in West Lindsey

West Lindsey is a predominantly rural district where many young people rely on public transport to access education, employment, training, healthcare, leisure activities, and social opportunities.

Limited bus services, high travel costs, and poor connectivity between villages and market towns create barriers to opportunity and contribute to social isolation among young people.

Apprentices particularly under 18, often face even greater difficulties. Their income is minimal and they do not have the same financial support as someone in full time education. Some may not have independent transport, and bus services in our area do not align with early or late working hours typical of apprenticeships. This adds further pressure on working families. Improving transport links supports economic growth, educational attainment, workforce development, and community wellbeing.

The Wheels to Work scheme has already proven successful in other rural areas, providing affordable scooter or bicycle hire schemes, enabling young people, including apprentices, to overcome transport barriers.

Young people, particularly apprentices, should not be disadvantaged because they live in a rural area. Resources should be directed towards addressing structural barriers faced by young people. Affordable and reliable transport is

essential for helping young people, particularly apprentices under 18, to remain connected to education, employment, apprenticeships, volunteering, and community life.

Strategic Transport is now the responsibility of the Greater Lincolnshire Combined County Authority. The Mayor has recently established a Rural Transport Group and a Transport Taskforce. Our Leader Cllr Jackie Brockway is a member of the Greater Lincolnshire Transport Board.

In order to highlight the barriers faced by our young people in rural communities and to instigate proactive planning to address this: -

Council Resolves To:

Request that the Leader of the Council writes to the Mayor of Greater Lincolnshire to:

- 1) Highlight the barriers faced by young people in rural communities such as West Lindsey and feed these issues into the emerging Local Transport Plan.
- 2) Seek a review of rural transport provision for young people, including bus services and accessibility for apprentices.
- 3) Request that action planning arising from the Rural Transport Group, Transport Taskforce and emerging Local Transport Plan include consideration of the following potential interventions:
 - Wheels to Work
 - Improved rural bus services
 - Affordable travel options for under 25s
 - Targeted Support scheme for driving lesson and tests for 16-18 year olds
 - Means tested bursaries for travel for apprentices and young people in villages with no evening or weekend bus services.

I so move
Councillor Emma Bailey

9. REPORTS FOR DETERMINATION

- a. Adoption of the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review
(PAGES 19 - 25)

Agendas, Reports and Minutes will be provided upon request in the following formats:

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b. Review of the Allocation of Seats to Political Groups on Committees

To note the Group Leaders of each Group and the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each Committee in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government Act.

(PAGES 26 - 37)

c. Appointment of Members to the Committees for the remainder of 2026/2027 Civic Year

In accordance with the provisions of Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, to appoint Members to Committees for the remainder of 2026/2027 Civic Year, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Political Groups.

(Updated report including nominations will be issued as a supplement in due course).

(PAGES 38 - 43)

d. LGA Corporate Peer Challenge - WLDC Progress Review 2026

(PAGES 44 - 65)

e. Recommendation from Thriving Council Committee - Annual Treasury Management Report 2025/26

This attached report is subject to a decision by Thriving Council Committee on 25 June 2026.

An updated report will be published post that meeting, via a supplement.

(PAGES 66 - 86)

f. Recommendation from Thriving Council Committee - New Statutory Fees

The attached report is subject to a decision by Thriving Council Committee on 25 June 2026 (resolution d)

An updated report will be published post that meeting, via a supplement.

(PAGES 87 - 136)

Paul Burkinshaw
Head of Paid Service
The Guildhall
Gainsborough

Friday, 19 June 2026

Agendas, Reports and Minutes will be provided upon request in the following formats:

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Agenda Item 2

West Lindsey District Council - 11 May 2026

WEST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

Minutes of the 52nd Annual General Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber - The Guildhall, Marshall's Yard, Gainsborough, DN21 2NA on 11 May 2026 at 7.00 pm.

Present: Councillor Matthew Boles (Chairman)
Councillor John Barrett (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Stephen Bunney	Councillor Owen Bierley
Councillor Trevor Bridgwood	Councillor Mrs Jackie Brockway
Councillor Liz Clews	Councillor Frazer Brown
Councillor Karen Carless	Councillor Christopher Darcel
Councillor David Dobbie	Councillor Adam Duguid
Councillor Ian Fleetwood	Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Paul Lee	Councillor Jeanette McGhee
Councillor Peter Morris	Councillor Lynda Mullally
Councillor Maureen Palmer	Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Mrs Diana Rodgers	Councillor Mrs Lesley Rollings
Councillor Tom Smith	Councillor Jim Snee
Councillor Mrs Mandy Snee	Councillor Paul Swift
Councillor Moira Westley	Councillor Trevor Young

In Attendance:

Paul Burkinshaw	Chief Executive
Peter Davy	Director Corporate Services (Section 151 Officer)
Sally Grindrod-Smith	Director Planning, Regeneration & Communities
Lisa Langdon	Assistant Chief Executive - Governance (Monitoring Officer)
Katie Storr	Head of Democratic Services and Elections (Deputy Monitoring Officer)

Also in Attendance: Reverend David Cotton.

Also Present: 7 Members of the Public

Apologies

Councillor Emma Bailey
Councillor Eve Bennett
Councillor Sabastian Hague
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Mrs Angela Lawrence
Councillor Roger Pilgrim
Councillor Baptiste Velan

1 OUTGOING CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME

Councillor Boles, as outgoing Chairman, formally opened the meeting and welcomed members to the start of the 2026 - 2027 civic year and the Council's 52nd Annual General Meeting (AGM). Members of the public were also welcomed including those viewing from home.

2 MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this point in the meeting.

3 TO ELECT A CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE 2026/27 - CIVIC YEAR

Before commencing the process of electing a new Chairman, the outgoing Chairman, Councillor Boles, advised Council that as it was anticipated, he would again be nominated, he would be withdrawing from the Chamber for the item of business.

Councillor Boles removed the Chain of Office, left the Chamber and the outgoing Vice-Chairman, Councillor Barrett assumed the Chair and sought nominations for the position of Chairman of Council.

It was proposed and seconded that Councillor Matthew Boles be appointed the Chairman of Council for the civic year 2026/27. No further nominations were made and on being put to the vote the motion was carried and it was therefore: -

RESOLVED - that Councillor Matthew Boles be elected Chairman of the Council for the 2026/2027 civic year.

Councillor Boles returned to the Chamber and the outgoing Vice-Chairman re-presented the Chain of Office to Councillor Boles and congratulated him on his appointment.

Councillor Boles made and signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, in the presence of the Head of Paid Service and resumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

In his acceptance speech Councillor Boles advised that it was an honour to be re-elected as Chairman and that he was looking forward to the forthcoming year in office and to meeting many more people from across the district, throughout Lincolnshire and beyond.

Councillor Boles undertook to uphold the good name of West Lindsey in all the duties carried out as Chairman of the Council.

4 TO APPOINT A VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THE 2026/27 CIVIC YEAR

Nominations were sought for the position of Vice-Chairman of Council, with Councillor John

Barrett being proposed and seconded.

There being no further nominations, on being put to the vote, it was:

RESOLVED - that Councillor John Barrett be re-appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the 2026/27 civic year.

The Chairman of the Council congratulated Councillor Barrett on his re-appointment.

Councillor Barrett made and signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, in the presence of the Head of Paid Service, and indicated that it was an honour and a privilege to have been re-appointed as Vice-Chairman for the coming year. He looked forward to supporting the Chairman in every way possible during the coming year and would strive at all times to promote and uphold the good name of West Lindsey. He also took opportunity to speak of the honour of having held the role for the previous 7 months and outlined some of highlights from that time and spoke of his positivity for the coming year.

5 CHAIRMAN'S CHAPLAIN

The Chairman introduced the item and moved a vote of thanks to his Chaplain, The Reverend Cotton, for his previous years' service, paying tribute to him for his pastoral support.

Having being re-elected Chairman of Council, Councillor Boles advised that he would again be appointing The Reverend Cotton as his Chaplain, and invited him to again receive the Chaplain's stole, which was followed by a round of applause, and words of appreciation from The Reverend Cotton, who spoke of the honour and privilege to serve.

The Chairman indicated that this concluded the civic part of the proceedings for this evening.

It was reported that official photographs and presentations would take place at the end of the meeting, and Members were also invited to join the Chairman for refreshments after the meeting.

6 TO ELECT A LEADER OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2026/27

Nominations for the position of Leader of the Council had been sought in accordance with Article 6 of the Constitution, with only one nomination having been received, as set out in the Agenda.

Councillor Jackie Brockway had been proposed and seconded.

RESOLVED - that Councillor Jackie Brockway be elected Leader of the Council for the 2026/27 civic year.

Councillor Brockway addressed Council and expressed her thanks at having been elected and made a short address of acceptance and thanks.

7 TO APPOINT A DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL 2026/27

The Leader having been elected to position, nominated her Deputy Leader as Councillor Moira Westley.

Having been seconded and with no further nominations, on being put to the vote, it was : -

RESOLVED - that Councillor Moira Westley be appointed Deputy Leader of the Council for the 2026/27 civic year.

Councillor Westley expressed her thanks and made a short acceptance address, speaking of the honour to serve and her positivity for the coming year.

8 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Having been proposed and seconded, on being put to the vote it was:-

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Meeting of Full Council held on 13 April 2026 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

9 UPDATE ON ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION AND PLANNED WORK

The then Chairman of the Governance and Audit Committee presented the report to Members which provided a position statement in respect of the work undertaken on the Constitution during 2025/26 and also detailed further ongoing work required to the Constitution in coming months.

Having been proposed and seconded, on being put to the vote it was:

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) the work and updates which had been made to the Constitution throughout 2025/2026, including the Revised Financial Procedure Rules and Revised Contract and Procurement Rules, as set out Appendix 1 and 2 of the report, be noted; and
- (b) the further revisions required to the Constitution in forthcoming months (as set out in section 3 of the report) which would be the subject of further reports, be noted.

10 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES, SEAT ALLOCATION BASED ON POLITICAL BALANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Members considered a report which set out the details of the political groups on the Council,

the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each Committee; the allocation to different political groups of seats on the Committees; and the terms of reference for the newly established Thriving Council Committee, Thriving Places Committee, and Thriving People Committee as agreed by Council at its meeting on 13 April.

Whilst acknowledging that it was in the Administration Group's gift to reduce the size of the Policy Committees, the Leader of Opposition sought to understand from the Leader her rationale for the proposed reduction, questioning how it supported democratic representation and supported effective scrutiny.

The Leader responded accordingly offering her reasoning, and in response to concerns that the Opposition would not be able to propose amendments due to their single seat representation on Policy Committees, the Leader offered a commitment that Chairmen of Policy Committees, would as standard, second an amendment made by an Opposition Member, to enable legitimate debate, but that they would reserve that right to vote against any amendment they seconded.

This commitment was welcomed by the Opposition Group.

RESOLVED -

- (a) that the details of political groups, as set out in Appendix A to the report be noted;
- (b) that the Terms of Reference for the Policy Committees as set out in Appendix B of the report be approved;
- (c) that the allocation to different political groups of seats on Committees, and the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each Committee as set out in Appendix C, be approved;
- (d) the position to not politically balance the Regulatory Committee alongside the other "Ordinary Committees" detailed in Appendix C, be re-affirmed; and
- (e) Council notes the commitment made, relating to the seconding of Opposition Members' amendments in Policy Committees, as detailed in the above minute.

11 APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2026/2027

The Chairman of the Council presented the report which set out the wishes expressed by the political groups in respect of the appointment of Members to serve on each of the Council's formal Committees for the 2026/2027 Civic Year.

Members were advised that an updated report could be found within the supplement pack which include all nominations put forward by Group Leaders based on their allocations.

The Leader of the West Lindsey Administration Group advised Council, that in respect of the

Thriving Council Committee, she wished to replace Councillor Bridgwood with Councillor Carless.

With no further adjustments made, having been proposed and seconded, including the revision above, it was

RESOLVED – that in accordance with the provisions of Section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the wishes expressed by political groups, Members be appointed to serve to the Council's Committees for the 2026/2027 civic year as follows: -

Chief Officer Employment Committee (9 Members)

Councillor John Barrett
Councillor Owen Bierley
Councillor Trevor Bridgwood
Councillor Jackie Brockway
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Baptiste Velan
Councillor Moira Westley

Thriving Council Committee (7 Members)

Councillor Owen Bierley
Councillor Matthew Boles
Councillor Karen Carless
Councillor Ian Fleetwood
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Paul Key
Councillor Paul Swift

Thriving Places Committee (7 Members)

Councillor Trevor Bridgwood
Councillor Jacob Flear
Councillor Angela Lawrence
Councillor Peter Morris
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Moira Westley

Thriving People Committee (7 Members)

Councillor Emma Bailey
Councillor Owen Bierley

Councillor Frazer Brown
Councillor Stephen Bunney
Councillor Jeanette McGhee
Councillor Tom Smith
Councillor Trevor Young

Governance and Audit Committee (7 Members)

Councillor John Barrett
Councillor Stephen Bunney
Councillor Chris Darcel
Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Angela Lawrence
Councillor Mandy Snee
Councillor Paul Swift

Licensing Committee (10 Members)

Councillor Eve Bennett
Councillor Stephen Bunney
Councillor Karen Carless
Councillor Angela Lawrence
Councillor Paul Lee
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Jim Snee
Councillor Mandy Snee
Councillor Trevor Young

Regulatory Committee (10 Members)

Councillor Eve Bennett
Councillor Stephen Bunney
Councillor Karen Carless
Councillor Angela Lawrence
Councillor Paul Lee
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Jim Snee
Councillor Mandy Snee
Councillor Trevor Young

Planning Committee (9 Members)

Councillor John Barrett
Councillor Matthew Boles

Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Adam Duguid
Councillor Jacob Flear
Councillor Ian Fleetwood
Councillor Sebastian Hague
Councillor Tom Smith
Councillor Jim Snee

Overview and Scrutiny Committee (9 members)

Councillor David Dobbie
Councillor Jacob Flear
Councillor Jeanette McGhee
Councillor Lynda Mullally
Councillor Maureen Palmer
Councillor Roger Patterson
Councillor Roger Pilgrim
Councillor Lesley Rollings
Councillor Mandy Snee

Standards Committee (6 Members)

Councillor Trevor Bridgwood
Councillor Karen Carless
Councillor Adam Duguid
Councillor Paul Howitt-Cowan
Councillor Paul Lee
Councillor Moira Westley.

12 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2026/27 AND TO AGREE THE NORMAL COMMENCEMENT TIME FOR EACH COMMITTEE

Having appointed the Committees, the report under consideration sought to appoint Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen to each of the Committees and for Council to confirm the normal commencement time for each meeting.

Nominations had been printed in the published report contained within the supplement.

Having sought additional counter nominations, but with none being made, the Chairman indicated that if Members were content the recommendations would be taken en-bloc.

Members indicated their contentment to the process and on being to the vote it was: -

RESOLVED that:

(a) the following persons be appointed as Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen, for the

2026/2027 Civic Year to the following Committees:

Committee	Chairman	Vice Chairman	Normal Start Time
Chief Officer Employment	(Leader or Leader's Nominee) Councillor John Barrett	Councillor Trevor Bridgwood	Meetings convened as required
Thriving Council	(Leader or Leader's Nominee) Councillor Owen Bierley	Councillor Paul Swift	6.30pm
Thriving Places	Councillor Peter Morris	Councillor Jacob Flear	6.30pm
Thriving People	Councillor Stephen Bunney	Councillor Tom Smith	6.30pm
Planning	Councillor Ian Fleetwood	Councillor Matthew Boles	6.30pm
Governance & Audit	Councillor Mandy Snee	Councillor Angela Lawrence	6.00pm
Licensing*	Councillor Jim Snee	Councillor Maureen Palmer	6.30pm
Overview & Scrutiny	Councillor Jeanette McGhee	Councillor Roger Patterson	6.30pm
Regulatory*	Councillor Jim Snee	Councillor Maureen Palmer	6.30pm
Standards	Councillor Adam Duguid	Councillor Karen Carless	6:00pm

- (b) the normal commencement time for each of the Committees be as set out in the table at (a) above.

13 APPOINTMENTS ON OUTSIDE BODIES WHICH HAVE EXPIRED

Members considered a report which sought to appoint to positions on Outside Bodies which were due to expire by the Annual General Meeting in May 2026.

It was noted that the three available positions were to be held by the same person at the request of the Outside Bodies.

Councillor Jim Snee was proposed and seconded for the three positions. With no counter nominations, on being put to the vote it was: -

RESOLVED - that Councillor Jim Snee be appointed as the Member to serve on the Trustees of Francis Barker Trust, the Trustees of Gainsborough Education

Charity, and the Trustees of W G Rose Memorial until the end of the civic year 2030/31.

14 OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee presented the Committee's Annual Report to the Chamber, in doing so, she highlighted a number of key contributions the Committee had made, particularly its engagement with external partners. The Committee had also contributed to the development of the refreshed Corporate Plan, and have given detailed consideration to matters such as Battery Energy Storage Systems, emergency planning, public health, leisure provision, and policing.

Councillor McGhee placed on record her thanks to Committee Members for their commitment and constructive approach throughout the year, and to Officers for their consistent support, clear reporting and engagement with the scrutiny process before moving the recommendation.

In seconding the recommendation, the Vice-Chairman of the Committee reiterated points made by the Chairman, thanked her for her collaborative approach and expressed special thanks to the Committee's Democratic Officer, Molly Spencer, for her support throughout the year.

With no questions posed, on being put to the vote it was: -

RESOLVED that the Annual Report from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee be received.

15 EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED that under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as detailed in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

The meeting entered closed session at 19:47.

16 SCAMPTON DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND BID SUBMISSION

Members considered a report which set out next steps in the Council's decision making regarding the acquisition and regeneration of the former RAF Scampton.

The report sought Council's reconfirmation of their approval to enter into the Development Agreement (DA) with Scampton Holdings Limited (SHL) and sought approval for the submission of the final bid to the Home Office for the purchase of the site, providing an updated business case and masterplan.

Finally, the report sought approval to delegate authority to relevant Officers to negotiate the

terms of the deal with the Home Office including the financial offer within the parameters set out in the report.

Members posed a number of questions to which Officers responded. Members were resolute in their approach to the site acquisition, thanking Officers for the continued work and speaking on the generational benefits the Council's proposal for the site could deliver.

Having been proposed and seconded on being put to the vote it was unanimously

RESOLVED that: -

- (a) the commitment to entering into the Development Agreement with Scampton Holdings Limited, be reconfirmed, the contents and provisions of the Development Agreement, set out in summary at Appendix 1 be noted and authority be delegated to the Director of Planning, Regeneration and Communities, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer for the completion of the final agreement;
- (b) the draft bid documentation including the business case and refreshed masterplan be endorsed, and authority be delegated to the Director of Planning Regeneration and Communities in consultation with the Leader of the Council to finalise and submit the Council's bid to the Home Office;
- (c) the funding provided within the Capital Programme and the outcome of the draft valuation report be noted and authority be delegated to the Director of Planning Regeneration and Communities, in consultation with the Council's S151 Officer, to negotiate the final financial offer and acquisition terms with the Home Office, with a report on the final outcome being presented to a future Full Council meeting for information;
- (d) in the event Council / SHL are selected as preferred bidder and final terms are outside the parameters of the Capital Programme, a further report be submitted to Full Council to seek approval for the final negotiated position of the financial offer, prior to finalisation;
- (e) the accounting treatment to be formally approved by our external auditors (KPMG) as detailed in section 4.15 of the report be noted;
- (f) the amendment to the Treasury Management Strategy, Capital Strategy and inclusion in the Accounting Policies for 2026/27, as detailed in section 4.18 of the report be approved; and
- (g) the VAT implications as detailed in 4.19 of the report be noted.

The meeting concluded at 7.59 pm.

Chairman

Council Matters Arising Schedule

Purpose:

To consider progress on the matters arising from previous Council meetings.

Recommendation: That Members note progress on the matters arising and request corrective action if necessary.

Matters arising Schedule

Meeting	Full Council				
Status	Title	Action Required	Comments	Due Date	Allocated To

Green	Review of Working Groups - Groups to be refreshed	<p>Council on 10/11/25 - resolved that the following Grps should remain but be refreshed and the refresh reported through the relevant parent Committee in due course; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LCET (Leisure Culture Events and Tourism Working Group) -CPR - Cara Markham - Environment and Sustainability Working Group - PC - Steve Leary Rachel Hughes - Savings Board - CPR - Pete Davy <p>These reviews need to be programmed into the parent cttee work plan - by the Leads for Groups</p>	<p>Lead Officers have been communicated with. Reviews currently planned in as follows: -</p> <p>Savings Board Review Complete Jan 2026</p> <p>LCET – have been begun their review in Feb 26 – review completed march 26</p> <p>Only the Environment and Sustainability Working Group review remains outstanding - this expected to commence over the Autumn</p>	01/07/26	R Hughes / Katie Storr
Green	Public Question – 13 April - land between Margaret Close and Mayfield Avenue (Gains)	<p>A resident submitted a question – relating to land between Margaret Close and Mayfield Avenue - would the Council consider installing a formal, all-weather footpath across this land to ensure it is accessible, safe, and usable throughout the year?"</p> <p>Leader advised investigations would commence and the resident would be kept updated</p>	All Members and the resident have rec'd an update on this matter- investigations continue.	01/07/26	Grant White/Leader of the Council

Green	Squaddie Box Motion – 13 April	RESOLVED relevant committee to consider rolling out a pilot of this initiative to assess the benefits of such a scheme to vulnerable households in West Lindsey and consider whether it could be implemented to identify a need for this type of service across the District.	This is an agenda item for Thriving People in July – Council will be updated of the outcome through this action tracker.	30/7/26	Sarah Elvin
Green	Driving Test Centre Provision – Motion	RESOLVED that the Leader of the Council write to the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency requesting that it review the availability of driving test opportunities within West Lindsey District.	Letter was issued on 12 May – a response is awaited but has been chased.	16/6/26	Ellen King
Black	Scampton Bid	Agreed at AGM - Bid be finalised and submitted	Bid was submitted on time.	5/6/29	Sally Grindrod-Smith
Black	Constitution Updates	New Financial Procedure Rules, Contract Procedures and Terms of Reference for New Committees were agreed at the AGM	Update Constitution has been published	30/05/2026	Democratic Services



COUNCIL

Monday 29 June 2026

Subject: Adoption of the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review

Report by:

Director Planning, Regeneration and
Communities

Contact Officer:

Nev Brown
Senior Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer

nev.brown@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the details in support of the recommendation(s) that the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review be adopted by the Council.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1) That Members formally agree to adopt (make) the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.**
- 2) That the newly adopted (made) Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review June 2026, replaces the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan adopted May 2017, to form part of the West Lindsey Development Plan for Saxilby with Ingleby parish area.**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report seeks Members' approval to adopt (make) the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review (SINPR) as part of the West Lindsey Development Plan. The report follows the SINPR's successful referendum which was held on 6 May 2026.
- 1.2 The SINPR would be the fifth review of a NP to be adopted within the district. There are six other NPs being reviewed, all at different stages of preparation.

2. Background

- 2.1 NPs were introduced in the Localism Act 2011. They are important and powerful tools that give parish and town councils the statutory planning powers to shape how their communities develop. A NP is a document written by parish/town councils that sets out planning policies for a parish area which are used to help decide planning applications.
- 2.2 There are legal steps to creating a NP, for the first time, which must be followed, and they are: area designation, plan preparation, consultation, examination, referendum, and finally adoption (making).
- 2.3 Where a NP is being reviewed it does not need to redesignate its area. For later steps, if the review involves material modifications which change the nature of the NP it would require examination and referendum. A referendum is not required for a NP review which includes material modifications, but they do not change the nature of the NP. For a NP which has only minor modifications there is no requirement for an examination, referendum or readopting of the NP. It would be authorised under the scheme of officer delegation.
- 2.4 Following a successful examination and/or referendum, it is a requirement that the NP should be adopted by Full Council for it to formally become part of the West Lindsey Development Plan for that NP area alongside the Local Plan. In the case of a NP review, this would see it replacing the original NP for that area.
- 2.5 As part of the Development Plan, the adopted NP would be given full weight in helping determine future planning applications within its parish. Planning law requires that applications for planning permission be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

3. Decision & Reasoning

- 3.1 Having completed preparation and consultation steps on the SINPR, Saxilby with Ingleby Parish Council (PC) submitted the plan to the Council for examination in mid-2025 and comments were invited from the public and stakeholders.

- 3.2 The Council, in agreement with the PC, appointed an independent examiner to determine whether the SINPR met legal requirements and, as it was a NP review, if an examination was sufficient or if it should also go to a referendum.
- 3.3 The Examiner’s Report concluded that the SINPR met legal conditions, and that subject to the modifications proposed in the report, the SINPR should proceed to a referendum, as it contained significant changes to the original plan. The SINPR was examined alongside the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and was prepared in accordance with EU obligations or Convention rights.
- 3.4 The Examiner’s Report was considered under the Council’s delegated powers, and it was agreed that the SINPR should proceed to a referendum and if successful should be recommended for adoption (making) by the Council.
- 3.5 The SINPR referendum met the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. It was held on 6 May 2026 in Saxilby with Ingleby parish and posed the question:

‘Do you want West Lindsey District Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Saxilby with Ingleby to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’

- 3.6 At the referendum 90.71% of residents who voted were in favour of the SINPR. Legislation requires that the Council must make the NP if more than half of those voting have voted in favour of it. Greater than 50% of those who voted were in favour of the SINPR being used to help decide planning applications in the plan area.

The results of the referendum were:	Votes Recorded	Percentage
Number of votes cast in favour of ‘yes’	635	90.71%
Number of votes cast in favour of ‘no’	64	9.14%
Number of ballot papers rejected	1	0.15%

Electorate	3899
Ballot Papers Issued	700
Turnout	17.95%

- 3.7 In accordance with national planning guidance, an adopted (made) SINPR should be given full weight in the determination of planning applications within the parish area.
- 3.8 West Lindsey District Council strongly supports parish/town councils with their NPs. With the adoption of the Saxilby with Ingleby NP Review, West Lindsey will continue to have 27 adopted NPs covering a large part of the district. For the latest on NPs in West Lindsey please go to:

[Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan | West Lindsey District Council](#)

4 Alternative Option

Option	Reason for not recommending
To not adopt the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review	<p>This would be contrary to Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.</p> <p>Where a referendum results in a majority Yes vote (over 50%) the Council should make the neighbourhood plan.</p>

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

This work is a duty under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

Regulation 18A of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, stipulates that a neighbourhood plan (NP) must be made (adopted) within eight weeks of the referendum, which was held on 6 May 2026. This requirement will be met if the Council adopts the Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan Review (SINPR) at its meeting on 29 June 2026.

Financial: FIN-37-27-LT-AP

For neighbourhood plan reviews requiring an examination and new referendum the Council receives a grant of £20k from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to help support its neighbourhood planning role in the district. A claim of £20k will be submitted for the SINPR when the funding window is open.

Staffing:

Internal resources are in place to deal with neighbourhood planning and therefore there are no HR implications.

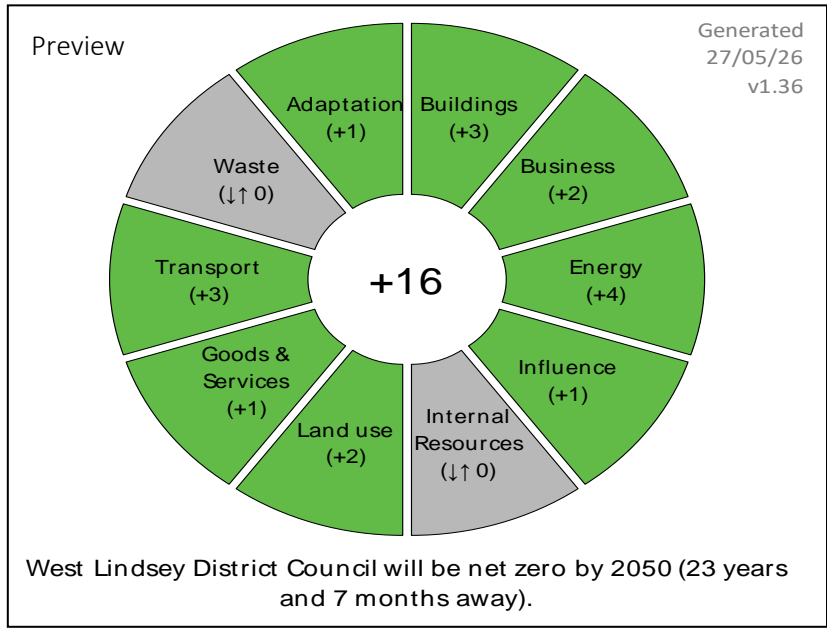
Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

The SINPR has been examined under the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations for any issues relating to equality and diversity.

Data Protection Implications: n/a

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

The SINPR scored well when it was evaluated using the Council’s Climate, Environment, and Assessment tool. Please see below. The SINPR’s support for active travel and small-scale renewable energy development was positively received.



The SINPR has been the subject of a Strategic Environmental and Habitats Regulations Assessment Report which concluded that the SINPR would be unlikely to give rise to any significant effects on protected sites.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

The SINPR expects new buildings and spaces to be designed to be inclusive and accessible and can be used safely and easily, and with dignity for all.

Health Implications:

The SINPR protects local green spaces within the parish which are used for sports and informal recreation that help improve the health and well-being of the local population.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

[Saxilby with Ingleby Neighbourhood Plan | West Lindsey District Council](#)

Risk Assessment : n/a

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

x

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

x

No

Agenda Item 9b



Full Council

29 June 2026

Subject: Review of the Allocation of Seats to Political Groups on Committees

Report by:

Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer:

Lisa Langdon, Monitoring Officer
Lisa.langdon@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the details of the political groups on the Council, the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each committee; and the allocation to different political groups of seats on the committees, as a result of a new Group having been formed.

Appendices to Report

- Appendix A – Composition of Groups
- Appendix B – Political Balance Allocation

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- 1) that the details of political groups, as set out in Appendix A, be noted; and
- 2) that the allocation to different political groups of seats on committees, and the number of Members to be appointed to serve on each Committee as set out in Appendix B, is approved.

- 1.1 In accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council is required to review the allocation to different political groups of seats on committees at least annually at its Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- 1.2 The last review of the allocations took place on 11 May 2026 at the AGM.
- 1.3 Since that time, due notice of the formation of a new Group, to be known as “The Community Independents Group” has been received by the Head of Paid Service, resulting in the need for a further review.
- 1.4 Existing political groups for the purposes of the Local Government (Committees & Political Groups) Regulations 1990 are now as follows:

Group	No. of Members	Leader	Deputy
The West Lindsey Administration Group	28	Councillor Jackie Brockway	Councillor Moira Westley
The West Lindsey Liberal Democrat Group	6	Councillor Trevor Young	Councillor Lesley Rollings
The Community Independents Group	2	Councillor Emma Bailey	Councillor Lynda Mullally

- 1.5 The Council currently has no ‘unaligned’ Members.
- 1.6 Full details of group membership are set out in Appendix A.

2. Allocation of Seats to Political Groups

- 2.1 In accordance with the provisions of section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (Duty to allocate seats to political groups), the Council is required to give effect, so far as reasonably practicable, to the following specified principles:
 - (a) that not all the seats on a Committee/Sub-Committee are allocated to the same political group;
 - (b) that the majority of the seats on a Committee/Sub-Committee are allocated to a particular political group where the number of persons belonging to that group is a majority of the authority’s membership;
 - (c) subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, that the number of seats on the ordinary Committees which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the total of all the seats on the

ordinary Committees of that authority as is borne by the number of Members of that group to the membership of the authority;

(d) subject to paragraphs (a) to (c) above, that the number of seats on the Committee/Sub-Committee which are allocated to each political group bears the same proportion to the number of all the seats on that Committee/Sub-Committee as is borne by the number of members of that group to the membership of the authority.

2.2 (b) above applies to a lesser degree if there is no one Group with a majority of seats on the Council. External advice is sought when necessary to ensure the application of the rules is applied equitably.

2.3 The proposals set out in this report for Council's consideration with regards to the size and number of seats to be allocated to each political group on each of the Committees reflect the proposals of the Leader of the largest political group.

2.4 These are regarded as complying with the requirements for political proportionality as set out in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as far as reasonably practicable and are summarised below

- Standards Committee 6 Members

- Thriving Council Committee 7 Members
- Thriving Places Committee 7 Members
- Thriving People Committee 7 Members
- Governance Audit Committee 7 Members

- Chief Officer Employment Committee 9 Members
- Planning Committee 9 Members
- Overview and Scrutiny Committee 9 Members

- Licensing Committee 10 Members
- Regulatory Committee 10 Members

2.5 Applying group numbers to the seats available on the Committees gives the allocation set out in Appendix B.

2.6 It should be noted that in conforming to the requirements of principle (d) (i.e. allocating seats on each committee to political groups in the 'same proportion' as each group has on the Council as a whole) above, where the percentage is above or below 0.5, there is no prescribed legislative requirement for a strict rounding approach to be adopted. The allocation seeks to consider how all Groups are represented on individual committees, and ultimately reflect Council's wishes within the proportionality requirements in this regard.

	Option	Rational for not recommending
1	To not review the allocations	This is not feasible given due notice has been received from two Members, and would result in the Council not being politically balanced in accordance with the legislation.

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

Council is required to review the allocation to different political groups of seats on committees and sub-committees, in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, when either a trigger is met (election, resignation change in Group Membership) or at least annually at its annual meeting as set out in the Constitution.

This review is as a result of a new group having been formed

Financial:

Staffing:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

LGR implications:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Data Protection Implications:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Health Implications:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Risk Assessment:

None directly arising as a result of this report.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Working Papers held by Democratic Services

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

Local Government & Housing Act 1989

The Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990

Political Groups on the District Council – June 2026

The West Lindsey Administration Group (28 Councillors)

(Comprising 13 Conservative Councillors, 9 Liberal Democrat Councillors, 3 Independent Councillors, 2 Lincolnshire Independent Councillors, and 1 Reform UK Councillor)

Conservative (13)

Councillor John Barrett

Councillor Owen Bierley

Councillor Jackie Brockway

Councillor Frazier Brown

Councillor Adam Duguid

Councillor Ian Fleetwood

Councillor Angela Lawrence

Councillor Paul Lee

Councillor Peter Morris

Councillor Maureen Palmer

Councillor Roger Patterson

Councillor Roger Pilgrim

Councillor Tom Smith

Liberal Democrat (9)

Councillor Eve Bennett

Councillor Matthew Boles

Councillor Stephen Bunney

Councillor Liz Clews

Councillor Jacob Flear

Councillor Jim Snee

Councillor Mandy Snee

Councillor Paul Swift

Councillor Moira Westley

Independent Councillors (3)

Councillor Karen Carless

Councillor Jeanette McGhee

Councillor Diana Rodgers

Lincolnshire Independent (2)

Councillor Chris Darcel

Councillor Paul Key

Reform UK (1)

Councillor Trevor Bridgwood

The West Lindsey Liberal Democrat Group (6 Councillors)

(Comprising 5 Liberal Democrat Councillors and 1 Independent Councillor)

Liberal Democrat (5)

Councillor David Dobbie

Councillor Sabastian Hague

Councillor Lesley Rollings

Councillor Baptiste Velan

Councillor Trevor Young

Independent Councillor (1)

Councillor Paul Howitt Cowan

The Community Independents Group (2 Councillors)

(Comprising 2 Independent Councillors)

Councillor Emma Bailey

Councillor Lynda Mullally

Appendix B

Political Make-up of the Council, on which calculations have been based: -

Political balance on the Council		
Group	No.	%
WL Admin	28	77.7778%
WL Lib Dems	6	16.6667%
n/a	2	5.5556%
n/a	0	0.0000%
Vacant	0	0.0000%
Council of		36
		100%

Number of Seats allocated to each Group based on vary size Committees and rounding applied for each individual Ordinary Committee.

Single committee spread (or sub-committee)										
Committee Size	%	Rounded to whole	WLLD		N/A		N/A		Vacant	
18	14.000	14	3.000	3	1.000	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
17	13.222	13	2.833	3	0.944	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
16	12.444	12	2.667	3	0.889	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
15	11.667	12	2.500	2 OR 3	0.833	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
14	10.889	11	2.333	2	0.778	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
13	10.111	10	2.167	2	0.722	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
12	9.333	10	2.000	2	0.667	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
11	8.556	9	1.833	2	0.611	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
10	7.778	8	1.667	2	0.556	0 or 1	0.000	0	0.000	0
9	7.000	7	1.500	1 OR 2	0.500	0 or 1	0.000	0	0.000	0
8	6.222	6	1.333	1	0.444	1	0.000	0	0.000	0
7	5.444	6	1.167	1	0.389	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
6	4.667	5	1.000	1	0.333	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
5	3.889	4	0.833	1	0.278	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
4	3.111	3	0.667	1	0.222	0	0.000	0	0.000	0
3	2.333	2	0.500	0 OR 1	0.167	0	0.000	0	0.000	0

Selected Committee Size Option and Balance Across Total Number of Ordinary Committees

Fig 1

V1 Committees	Places	WLA	WLLD	new	NA	check
Thriving Council	7	6	1	0	0	7
Thriving People	7	6	1	0	0	7
Thriving Place	7	6	1	0	0	7
Planning	9	7	2	0	0	9
Chief Officer Employment	9	7	2	0	0	9
Standards	6	5	1	0	0	6
Overview and Scrutiny	9	7	2	0	0	9
Governance and Audit	7	6	1	0	0	7
Regulatory Committee	10	8	2	0	0	10
Total	71.00	58	13	0	0	71

Fig 2

GROUP	Proportion	% of CI	Rounded to whole	% comparator of whole numbers
** WLA	54.6700	0.7700	55	0.77465
WLLD	11.7860	0.1660	12	* 0.16901
new	3.5500	0.0500	4	* 0.05634
N/A	0.0000	0.0000	0	*
	71.00		71	

The Administration Group were required to lose three seats and the West Lindsey Liberal Democrat Group required to lose one set to create the four seats the new group is entitled to.

TABLE 1 –

ORDINARY COMMITTEES SPLIT PER GROUP HAVING APPLIED ANY VARIATIONS REQUIRED

	WLA	WLLD	CI	Total
Thriving Council	6	1	0	7
Thriving People	6	1	0	7

Thriving Place	6	1	0	7
Planning	6	2	1	9
Chief Officer	7	2	0	9
Standards	5	1	0	6
Overview and Scrutiny	6	2	1	9
Governance and Audit	6	1	0	7
Regulatory	7	1	2	10
Total no. of seats (71)	55	12	4	71

TABLE 2 - NON-ORDINARY COMMITTEES

	WLA	WLLD	CI	Total
Licensing (10)	7	1	2	10

Licensing Committees must comprise at least 10 Members in accordance with the LA 2003 but do not need to be politically balanced.

West Lindsey District Council mirrors its Licensing Committee Membership to the Regulatory Committee membership (which is politically balanced).

Agenda Item 9c



Full Council

29 June 2026

Subject: Appointment of Members to the Committees for the remainder of 2026/2027 Civic Year

Report by:

Monitoring Officer

Contact Officer:

Katie Storr, Democratic and Elections Team
Manager
Katie.storr@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the wishes expressed by political groups in respect of the appointment of Members to serve on the Committees of the Council for the remainder of the civic year 2026/2027 as result of the allocations having been amended under Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Appendices to Report

- None

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- (a) That in accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the wishes expressed by political groups, Members be appointed to serve on the Council's Committees for the remainder of 2026/2027 civic year as set out within this report or provided verbally at the meeting;**
- (b) that the Chief Executive give effect to the wishes expressed by political groups as to the members of the group that shall fill the seats allocated to them where these are not provided at the meeting (subject to legal deadline).**

1. Introduction

- 1.1 In accordance with the provision of section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, it is the duty of the Council to make appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes expressed by political groups following the determination under section 15 (the allocation of seats to political groups- covered by an earlier report at the same meeting).
- 1.2 Section 2 details the wishes expressed by the political groups to-date.

2 Appointment of Committees

2.1 Chief Officer Employment Committee (9 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.2 Thriving Council Committee (7 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.3 Thriving Places Committee (7 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.4 Thriving People Committee (7 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.5 Governance and Audit Committee (7 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.6 Licensing Committee (10 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.7 Regulatory Committee (10 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.8 Planning Committee (9 Members)

Councillor
Councillor

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.9 Overview and Scrutiny Committee (9 members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

2.10 Standards Committee (6 Members)

Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

(No.) Alternative Options

	Option	Rational for not recommending
1	To not appoint Members to Committees	This would not address legal requirements, and the Council would be unable to operate

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

In accordance with the provisions of section 16 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 it is the duty of the Council to make appointments to Committees in accordance with the wishes expressed by political groups following the determination under section 15 (the allocation of seats to political groups-covered by an earlier report at the same meeting).

Groups must express their wishes within a 3-week period or the matter returns to Full Council , who may appoint the seats as they choose.

Financial: FIN/53/27/CL/SL

No financial implications arising from this report

Staffing:

None directly arising from this report

LGR implications:

None

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

None directly arising from this report

Data Protection Implications:

None directly arising from this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

None directly arising from this report

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

None directly arising from this report

Health Implications:

None directly arising from this report

Risk Assessment:

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
Nominations received from Groups held by Democratic Services

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

Agenda Item 9d



Full Council

Monday, 29th June 2026

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge: West Lindsey District Council Progress Review 2026

Report by:

Chief Executive

Contact Officer:

Ellen King, Head of Policy
ellen.king@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Executive Summary:

This report presents the findings from the Council's recent LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review, which is designed to assess the Council's progress against the eight main recommendations made during the full Corporate Peer Challenge, which took place in January 2025.

Appendices to Report

- LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review – West Lindsey District Council, March 2026

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- That Full Council notes the findings of the 2026 Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Review;**
- That Members note the significant progress made by the Council in implementing the original recommendations within the 2025 Corporate Peer Challenge Report.**

- 1.1 In January 2025, the Council undertook a Corporate Peer Challenge, with the Local Government Association making eight main recommendations to support the Council's continued learning and improvement.
- 1.2 Resultingly, the Council developed an action plan addressing each of the recommendations, as presented to Full Council on 10th November 2025.
- 1.3 Members of the original Peer Team revisited the Council on 24th March 2026 as part of a Progress Review to assess progress against the action plan and recommendations.
- 1.4 This report presents the findings of the Progress Review, attached as Appendix 1. Members are asked to note the Peer Team's findings, having regard to the considerable progress that the Council is considered to have made in all areas since the original Corporate Peer Challenge in January 2025.

2 Summary of Findings

- 2.1 The review focused broadly on the Council's progress across the core themes of a Corporate Peer Challenge, these being: local priorities and outcomes, organisational and place leadership, governance and culture, financial planning and management, and capacity for improvement. Additionally, the Progress Review included a focus on the Council's readiness for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).
- 2.2 In its findings, the Peer Team considered the Council to have made significant progress against all of the recommendations. In particular, the team noted that the Council has continued to deliver for residents and businesses, despite a period of considerable change in political and managerial leadership. The feedback report also notes the positive and collaborative culture that has developed; finding the Council to be self-aware and driven to self-improvement as an organisation – noting there is more to do to prepare for future challenges.
- 2.3 The report notes the Council's continued sound financial position, with robust governance arrangements in place for the financial management of projects. In respect of LGR, the Peer Team considers the Council to be in a strong position to act as a neutral driver in progressing the work required to deliver unitary local government in Greater Lincolnshire.
- 2.4 In identifying opportunities for continued improvement, the Progress Review suggests that the Council could be more innovative in considering financial efficiencies to mitigate any impact from wider economic uncertainty. The report also encourages the Council to ensure there is sufficient capacity to deliver both its own corporate priorities, and the requirements of LGR.
- 2.5 The Peer Team made no new recommendations during its Progress Review. Noting that significant progress has been made on each of the original recommendations, the Peer Team commends and congratulates the

Council's political leadership, managerial leadership, and staff for working together to steer the Council through challenge and drive the organisation forward in a positive, healthy and supportive way.

4. Alternative Options

	Option	Rational for not recommending
1	The Council could choose not to publish the Progress Review findings.	The LGA requires all Councils undertaking a Peer Challenge to publish the findings of the Peer Team. In undertaking the Peer Challenge and subsequent Progress Review, the Council is committed to publishing, and responding to, the findings in an open and transparent manner.

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal:

None arising as a result of this report.

Financial:

None arising as a result of this report.

Staffing:

None arising as a result of this report.

LGR implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights:

None arising as a result of this report.

Data Protection Implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities:

None arising as a result of this report.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations:

None arising as a result of this report.

Health Implications:

None arising as a result of this report.

Risk Assessment:

None arising as a result of this report.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

[LGA Corporate Peer Challenge Original Findings - West Lindsey District Council January 2025](#)

[WLDC Corporate Peer Challenge Progress Update - Full Council 8th Sep 2025](#)

[WLDC Corporate Peer Challenge Action Plan - Report to Full Council 10th Nov 2025](#)

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

X

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

X

LGA Corporate Peer Challenge – Progress Review

West Lindsey District Council

Tuesday 24 March 2026

Feedback



Contents

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- 2. Summary of the approach..... 3
- 3. Progress review - feedback 4
- 4. Final thoughts and next steps 17

1. Introduction

The council undertook an LGA Corporate Peer Challenge (CPC) Tuesday 21 to Friday 24 January 2025 and published the full report with an action plan.

The Progress Review (review) is integral to the CPC process. Usually taking place approximately 10 months after the CPC, it enables the council's senior leadership to:

- receive peer feedback on council progress against the CPC recommendations via the council's RAG (red, amber, green) rated CPC action plan
- consider peers' reflections on new opportunities/challenges that may have arisen since the peer team were previously onsite including any further support needs
- discuss any early impact or learning from the progress made to date.

The LGA would like to thank West Lindsey District Council (West Lindsey) for their commitment to sector-led improvement. This review was the next step in the ongoing, open and close relationship the council has with LGA sector support.

2. Summary of the approach

This review at West Lindsey took place at the council on 24 March 2026.

It focussed on each main recommendation from the CPC, and how ready and fit for purpose West Lindsey's local government reorganisation (LGR) work/progress plans are, to help ensure the council delivers those plans as efficiently as possible.

For this review, the following members of the original CPC team were involved:

- Member (councillor) Peer - Rory Love OBE, former Cabinet Member for Education and Skills at Kent County Council
- Member Peer - Cllr Wendy Fredericks, former Deputy Leader and former Deputy Chair of Cabinet, North Norfolk District Council (DC)
- Chief Executive Officer Peer - Joanne Wagstaffe, Chief Executive, Three Rivers DC
- LGA Peer Challenge Manager – Vicki Goddard
- LGA Programme Support Officer – Suraiya Khatun (offsite).

3. Progress review - feedback

Of the CPC's eight main recommendations, the council's RAG rated action plan reports that 100 per cent of actions are completed/progressed.

The peer team's overall key reflections

The peer team was impressed with the council's successes outlined in this report, as West Lindsey has experienced, managed and progressed significant political and managerial change positively since the CPC in January 2025. This has given rise to a refreshed organisational culture within the council, for which leading councillors and officers should be commended. These changes include:

- the West Lindsey Administration Group - the new ruling political administration (13 Conservatives, 11 Liberal Democrats, three Independents, two Lincolnshire Independents and one Reform UK councillor)
- the West Lindsey Liberal Democrat Group - the new opposition group (five Liberal Democrats and one Independent councillor)
- the council's Liberal Democrat councillors uniquely split between the ruling and opposition groups. The peer team's Liberal Democrat Member Peer, as a Liberal Democrat councillor, has contacted the local party to enable help from the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors for both ruling and opposition councillors from this political party at West Lindsey
- the then chief executive's resignation, followed by interim and permanent chief executive appointments
- the interim then permanent appointment of the Director of Finance and Assets and Section 151 Officer
- planning, approving and progressing its new senior management structure, as recommended by the peer team.

Further changes are also approaching, not least LGR. Nonetheless West Lindsey continues to deliver day to day and strategic work for its residents, businesses and visitors. The council has completed its Levelling Up Programme, including the opening of the new Savoy cinema in Gainsborough. Additionally, the council is

revitalising the West Lindsey Leisure Centre and is working with town and parish councils to support the transfer of assets to local communities. The council has also undertaken LGR work internally and with other Greater Lincolnshire local authorities.

Dealing with much political and senior management change, it would have been understandable if West Lindsey had not progressed the CPC's recommendations as far as the council has. The peer team heard though, unprompted, from a variety of councillors to staff from all levels of the organisation, that the CPC was a timely and appreciated opportunity to allow the council to take stock to address West Lindsey's issues and improve. As a result, this report reflects on the council's key actions to address the CPC's recommendations.

Given however the significant change the council has gone through since the CPC, many councillors and officers also wanted to discuss the impacts of those changes with the peer team. Impacts included professional and personal difficulties, as well as how they found solutions. This left less time for the peer team to explore the council's progress against its CPC action plan than planned. These conversations did though provide the team with a fuller understanding of the council's open and honest self-awareness, understanding, support and drive as a self-improving organisation to improve its work through the CPC and review process.

Further to these discussions, the peer team experienced and heard about a far more positive and productive culture at the council since the CPC. Many of West Lindsey's councillors and officers not only recognise and appreciate these changes but have actively driven them. This has enabled them to work more positively together to benefit their residents, businesses and visitors.

The organisation's councillors and staff know there is further work to do but this is natural and okay, as they work together to enhance their culture and practices still further.

The peer team therefore commends and congratulates West Lindsey's political and managerial leadership and staff for together steering the council through these challenges, and driving forward positive, healthy, supportive and honest change.

3.1. Recommendation 1 – review your management structure as a priority

West Lindsey could only best progress this action after appointing a new permanent chief executive and leader of the council. This would ensure the most solid, agreed basis on which to work. So once in post in September 2025, those new leaders together collaborated with the new political administration and others to propose a new senior management structure and arrangements. West Lindsey's Chief Officer Employment Committee then approved the proposals in December 2025.

The council consulted with affected staff between January and February 2026. Using the consultation's results, the chief executive with the people services manager is leading on the development of job descriptions. This work will help appoint staff who can formally start their new senior management roles from 1 May 2026.

As a result of this work, the new structure will help address the following key issues, some of which the peer team identified in their previous CPC report, to:

- clarify each role's skills requirements through new job descriptions, which will help identify and address any skills gaps
- address the career progression gap between some current wider management team and director roles in the current structure, which will help to retain staff
- enable new senior managers to take on more authority and accountability. This will help avoid them deferring decisions to, and seeking advice from, more senior council officers. In turn, the whole senior management structure work will be able to work most effectively to drive work throughout the council.

West Lindsey councillors and officers also shared their knowledge of the new structure with the peer team. This highlighted who they are already approaching or know who to approach regarding issues that need advice or to be sighted on.

Additionally, the chief executive is enabling staff beyond senior managers to attend national local government related events, and enrol on development courses. These include Institute of Leadership and Management leadership, management, coaching and mentoring courses, which East Midland Councils are hosting at West Lindsey. Uptake of these opportunities has been high across all levels of the organisation, empowering staff to take on more responsibilities as part of their career progression -

possibly into senior management roles - and so further assisting staff retention.

3.2. Recommendation 2 - prioritise the filling of your new management structure – especially your head of paid service and section 151 officer

During the CPC, West Lindsey was in the process of recruiting its next Section 151 Officer. The council appointed its Interim Director of Finance and Assets (Section 151 Officer) to this permanent position in May 2025. This has helped progress the council's finances including its balanced budgets for the next three years.

This report's section 3.1 outlines that the council has also since appointed an interim, and subsequently a different permanent chief executive (head of paid service); it is also appointing remaining senior management roles to start on 1 May 2026.

These actions, those for the previous recommendation, along with the new chief executive's and ruling administration's positive ways of working, are enabling a more certain, stable and positive senior management team to drive West Lindsey's work.

Whilst West Lindsey undertakes additional work to implement the new senior structure fully, including recruiting to a director post, it should update its current senior managers regularly with progress and next steps. This will help avoid any unnecessary uncertainty, and help create further trust and collaboration.

The council should also support all managers affected, so that whatever the outcome for each of them, they can best take the organisation forward and/or provide a positive legacy that makes the most of their knowledge, experience and skills.

3.3. Recommendation 3 - continue discussion with the peer team and LGA on the best way to resolve the identified councillor/officer relationships challenges

West Lindsey colleagues told the peer team through the CPC and this review that the overwhelming majority of councillor/officer relationships were, and continue to be, working well. These relationships have strengthened further through the new political administration's and chief executive's general, collaborative ways of working. West Lindsey's councillors now usually work on a cross-party, responsibility-sharing basis but retain the ability to work party politically where appropriate. Its officers also work far more positively, confidently and productively now with councillors than they did at

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Local Government Association company number 11177145 Improvement and Development Agency for Local Government company number 03675577

Chair: Councillor Louise Gittins

Chief Executive: Joanna Killian

President: Baroness Grey-Thompson

the time of the peer team's previous CPC visit.

The council has additionally undertaken work with the LGA's principal adviser for the East Midlands. This work was with the new West Lindsey Administration Group leaders to embed their 10 point plan, which outlines 10 commitments/areas of focus for the coming months and years. The plan is enabling collaborative, cross-party power-sharing throughout the council to progress the council's work.

The West Lindsey Administration Group, with the council's chief executive, senior leadership team, policy officers, and input from workshops all West Lindsey's staff and councillors were invited to, has refreshed the council's corporate plan and other corporate developments. As a result, the council has adopted a new, central vision for the organisation to deliver for and with its residents, businesses and visitors.

The new corporate plan incorporates a refreshed values and behaviours framework, which sits alongside a new workforce plan and workforce development procedure. The corporate plan clarifies the new political administration's ambitions, which the council has communicated to all staff. The peer team encourages West Lindsey to now actively share and discuss the new values and behaviours framework and corporate plan with all its councillors. Doing so will help clarify what the council expects in these regards, helping them to lead by positive example and work together to deliver their agreed objectives.

West Lindsey has also revised its member/officer relations protocol, having regard to the LGA's updated guidance, including protocol for resolving concerns and disputes. Once full council has approved the protocol in April 2026, West Lindsey will communicate it to staff and councillors, and engage with them on it. The organisation is additionally planning political awareness refresher training in July 2026 for its new senior management team linked to the new protocol.

At the peer team's suggestion, West Lindsey will consider how to train and develop councillors regarding the protocol, so they also clearly understand their and officers' roles, responsibilities and respective boundaries to ensure they best work together.

The council will additionally need to support colleagues who raise issues through the member/officer relations protocol, and monitor the protocol's and values and behaviours framework's impact. This should include for example how many and what

concerns and disputes colleagues have raised, what colleagues have done to address them, and the impact of those actions. This will ensure these approaches are making a positive difference and preventing further issues.

More meetings between the West Lindsey Administration Group leaders and senior leadership team, and the chief executive regularly meeting the leader of the council, the deputy leader of the council, and opposition group leader, are also enhancing relationships. Through these meetings, all can raise, address and resolve issues requiring attention quickly and appropriately. This is also leading by positive example from the top of, and throughout, the council.

West Lindsey officers at all levels who met the peer team during the review highlighted how much more comfortable and happier they are working with the new administration as a result of the healthy, open and supportive culture they are developing with staff. Officers prepare for and welcome challenge, and are comfortable providing appropriate challenge and advice to councillors. This is enabling the whole council to deliver its agreed corporate plan.

Whilst West Lindsey has undertaken much successful work to address this recommendation, it intends to do more, as ruling administration and opposition group councillors recognise the need to progress this recommendation further. Related to this, the peer team heard several times during its review visit about recent examples of negative behaviour matching that identified in the previous CPC report, but that this was related to an exceptionally small minority of councillors. The peer team emphasises that these examples have significantly reduced and are the exception compared to the peer team's previous visit. This is due to the notable political and managerial change that the council has managed since the CPC itself, which has led to the rapid progress on this recommendation as outlined above. The peer team therefore commends the council for its work and success regarding this recommendation, which has notably and positively transformed councillor/officer relationships and work since. Remaining rare negative examples however have harmed some colleagues' wellbeing and have the potential to harm West Lindsey's reputation, especially if they happen publicly.

The council should therefore continue its already intended work on this

recommendation, so West Lindsey can resolve these issues fully, and progress and promote its wider, successful work even more positively. It should ask the LGA and others for help if required so all West Lindsey councillors, from the ruling and opposition groups, and officers can continue to work together positively.

To further assist, the peer team's Liberal Democrat Member Peer, as a Liberal Democrat councillor, has asked the local party to contact the Association of Liberal Democrat Councillors to support West Lindsey's ruling and opposition councillors.

The peer team additionally advises that should there be any significant misalignment with West Lindsey's values and behaviour framework that may yet possibly occur by councillors or officers, the chief executive, leader and deputy leader of the council must be vigilant, robust and swift in tackling it. This will enhance West Lindsey's significant progress that it has already achieved in regard to this recommendation to ensure the best councillor/officer relationships and work at West Lindsey.

In discussing this recommendation from other angles, many West Lindsey councillors and officers were surprised and enthused by the range of LGA training and development available that the peer team mentioned. This support includes for example mentoring, top team work for political and managerial leaders, which the council is already taking up, and LGR support via [the LGA's devolution and LGR hub](#). With the West Lindsey Administration Group still relatively new, and the council still recruiting to its new senior management structure, the council should particularly consider taking up the LGA's councillor and officer mentoring offer, which the LGA can tailor per individual.

West Lindsey officers already regularly circulate: LGA and other LGR resources to councillors and staff electronically, and a monthly councillor newsletter including LGA and other events and training opportunities. They also share opportunities more widely and frequently through staff updates and 1:1 meetings. The council's Member Training and Development Group also meets bi-annually to review its training and development programme including [LGA opportunities](#).

Despite the sharing of these resources and activities, knowledge and take up of them are limited, which the chief executive wants to address. This will enable councillors and officers to fully benefit from these resources. The council should therefore ask its

councillors and officers how to improve the sharing of these resources to increase take-up and utilisation by all.

The Peer Challenge Manager is also working with West Lindsey to ensure the LGA sends related communications to as many relevant council colleagues as possible to further increase this knowledge and take up.

Officers can access development opportunities through the LGA's [website](#). The council can also contact the council's LGA Principal Adviser as outlined in section 4 of this report or the Peer Challenge Manager for further support.

Whilst the council should undertake the above suggested work to further address this recommendation, the peer team was impressed and greatly reassured by West Lindsey's progress on this, as also summarised above. This is because when its councillors and officers disagree, or misinterpret one another - a natural part of council proceedings - they can now – and indeed do - discuss, resolve and progress issues together calmly, openly and supportively to work towards their shared, refreshed corporate plan.

3.4. Recommendation 4 - refresh your business planning

West Lindsey has undertaken various work on this recommendation to align the new ruling administration's key priorities via the council's corporate and business (action) plans. This includes:

- adopting a new corporate plan, as this report has previously mentioned, helping West Lindsey's councillors and officers deliver these priorities together
- replacing the former executive business (action) plan and business planning process with three adopted new business plans. These new plans align with the new corporate plan's three main themes – thriving: people, places and council – so it is clear to all what the council needs to deliver
- replacing previous programme boards with three new full council approved strategic delivery panels, one for each of the three main corporate plan themes. These panels incorporate remaining projects from the previous boards, relevant committee chair oversight, have met in shadow form since January 2026 to design and scope key corporate plan deliverables, and went live in April 2026

- planning to replace the council's two policy committees with three new ones – one for each of the corporate plan's main themes. This is to align the council's decision-making with its work related strategic delivery panel per theme
- plans to ensure the appropriate policy committee receives the thematic business plan progress reports to regularly monitor performance and address strategic risks
- plans to present an annual corporate plan progress report to full council so councillors receive a holistic overview of the council's progress against its key priorities.

The peer team congratulates the council's senior leadership team and policy officers for driving this strategic, collaborative work with West Lindsey's councillors and officers. This is because they have only been able to drive much of this work since September 2025, when the new ruling administration and chief executive formally commenced their roles.

To make the most of this work, the council should reflect on, and save, its learning from these successful business planning change processes, so it can most easily undertake such further work as and when required, for example in the event that the council experiences any change of political control. This includes project planning and communications with councillors and staff, to involve them, update them on progress, and manage everyone's expectations.

3.5. Recommendation 5 - develop plans to address the gap in your medium-term financial plan

West Lindsey's governance arrangements for financing projects are robust. This includes not allowing financially unviable projects to proceed.

The UK Government's multi-year financial settlement has also helped the council balance and approve its budgets for the next three years. West Lindsey lead officers and councillors believe this leaves it financially viable as it heads towards LGR.

Additionally, the council has revised its previous savings board's terms of reference and purpose to become the Member Board for Efficiencies, Income Generation and Savings. This is helping it, as its name suggests, to be more efficient.

Like any council however, West Lindsey must continually monitor, scrutinise and progress its budgets and spending closely. This is especially given global conflicts, LGR, other national and local policy developments and all their repercussions, which could have serious implications for the council's finances as and when they emerge.

The council is considering further financial efficiencies such as digital invoicing, and exploring what other councils are doing. The peer team recommends however the council becomes far more innovative and proactive in this regard, as digital invoicing is not new, and West Lindsey could have arguably transitioned to this previously.

At the same time, the council has key, local opportunities to invest in and benefit from. These include: its plans to redevelop the former Royal Air Force Scampton site; housing, commuting and skills related opportunities from the Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production prototype fusion power plant to be built by 2040 near Gainsborough; and LGR. West Lindsey should therefore proactively consider how it can innovatively enhance its own finances directly through its own corporate priorities, as well as exploring what other councils are doing more generally.

3.6. Recommendation 6 - design and implement a new continuous improvement/change programme

After the peer team's previous CPC visit in January 2025, the Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution issued a statutory invitation to all councils in two-tier areas and neighbouring small unitary councils to develop proposals for unitary local government. Councils were asked to produce interim plans and submit these to Government by 21 March 2025. West Lindsey understandably moved its focus to LGR implementation, and therefore did not design a new improvement/change programme as per this recommendation.

Section 3.9 of this report outlines how the council has been progressing LGR instead.

3.7. Recommendation 7 - review the number and frequency of your meetings

As partly outlined in section 3.4, and as relevant here, West Lindsey has:

- reduced and replaced previous programme boards with strategic delivery panels
- reviewed its member working groups, approved the review's recommendations,

and reduced these groups down to three, including the Member Board for Efficiencies, Income Generation and Savings mentioned in section 3.5.

The council has additionally changed the format of its monthly updates and weekly messages by the chief executive and senior leadership team to its staff. The monthly updates are now online Microsoft Teams-based calls, which are conversational, two-way and inclusive of all council staff. This compares to the previous, more static PowerPoint presentation format. The weekly messages' format has changed from a lengthy all staff email to a more concise update from the chief executive published as a news item on the staff intranet. These revised formats work well by providing useful updates, showcasing and celebrating individual staff members and their work. This is helping all to know who does what, what further beneficial links can be made between work areas, and further boosts staff morale.

The chief executive also regularly meets the ruling administration political group leaders, as well as the opposition group leader. This is similarly working well, continuing to build positive, open relationships, provide updates and feedback, and progress the council's work at this level.

In progressing these work areas, neither the council nor peer team have seen any detrimental effects. Indeed, these changes appear to be saving time and other resources, and meetings are more effective for being more focused and purposeful.

3.8. Recommendation 8 - develop your internal communications to address issues raised throughout our findings

In reviewing and updating its internal communications, the council has notably improved:

- its approach generally, which is more flexible, responsive and incorporates new important topics such as LGR
- the formatting of, and messaging within staff updates. Staff feedback regularly informs and improves these updates
- its intranet, particularly setting up an LGR information hub for key updates, space to find and raise frequently asked questions and answers, and a document library

- its regular messaging to staff, for example through the chief executive's updates
- wider management team meetings, which discuss updates on LGR, the implementation of the council's senior management structure, and other topics.

The peer team especially heard how internal communications are less 'top down' - from the senior leadership team to staff - and are more 'two-way'/engaging. This therefore, plus all the key developments outlined above, are giving all staff, senior management and councillors more genuine opportunities to know what is happening, feedback and influence how the council works, and best work together.

3.9. How ready and fit for purpose West Lindsey's LGR work/progress plans are, to help ensure the council can deliver those plans as efficiently as possible

Whilst West Lindsey developed and submitted an interim plan for unitary local government in Greater Lincolnshire, it subsequently decided not to submit a final proposal. The council is instead progressing its own programme to prepare for whatever decision Government makes on which LGR proposal(s) to implement. West Lindsey's work is therefore focusing on pre-decision, pre-transition and transition stages. Accordingly, the council - alongside other Greater Lincolnshire local authorities - is currently progressing recommended pre-decision 'no-regret' actions. These include for example ensuring contract and asset registers are up to date, and other workforce and human resources actions, to prepare for post-decision steps.

At the same time, Greater Lincolnshire councils' chief executives are leading seven workstreams to align key work across the area. West Lindsey's chief executive co-leads the programme management office (PMO) workstream, and co-leads the contracts and procurement workstream.

Greater Lincolnshire councils were due to complete their no-regret actions by March 2026, through the PMO workstream, which West Lindsey's chief executive co-leads. The councils will then deliver actions to ensure a safe, legal and successful transition to the new authority/ies.

Given the peer team's observations above, West Lindsey has a unique, positive opportunity and strength as a Greater Lincolnshire council that did not submit an

LGR proposal. It could be the neutral council player that positively and effectively co-ordinates and drives progress across the area, the credible voice of reason if needed to facilitate negotiations and address any difficulties between local authorities. If it chooses to take up this role, with Greater Lincolnshire councils' agreement and support, this could potentially benefit all by making the most of:

- West Lindsey's influence, local intelligence, skills and assets among other things, through its councillors, staff and communities, to enhance LGR opportunities throughout the Greater Lincolnshire area
- the Greater Lincolnshire LGR decision and those councils' related work programmes to deliver for West Lindsey and Greater Lincolnshire residents, businesses and visitors
- the legacy all round that West Lindsey could leave as a result of this work.

This role would also offer the council the opportunity to further engage with Greater Lincolnshire local authorities that are understandably currently focusing on their own submitted LGR proposals or could otherwise work more closely with West Lindsey.

Once the Government has announced its decision on which LGR proposal(s) to implement, West Lindsey will need to work at speed for itself and with the other Greater Lincolnshire local authorities to catch up with and drive forward this agenda for West Lindsey's and the wider area's residents, businesses and visitors. All Greater Lincolnshire council chief executives are due to meet to progress this work programme together. As part of this, West Lindsey must ensure it has sufficient officer capacity to deliver this work at both West Lindsey and Greater Lincolnshire levels, and to deliver West Lindsey's own remaining legacy work.

The peer team also recommends that West Lindsey asks the now Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution for a conversation as soon as possible ahead of her Greater Lincolnshire LGR decision. This is to enable West Lindsey to share its views on all the Greater Lincolnshire councils' LGR proposals in the absence of its own proposal to help inform her decision. If this is not possible, West Lindsey can demonstrate its willingness to make the most of its neutral position to inform the outcome. If this conversation is possible, West Lindsey must be prepared to respectively answer and evidence the likely questions of which proposal it prefers

and why. It should also be prepared, if required, to further use its previously submitted and published LGR principles, explanatory covering letter, and full submitted analysis against its principles to help the Minister best consider the proposals from West Lindsey's more neutral position in the Greater Lincolnshire area.

4. Final thoughts and next steps

The LGA thanks West Lindsey for undertaking this CPC review.

We appreciate that the council's senior managerial and political leadership will want to reflect on these findings and suggestions to determine how to take things forward.

Under the umbrella of LGA sector-led improvement, there is an on-going offer of support to councils. The LGA is well placed to provide additional support, advice and guidance on the areas identified for development and improvement, and we would be happy to discuss this.

Mark Edgell, Principal Adviser, is the main contact between the council and the LGA, and his email address is mark.edgell@local.gov.uk.

Agenda Item 9e



Thriving Council

Thursday, 25 June 2026

Subject: Annual Treasury Management Report 2025/26

Report by:

Director of Corporate Services (S151)

Contact Officer:

Caroline Capon
Corporate Finance Team Leader

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Executive Summary:

To report on Annual Treasury Management activities and prudential indicators for 2025/26 in accordance with the Local Government Act 2003.

The Council are required to receive as a minimum the following reports;

- An annual treasury strategy in advance of the year (3 March 2025)
- A mid-year, (minimum), treasury update report (26 January 2026)
- An annual review following the end of the year describing the activity compared to the strategy, (this report)

In addition, Thriving Council Committee (Previously Corporate Policy and Resources) has received quarterly management update reports.

The regulatory environment places responsibility on members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report is, therefore, important in that respect, as it provides details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by members.

This Council confirms that it has complied with the requirement under the Code to give prior scrutiny to all of the above treasury management reports either the Governance and Audit Committee who provide scrutiny of the Treasury Management Strategy and the Thriving Council Committee (Previously Corporate Policy and Resources) who monitor in year performance and mid-year updates. Member training on treasury management issues was undertaken during the year in order to support members' scrutiny role.

Appendices to Report

- Appendix 1: Economy and Interest Rates
- Appendix 2: Approved countries for investments as of 1st April 2026

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That Members recommend the Annual Treasury Management Report and actual Prudential Indicators 2025/26 to Full Council for approval.

1. Introduction

During 2025/26, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements. The key actual prudential and treasury indicators detailing the impact of capital expenditure activities during the year, with comparators, are as follows:

Prudential and treasury indicators	2024/25 Actual £000	2025/26 Original £000	2025/26 Actual £000
Capital expenditure	17,398	13,383	7,348*
Capital Financing Requirement:	36,085	35,251	35,250
Of which – Investment Properties	19,099	18,661	18,661
Gross borrowing (External)	24,000	24,000	24,142
Investments			
• Longer than 1 year	2,000	2,000	1,000
• Under 1 year	19,780	11,000	18,645
• Total	21,780	13,000	19,645
Net borrowing	2,220	11,000	4,497

**Includes £142k of new leases*

Other prudential and treasury indicators are to be found in the main body of this report.

The Director of Corporate Services (S151 Officer) also confirms that borrowing was only undertaken for a capital purpose and the statutory borrowing limit, (the authorised limit), was not breached.

This report summarises the following:-

- Capital activity during the year;
- Impact of this activity on the Council's underlying indebtedness, (the Capital Financing Requirement);
- The actual prudential and treasury indicators;
- Overall treasury position identifying how the Council has borrowed in relation to this indebtedness, and the impact on investment balances;
- Summary of interest rate movements in the year;
- Detailed debt activity; and
- Detailed investment activity.

2. Capital Expenditure and Financing

The Council undertakes capital expenditure on long-term assets. These activities may either be:

- Financed immediately through the application of capital or revenue resources (capital receipts, capital grants, revenue contributions etc.), which has no resultant impact on the Council's borrowing need; or
- If insufficient financing is available, or a decision is taken not to apply resources, the capital expenditure will give rise to a borrowing need.

The actual capital expenditure forms one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the actual capital expenditure and how this was funded.

Capital and Financing	2024/25 Actual £000's	2025/26 Original Budget* £000's	2025/26 Actual £000's
Capital expenditure	17,398	13,383	7,348
Financed in year by:			
Capital Receipts	119	296	446
Capital grants/contributions	16,827	4,548	4,685
Revenue	18	7,970	1,917
Leases	0	0	142
S106	434	426	158
Prudential Borrowing	0	143	0

*Including 2024/25 Carry Forwards

3. The Council's overall borrowing need

The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This figure is a gauge of the Council's indebtedness. The CFR results from the capital activity of the Council and resources used to pay for the capital spend. It represents the 2025/26 unfinanced capital expenditure (see above table), and prior years' net or unfinanced capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for by revenue or other resources.

Part of the Council's treasury activities is to address the funding requirements for this borrowing need. Depending on the capital expenditure programme, the treasury service organises the Council's cash position to ensure that sufficient cash is available to meet the capital plans and cash flow requirements. This may be sourced through borrowing from external bodies, (such as the Government, through the Public Works Loan Board [PWLb], or the money markets), or utilising temporary cash resources within the Council.

Reducing the CFR – the Council's underlying borrowing need (CFR) is not allowed to rise indefinitely. Statutory controls are in place to ensure that capital assets are broadly charged to revenue over the life of the asset. The Council is required to make an annual revenue charge, called the Minimum Revenue Provision – MRP, to reduce the CFR. This is effectively a repayment of the borrowing need. This differs from the treasury management arrangements which ensure that cash is available to meet capital commitments. External debt can also be borrowed or repaid at any time, but this does not change the CFR.

The total CFR can also be reduced by:

- the application of additional capital financing resources, (such as unapplied capital receipts); or
- charging more than the statutory revenue charge (MRP) each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

The Council's 2025/26 MRP Policy, (as required by MHCLG Guidance), was approved as part of the Treasury Management Strategy Report for 2025/26 on 3 March 2025.

The Council has retained a Valuation Volatility Reserve. This Reserve will be utilised to mitigate any loss on the investment upon sale of the assets if the capital receipt does not meet the debt outstanding. The balance on this reserve as at 31 March 2026 is £0.733m. However, now that MRP will be charged annually, thus reducing outstanding borrowing, the Reserve is being reduced over the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

The Council's CFR for the year is shown below, and represents a key prudential indicator.

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	31 March 2025 Actual £000's	31 March 2026 Actual £000's
Opening balance	37,022	36,085
Add adjustment for Prudential Borrowing	0	0
Add adjustment for Leases	0	142
Less MRP/Finance Lease Repayments	(937)	(977)
Less VRP	0	0
Closing balance	36,085	35,250
<i>Movement on CFR</i>	<i>(937)</i>	<i>(835)</i>

Borrowing activity is constrained by prudential indicators for gross borrowing and the CFR, and by the authorised limit.

Gross borrowing and the CFR - in order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term and only for a capital purpose, the Council ensures that its gross external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year (2024/25) plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current (2025/26) and next two financial years. This essentially means that the Council is not borrowing to support revenue expenditure. This indicator allowed the Council some flexibility to borrow in advance of its immediate capital needs. The table below highlights the Council's gross borrowing position against the CFR. The Council has complied with this prudential indicator.

	31 March 2025 Actual £000's	2025/26 Budget £000's	31 March 2026 Actual £000's
Gross Borrowing Position	24,000	24,000	24,000
Leases	0	0	142
Total Debt	24,000	24,000	24,142
CFR	36,085	35,251	35,250
(Under)/Over Funding of CFR	(12,085)	(11,251)	(11,108)

The Authorised Limit - the authorised limit is the “affordable borrowing limit” required by s3 of the Local Government Act 2003. Once this has been set, the Council does not have the power to borrow above this level. The table below demonstrates that during 2025/26 the Council has maintained gross borrowing within its authorised limit.

The Operational Boundary – the operational boundary is the expected borrowing position of the Council during the year. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the boundary are acceptable subject to the authorised limit not being breached.

Actual financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream - this indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital, (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income), against the net revenue stream.

	2025/26 £000's
Authorised limit	40,000
Maximum gross borrowing position during the year	24,142
Operational boundary	35,000
Average gross borrowing position	19,890
Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream	8.58%

4. Treasury Position as at 31 March 2026

The Council's treasury management debt and investment position is organised by the treasury management service in order to ensure adequate liquidity for revenue and capital activities, security for investments and to manage risks within all treasury management activities. Procedures and controls to achieve these objectives are well established both through member reporting detailed in the summary, and through officer activity detailed in the Council's Treasury Management Practices. At the end of 2025/26 the Council's treasury, (excluding borrowing and finance leases), position was as follows:

TABLE 1	31 March 2025 Principal £000's	Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs.	31 March 2026 Principal £000's	Average Rate/ Return	Average Life yrs.
Fixed rate funding:						
-PWLB	14,000	2.25%	20	14,000	2.25%	19
-Other LA	10,000	5.25%	0.2	10,000	4.32%	0.6
-Lease	0			142	6.34%	2
Total debt	24,000		20.2	24,142		19.6
CFR	36,085		-	35,250	-	
Over / (under) borrowing	(12,085)	-	-	(11,108)	-	
Investments:						
	21,780		-	19,645		-
Total investments	21,780	4.96%	-	19,645	4.22%	-
Net debt	2,220	-	-	4,355	-	-

Under borrowing reflects Internal Borrowing from the Council's cash balances.

The maturity structure of the debt portfolio was as follows:

	31 March 2025 Actual £000's	31 March 2026 Actual £000's	% Portfolio
Less than 5 years	13,000	13,142	54.4%
5 years and within 10 years	0	0	0
10 years and within 20 years	2,500	2,500	10.4%
20 years and within 30 years	0	0	0
30 years and within 40 years	2,500	2,500	10.4%
40 years and within 60 years	6,000	6,000	24.8%

£14.0m of loans have been undertaken with the Public Works Loans Board at fixed rates on a maturity basis as detailed above.

Borrowing in advance of need

The Council has not borrowed more than, or in advance of its needs, purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed.

The Council's capital investments and their subsequent financing costs as a % of the Net Revenue Stream is detailed below along with the impact on Council Tax (all other things being equal). The indicators reflect the Borrowing Strategy,

that the Council will only borrow where schemes are able to provide sustained support for the costs of borrowing and reflect new income generated is in excess of the cost of borrowing.

	31 March 2025 Actual	31 March 2026 Actual
Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream	10.12%	8.58%
Increase/(Reduction) in Council Tax	£26.37	-£10.16

Investments

Investment Policy – the Council’s investment policy is governed by DLUHC investment guidance, which has been implemented in the annual investment strategy approved by the Council on 2 March 2025. This policy sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties and is based on credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, supplemented by additional market data, (such as rating outlooks, credit default swaps, bank share prices etc.).

The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy, and the Council had no liquidity difficulties.

Resources – the Council’s cash balances comprise revenue and capital resources and cash flow monies. The Council’s core cash resources comprised as follows:

Balance Sheet Resources*	31 March 2025 £000’s	31 March 2026 £000’s
General Fund Balance	4,478	4,434
Earmarked reserves	19,558	20,952
Usable capital receipts	1,480	1,109
Capital Grants Unapplied	3,070	3,609
Total	28,586	30,104

*Subject to external audit of the 2025/26 accounts

Investments held by the Council

- The Council maintained an average balance of £18.173m of internally managed funds.
- The internally managed funds earned an average rate of return of 4.221%.
- The comparable performance indicator is the Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) which was a rate of 4.01% as at 31 March 2026.

- Total investment income was £0.767m compared to a budget of £0.519m.

Types of investments	31 March 2025 Actual £000	31 March 2026 Actual £000
Deposits with banks and building societies	500	200
Money Market Funds	19,280	12,445
Other Local Authorities	0	6,000
Property funds	2,000	1,000
TOTAL TREASURY INVESTMENTS	21,780	19,645

Non-Treasury Investments

YEAR OF ACQUISITION	Commercial Property Portfolio	Sector	Total Acquisition Cost £'m
2017/18	Bradford Road, Keighley	Hotel	2.490
2018/19	43 Penistone Road, Sheffield	Leisure	2.700
2018/19	Unit 7 Drake House, Sheffield	Manufacturing	3.175
2018/19	5 Sandars Road, Gainsborough	Manufacturing	6.470
2018/19	Heaton Street, Gainsborough	Retail	1.150
2019/20	Wheatley Road, Doncaster	Commercial Unit	5.681
	TOTAL PORTFOLIO		21.666

The investments are held on the balance sheet at their Fair Value (*the price expected to be received in current market conditions*). The Fair Value as at 31 March 2026 for the Commercial Property Portfolio is £22.127m.

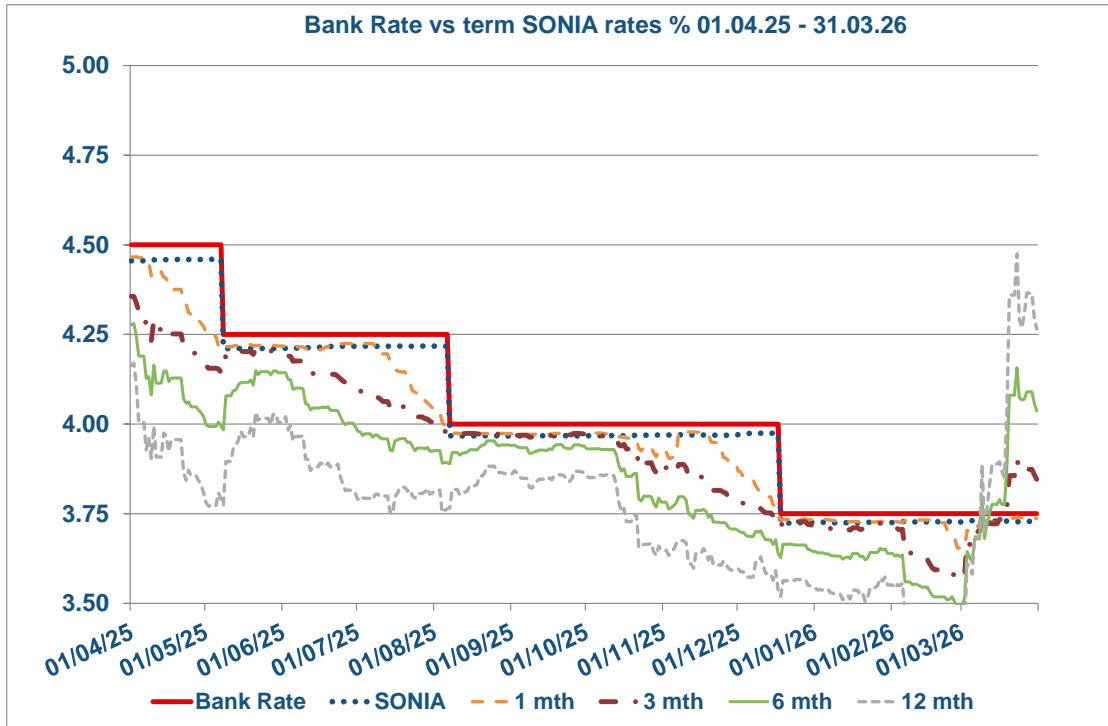
This Commercial Property Portfolio is generating a gross yield of 7.70% and £1.704m in income relevant to the financial year.

The Council mitigates any loss on investment by holding a Valuation Volatility Reserve. The balance on this reserve as at 31 March 2026 is £0.733m. However, now that MRP will be charged annually, thus reducing outstanding borrowing, the Reserve is being reduced over the Medium-Term Financial Plan.

5. The Strategy for 2025/26 (*Information supplied by MUF*G)

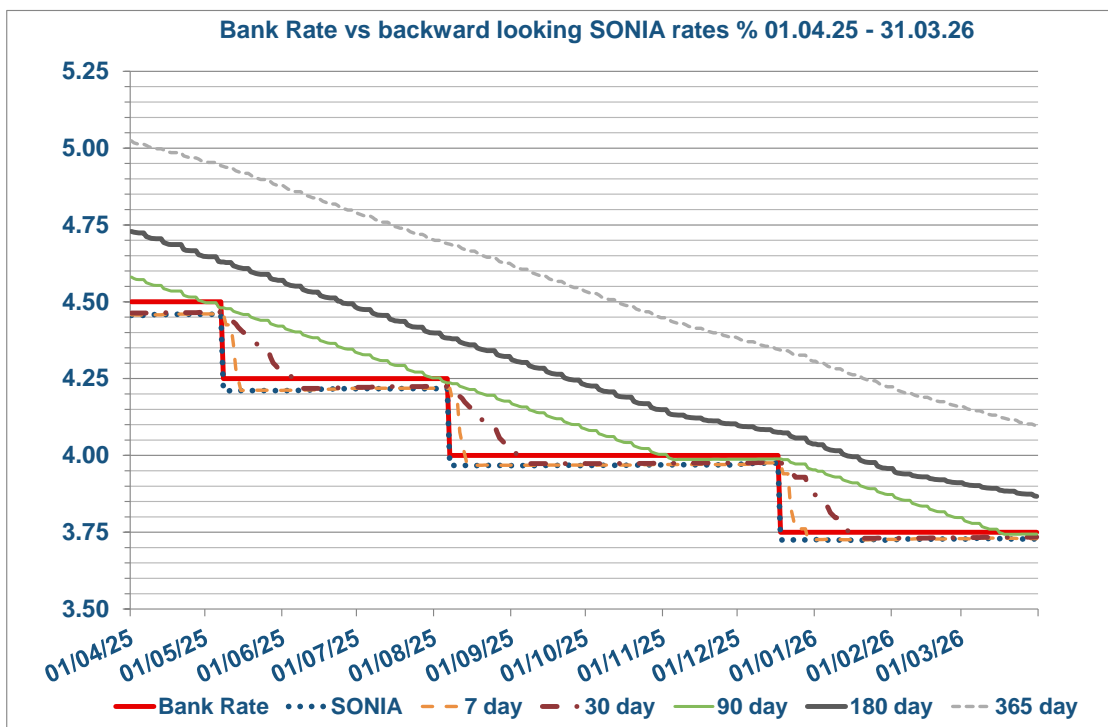
Investment strategy and control of interest rate risk

Investment Benchmarking Data – Sterling Overnight Index Averages (Term)
2025/26



FINANCIAL YEAR TO QUARTER ENDED 31/03/2026						
	Bank Rate	SONIA	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
High	4.50	4.46	4.47	4.36	4.28	4.47
High Date	01/04/2025	07/05/2025	03/04/2025	02/04/2025	02/04/2025	23/03/2026
Low	3.75	3.72	3.65	3.57	3.49	3.40
Low Date	18/12/2025	22/12/2025	27/02/2026	27/02/2026	27/02/2026	27/02/2026
Average	4.04	4.01	3.98	3.94	3.87	3.77
Spread	0.75	0.74	0.81	0.79	0.79	1.08

Investment Benchmarking Data – Sterling Overnight Index Averages (Backward-looking) 2025/26



FINANCIAL YEAR TO QUARTER ENDED 31/03/2026							
	Bank Rate	SONIA	7 day	30 day	90 day	180 day	365 day
High	4.50	4.46	4.46	4.47	4.58	4.73	5.02
High Date	01/04/2025	07/05/2025	28/04/2025	06/05/2025	01/04/2025	01/04/2025	01/04/2025
Low	3.75	3.72	3.73	3.73	3.74	3.87	4.09
Low Date	18/12/2025	22/12/2025	22/01/2026	21/01/2026	18/03/2026	31/03/2026	31/03/2026
Average	4.04	4.01	4.02	4.05	4.13	4.26	4.55
Spread	0.75	0.74	0.74	0.74	0.84	0.86	0.93

Investment returns remained robust throughout 2025/26 despite Bank Rate reducing steadily through the course of the financial year (three 0.25% rate cuts in total), and at the end of March the yield curve had turned positive, reflecting inflation concerns emanating from the on-going conflict in the Middle East.

Bank Rate reductions of 0.25% occurred in May, August and December, bringing the headline rate down from 4.50% to 3.75%. Two of the Bank Rate cuts occurred in the same month as the Bank of England publishes its Quarterly Monetary Policy Report, therein providing a clarity over the timing of potential future rate cuts.

As of early April 2026, market sentiment has been heavily influenced by the Middle East conflict. Commentators anticipate a growing risk of inflation, meaning interest rates will not be cut for some time, and may increase to counteract inflationary pressures arising from steepening energy costs. Growth will also be impacted in many regions of the world. UK GDP is projected by the Office for Budget Responsibility (3 March 2026) to be 1.1% in 2026 before picking up to 1.6% in 2027 and 2028. But the likelihood is that there is downside risk to this forecast given events in the Middle East through March and still on-going.

Looking back through 2025/26, investors were able to achieve returns generally in a range of 4.5% - 5% for periods ranging from 1 month to 12 months in the spring of 2025. By the end of March 2026 deposit rates were somewhat volatile, regaining some traction as the Middle East conflict suggested energy driven inflation may lead to higher interest rates than would otherwise have been the case. Where liquidity requirements were not a drain on day-to-day investment choices, extending duration through the use of "laddered investments" paid off.

Heading into 2026/27, UK inflation is likely to increase to over 4% in the coming months as oil prices, for example, remain close to \$100 per barrel, over 50% higher than before the Middle East conflict started.

Borrowing strategy and control of interest rate risk

During 2025/26, the Authority maintained an under-borrowed position. This meant that the capital borrowing need, (the Capital Financing Requirement), was not fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Authority's reserves, balances and cash flow was used as an interim measure. This strategy was prudent as near-term investment rates have generally been lower than medium to long-term borrowing costs. The latter are expected to fall a little through 2026 and 2027 in the light of economic growth concerns and the eventual dampening

of inflation. The Authority has sought to minimise the taking on of long-term borrowing at elevated levels (>5%) and has focused on a policy of internal and temporary borrowing, supplemented by short-dated borrowing (<5 years) as appropriate.

Against this background and the risks within the economic forecast, caution was adopted with the treasury operations. The Director of Finance therefore monitored interest rates in financial markets and adopted a pragmatic strategy based upon the following principles to manage interest rate risks.

- if it had been felt that there was a significant risk of a sharp FALL in long and short-term rates, (e.g., due to a marked increase of risks around a relapse into recession or of risks of deflation), then long term borrowings would have been postponed, and potential rescheduling from fixed rate funding into short term borrowing would have been considered.
- if it had been felt that there was a significant risk of a much sharper RISE in long and short-term rates than initially expected, perhaps arising from the stickiness of inflation in the major developed economies, then the portfolio position would have been re-appraised. Most likely, fixed rate funding would have been drawn whilst interest rates were lower than they were projected to be in the next few years.

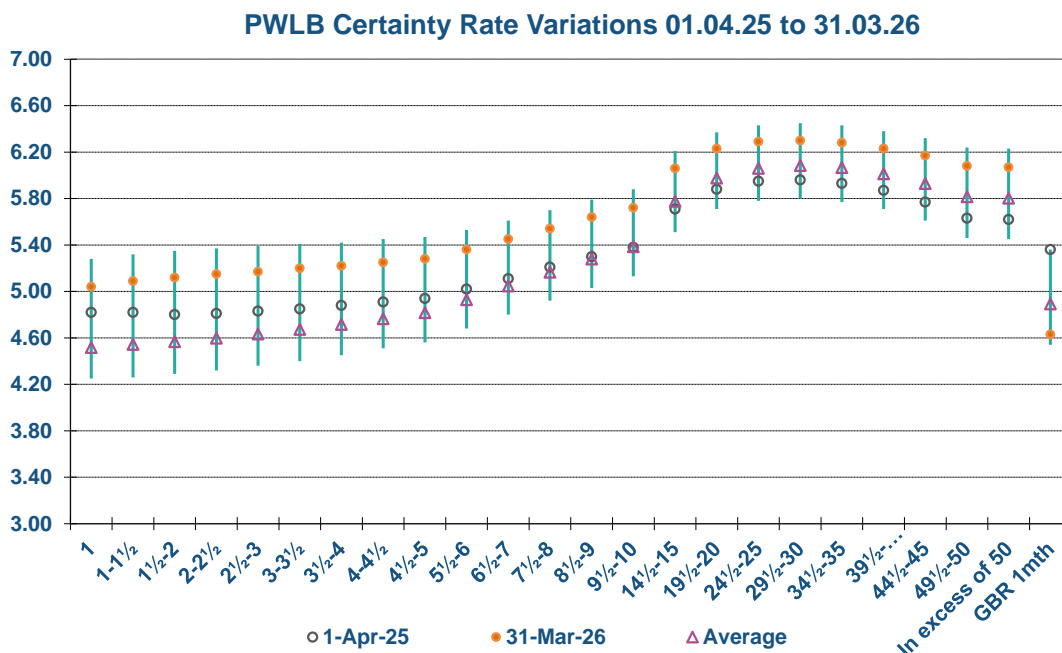
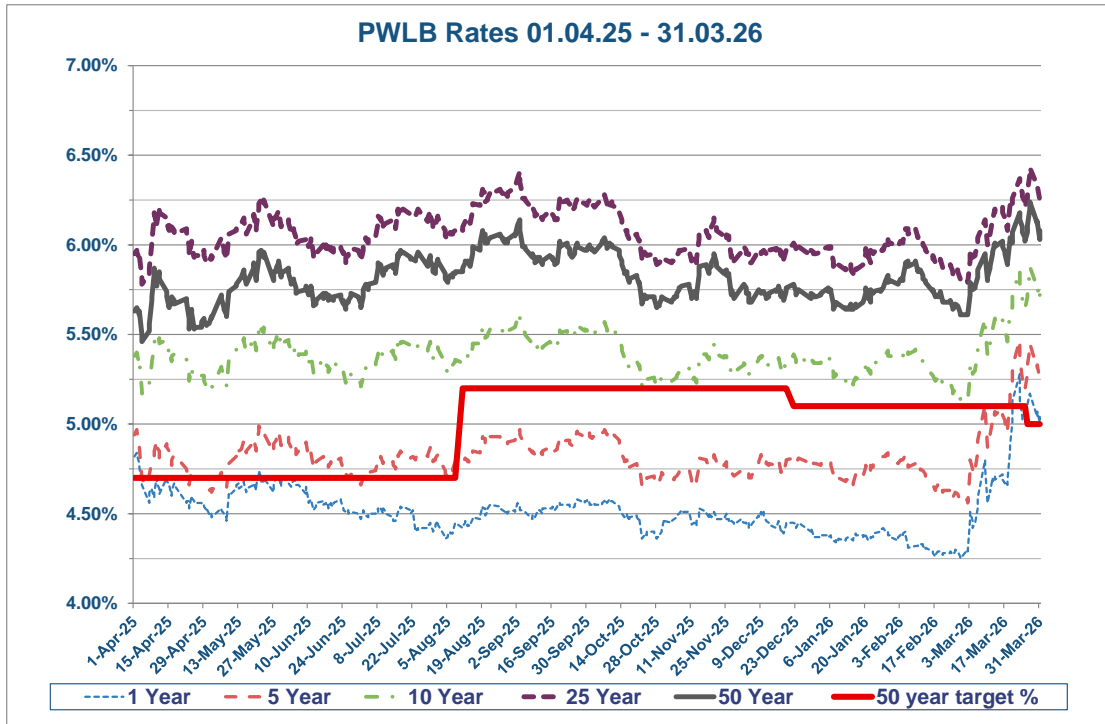
Interest rate forecasts initially suggested gradual reductions in short, medium and longer-term fixed borrowing rates during 2025/26. Bank Rate did reduce to 3.75% as anticipated, but the initial expectation of significant rate reductions across the whole curve did not transpire, primarily because inflation concerns were very elevated in March 2026.

At the start of April 2026, the market expected Bank Rate to increase over the coming months to 4% or 4.25%, from 3.75%, whilst all parts of the curve have also risen substantially through March. A significant fall in inflation will be required to underpin any material movement lower in the longer part of the curve.

Forecasts at the time of approval of the treasury management strategy report for 2025/26 were as follows:-

MUFG Corporate Markets Interest Rate View 11.11.24													
	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25	Sep-25	Dec-25	Mar-26	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27	Jun-27	Sep-27	Dec-27
BANK RATE	4.75	4.50	4.25	4.00	4.00	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
3 month ave earnings	4.70	4.50	4.30	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
6 month ave earnings	4.70	4.40	4.20	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
12 month ave earnings	4.70	4.40	4.20	3.90	3.90	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
5 yr PWLB	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.60	4.50	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.10	4.00	4.00	3.90
10 yr PWLB	5.30	5.10	5.00	4.80	4.80	4.70	4.50	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.20	4.20	4.10
25 yr PWLB	5.60	5.50	5.40	5.30	5.20	5.10	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.70	4.60	4.50	4.50
50 yr PWLB	5.40	5.30	5.20	5.10	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.70	4.60	4.50	4.40	4.30	4.30

PWLB Rates 2025/26



High/Low/Average PWLB Rates for 2025/26

	1 Year	5 Year	10 Year	25 Year	50 Year
Low	4.25%	4.56%	5.13%	5.78%	5.46%
Date	27/02/2026	27/02/2026	02/03/2026	04/04/2025	04/04/2025
High	5.28%	5.47%	5.88%	6.43%	6.24%
Date	23/03/2026	23/03/2026	27/03/2026	27/03/2026	27/03/2026
Average	4.52%	4.82%	5.38%	6.06%	5.81%
Spread	1.03%	0.91%	0.75%	0.65%	0.78%

PWLB rates are based on gilt (UK Government bonds) yields through HM Treasury determining a specified margin to add to gilt yields. The main influences on gilt yields are Bank Rate, inflation expectations and movements in US treasury yields. Inflation targeting by the major central banks has been

successful over the last 30 years in lowering inflation and the real equilibrium rate for central rates has fallen considerably due to the high level of borrowing by consumers: this means that central banks do not need to raise rates as much now to have a major impact on consumer spending, inflation, etc. This has pulled down the overall level of interest rates and bond yields in financial markets over the last 30 years.

However, since early 2022, yields have risen dramatically in all the major developed economies, first as economies opened post-Covid; then because of the inflationary impact of the war in Ukraine in respect of the supply side of many goods. In particular, rising cost pressures emanating from shortages of energy and some food categories have been central to inflation rising rapidly. More recently, the Middle East conflict is likely to see inflation spike higher from late spring 2026 through to early 2027

Gilt yields have been volatile through 2025/26. The low point for long-term rates of 25 and 50 years' duration was reached early in April 2025 whilst the low points for short and medium dated rates were reached in early 2026, prior to the outbreak of the Middle East conflict.

At the close of 31 March 2026, the 1-year PWLB Certainty rate was 5.04% whilst the 5, 10, 25 and 50 year rates were 5.28%, 5.72%, 6.29% and 6.08% respectively.

Regarding PWLB borrowing rates, the various margins attributed to their pricing are as follows: -

- **PWLB Standard Rate** is gilt plus 100 basis points (G+100bps)
- **PWLB Certainty Rate** is gilt plus 80 basis points (G+80bps)
- **Local Infrastructure Rate** is gilt plus 60 basis points (G+60bps) – available through the National Wealth Fund
- **HRA Borrowing rate** is gilt plus 40 basis points (G+40bps)

As a general rule, short-dated gilt yields will reflect expected movements in Bank Rate, whilst medium to long-dated yields are driven primarily by the inflation outlook.

6. Other Issues

Economy and Interest Rates

A detailed review of the Economy and Interest Rates, provided by our Treasury Advisors, MUFU can be found in Appendix 1. Approved Countries for investments as at 01/04/2026 can be found in Appendix 2.

IFRS 9 fair value of investments

Following the consultation undertaken by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government [MHCLG] on IFRS 9, the Government extended the

mandatory statutory override for local authorities to reverse out all unrealised fair value movements resulting from pooled investment funds to 31st March 2029, with the exception of any new pooled investments from 1st April 2024. Local authorities are required to disclose the net impact of the unrealised fair value movements in a separate unusable reserve throughout the duration of the override in order for the Government to keep the override under review and to maintain a form of transparency. The Council currently has £1m invested in CCLG Property Funds, this was invested prior to 01 April 2024 and is therefore subject to the statutory override. The fair value movement for 2025/26 was £1038.10.

Counterparty Limits

There have been no breaches of Prudential Indicators.

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None from this report

Financial: FIN/20/27/TC/CC

Treasury Investment activities have generated £0.767m of investment interest at an average rate of 4.047%.

Non-Treasury investments (Investment Property Portfolio) have generated £1.704m income which is a gross yield of 7.70%

Financing activities has resulted in a total of £24.142m of external borrowing at a cost in year of £0.591m.

Staffing: None from this report

LGR implications: None from this report

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: None from this report

Data Protection Implications: None from this report

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None from this report

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: None from this report

Health Implications: None from this report

Risk Assessment:

The Treasury Management Strategy sets out an assessment of treasury risks

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

The Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

X

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

X

Appendix 1

Economy and Interest Rates

UK Economy

As with 2024/25, UK inflation has proved somewhat stubborn throughout 2025/26. Having started the financial year at 3.5% y/y (April), the CPI measure of inflation peaked at 3.8% from July to September, before dipping to 3% in January and February. Core inflation picked up to 3.2% in February, from 3.1%, and the recent upward pressure on energy costs could see CPI inflation breach 4.5% later this year.

Against this backdrop, the continued lack of progress in ending the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and the potentially negative implications for global growth as a consequence of the implementation of US tariff policies, Bank Rate reductions look limited for the remainder of 2026 (as they do in the euro-zone). Bank Rate currently stands at 3.75%.

Moreover, borrowing has becoming more expensive in 2025/26. Gilt yields have risen materially in March 2026, more than reversing the falls earlier in the financial year. Additionally, the public finances have remained under pressure. The higher-than-expected public net sector borrowing of £14.3bn in February was £2.2bn above last February's outturn. But that borrowing overshoot was mainly due to timing effects relating to the £13.0bn government debt interest payment. That came in as the highest payment since June 2025, causing a 12.3% y/y jump in spending. On the flip side, sitting at £8.1bn, tax revenues were also higher than last February, largely on the back of solid growth in self-employment incomes in 2024/25, boosting self-assessment income tax receipts and stronger capital gains tax receipts.

However, the combination of some energy price support and pressures from higher inflation amid the ongoing energy price shock, higher interest rates and a weaker economy will ultimately put borrowing on an upward trend. With the rise in energy prices possibly pushing the Retail Prices Index inflation up to a peak of 5.7%, debt interest repayments will increase by about £10bn. A weaker growth profile, higher inflation, higher interest rates and gilt yields could erode about £11bn of the Chancellor's £23.6bn headroom.

The loosening in the labour market continues to bear down on wage growth. The 3myy growth rate of average earnings including bonuses slowed from 4.2% in December to 3.9% in January. Meanwhile, excluding bonuses, private earnings growth continued to fall from 3.4% to 3.3%.

The table below provides a snapshot of the conundrum facing central banks: inflation pressures remain, labour markets are still relatively tight by historical comparisons, and central banks are also having to react to a fundamental re-ordering of economic and defence policies driven largely by the US administration.

	UK	Eurozone	US
Bank Rate	3.75%	2.0%	3.5%-3.75%
GDP	0.1%q/q Q4 (1.0%/y/y)	+0.2%q/q Q4 (1.2%/y/y)	0.7% Q4 Annualised
Inflation	3.0%/y/y (Feb)	1.9%/y/y (Feb)	2.4%/y/y (Feb)
Unemployment Rate	5.2% (Jan)	6.2% (Jan)	4.4% (Feb)

The Bank of England sprung no surprises in their March meeting, leaving Bank Rate unchanged at 3.75% by a vote of 9-0, but suggesting rates may need to rise if inflation picks up markedly. The vote could best be described as moderately hawkish. The MPC stated it "stands ready to act as necessary" and "is alert to the increased risk of domestic inflationary pressures through

second-round effects in wage and price-setting". Even so, we suspect the committee is likely to put equal weight on higher inflation and weaker growth, particularly the poor macroeconomic backdrop prior to the energy shock, keeping interest rates at 3.75% this year.

10-year Gilt yields have been exceptionally volatile in the final weeks of 2025/26, troughing at around 4.23% in late February before shooting up to 5.00% (and well through that on an intraday basis). That spike was driven by the outbreak of war in the Middle East, which prompted a dramatic reassessment of investors' Bank of England policy rate expectations. Having been pricing in rate cuts in late-February, as many as four rate *hikes* were discounted by late-March. The 10-year yield ended the quarter at 4.92% with around 65bp of rate hikes priced in over the coming year. In addition to more hawkish monetary policy expectations, part of this increase in yields probably reflected an increase in term premia amid concerns that the government may react by loosening the fiscal purse strings.

As for equity markets, the FTSE 100 experienced another volatile quarter, surging to an all-time high of around 10,900 in late February, leaving it up 10% from the start of 2026, before giving back most of those gains in March after the outbreak of the Middle East conflict. That pullback leaves the index at around 10,176 at the end of the quarter. For context it was at 8,582 at the start of April. The £ has stayed relatively resilient also at \$1.33, strengthening from \$1.29 back in April.

US Economy

Despite a weak finish to 2025, the US economy has generally been the strongest among the developed economies, but with uncertainties growing surrounding President Trump's central economic tenet of being able to apply tariffs on an ad-hoc basis, and bend the FOMC Fed Funds rate decision-making to his will, there is something of a stalemate in place at present over when, and if, rates will be cut further in 2026.

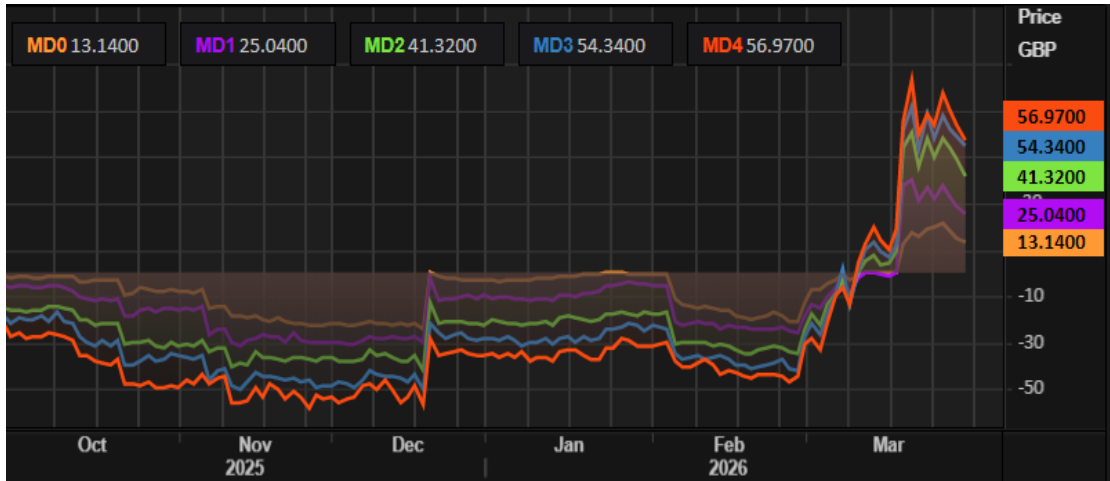
Inflation is currently stuck at around 2.5%, unemployment is only a little above 4%, and tax refunds are in the process of being facilitated for many households. But will those refunds be – at least partially – offset by higher gasoline prices?

The S&P500 started April 2025 at 5,633 and finished March 2026 at 6,528 having peaked at just over 7,000. The 10-year Treasury yield finished March at 4.30% having been 4.17% back at the start of April, and during the year has been both above 4.50% and below 4.00%.

EZ Economy

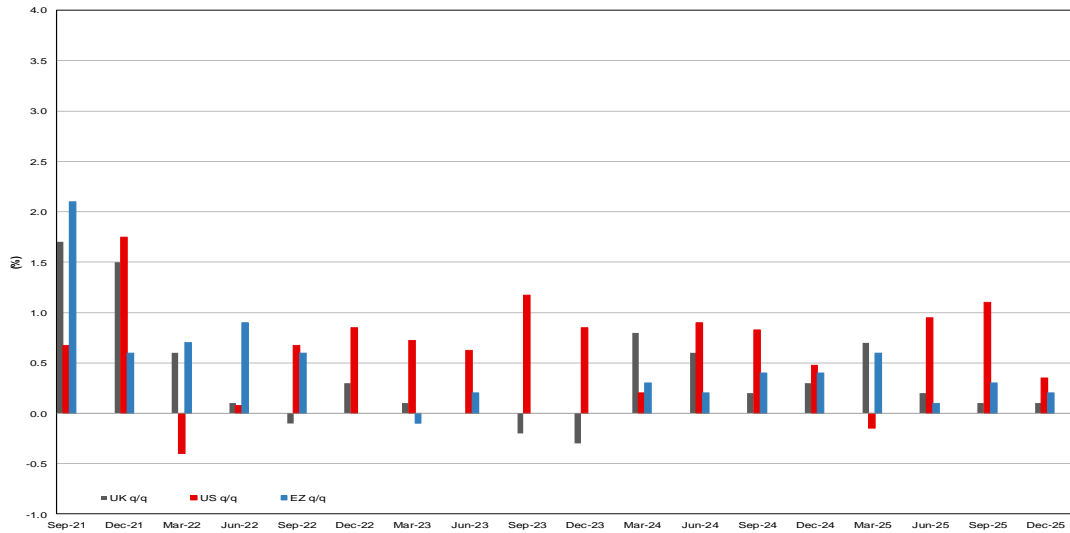
The Eurozone economy has run pretty much in parallel with that of the UK. A slightly stronger finish to 2025 (GDP of 0.2% q/q) than that of the UK cannot hide the fact that the economy has been negatively impacted by German economic stagnation until late in 2025. France has also struggled against a difficult political backdrop, but managed to post GDP growth of 0.3% q/q for October to December.

With Eurozone headline inflation close to 2%, the ECB has been able to reduce its Deposit Rate to 2%. Whether it rises from that low point will very much be driven by how energy prices trend over the coming months. The Euro has appreciated against the dollar from 1.08 at the start of April 2025 to 1.16 at the end of March.

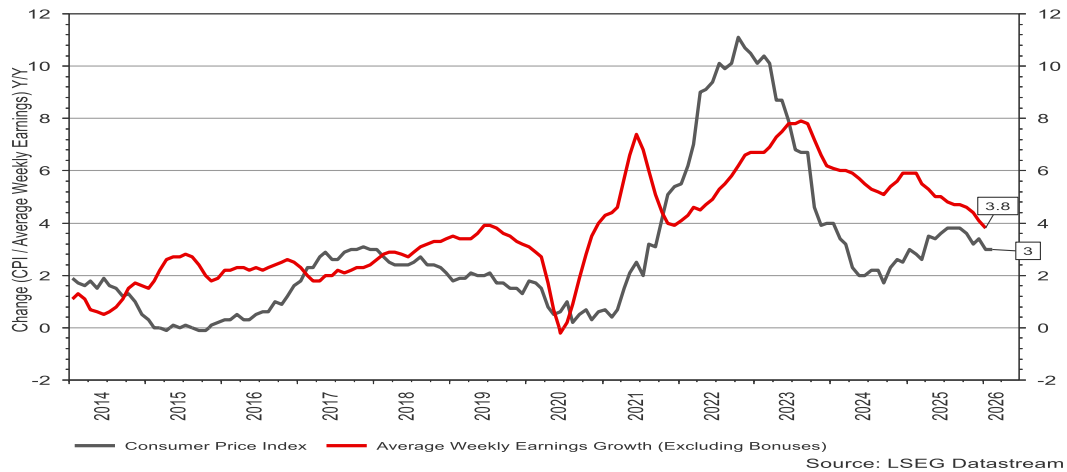


*MD0 = Change in Bank Rate expected at MPC meeting to be held April-26, MD1 = Jun-26, MD2 = Jul-26, MD3 = Sept-26, MD4 = Nov-26.

UK, US and EZ Quarterly GDP



CPI v Average Weekly Earnings Growth



Appendix 2

Approved countries for investments as of 1st April 2026

This list is based on those countries which have sovereign ratings of AA- or higher, (we show the lowest rating from Fitch, Moody's and S&P) and also, (except - at the time of writing - for Hong Kong and Luxembourg), have banks operating in sterling markets which have credit ratings of green or above in the MUFG Corporate Markets creditworthiness service.

Based on lowest available rating

AAA

- Australia
- Denmark
- Germany
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Singapore
- Sweden
- Switzerland

AA+

- Canada
- U.S.A.

AA

- Abu Dhabi (UAE)
- Finland
- Qatar

AA-

- U.K.

A+

- Belgium
- France



Thriving Council Committee

Date: Thursday 25 June 2026

Subject: Budget and Treasury Monitoring – Final Outturn 2025/2026

Report by: Director of Corporate Services (S151 Officer)

Contact Officer: Sue Leversedge
Head of Finance (Deputy S151 Officer)
sue.leversedge@west-lindsey.gov.uk

Executive Summary:

This report sets out the final budget outturn position for revenue and capital spend 2025/2026, and requests approval for transfer of the net underspend to Earmarked Reserves.

REVENUE

- Revenue Forecast Out-Turn (after carry-forwards) – Contribution to Reserves **£1.488m**. (-8.14% of Net Revenue Budget – see 2.1 for details of significant variances).
- Carry forwards (see **Appendix 1** for details) – total £0.629m
 - Previously approved use of Earmarked Reserves £0.198m
 - Requests approved at year-end by Leadership Team £0.431m

CAPITAL

- Capital Outturn: Final outturn £7.206m against a revised budget of £14.324m, resulting in a variance of £7.118m (see **Appendix 2** for details).
- £1.698m is requested for carry forward into 2026/2027, £0.653m being net underspends on scheme budgets and £4.767m movements to revenue.

Members are asked to note:

Underspend	£m
ERP Systems Phase 2	(0.398)
Local Authority Housing Fund - Resettlement	(0.167)
Thriving Gainsborough - Resources	(0.056)
Civic Car Replacement	(0.030)
Firewall upgrade & Replacement	(0.016)
Shop Front Improvement	(0.005)
Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2	(0.001)
Market Rasen 3 year vision	(0.001)
Total	(0.674)

Increase in Scheme Budgets	£m
Guildhall Meeting Room equipment	0.001
Disabled Facilities Grants	0.001
Food Waste Collection	0.019
Total	0.021

Movement of Budgets to Revenue	£m
Purchase of RAF Scampton	(4.750)
Member ICT Provision	(0.017)
Total	(4.767)

Drawbacks from 2026/2027	£m
Gainsborough Heritage Regeneration	0.006
Warm Homes Local Grant	0.141
Total	0.147

Carry Forwards into 2026/2027	£m
Thriving Gainsborough - Cinema	(0.342)
Capital Enhancements to Council Properties	(0.289)
1.3 Town Centre Regeneration- commercial premises grant	(0.228)
Carbon Efficiencies - Street Lights	(0.210)
1.1 Flagship Community Grants Programme	(0.137)
Local Authority Housing Fund - Temp Accommodation	(0.108)
Grange Farm - Community Supported Living	(0.100)
Changing Places Unit	(0.098)
CRM System	(0.085)
Vehicle Replacement Programme	(0.065)
Parks Fund Project	(0.047)
5-7 Market Place Redevelopment	(0.045)
Hemswell Cliff Investment for Growth	(0.031)
Northgate Replacement/Upgrade	(0.030)
CCTV Expansion	(0.010)
Thriving Gainsborough - Pocket Park	(0.010)
Thriving Gainsborough - Whitton Gardens	(0.005)
Desktop Refresh	(0.003)
Contact Centre	(0.002)
Total	(1.845)

Variance Against Revised Budget (7.118)

TREASURY MANAGEMENT

Treasury Management Report and monitoring:

- Investments held as of 31st March 2026 were:
 - Average investment interest rate for January to March was 4.047%.
 - Total Investments at the end of Quarter 4 were £19.645m.
 - Bank Balance £0.065m.

The tables below reflect the movement on our investments and borrowing in Quarter 4:

Investment Movements	Qtr. 4 £'m
Investments B/fwd. (at 31.12.2025 including cash held at bank)	15.654
(Less) Net Capital expenditure/ Funding received	0.014
Add PWLB/Other LA Borrowing in year	5.000
Add/(Less) Net Revenue Expenditure	(1.733)
Add/(Less) Net Collection Fund Movement (Ctax/NNDR)	0.775
Investments carried forward (at Period end)	19.710

The prudential borrowing position reflects actual borrowing undertaken from the Public Works Loans Board/Other Local Authorities/Leases and the amount of internal borrowing required to meet the actual costs of borrowing up to the 31st of March 2026. Internal Borrowing is an approved practice whereby external borrowing is delayed by using cash held for other purposes. It allows us to avoid paying interest until the original expenditure planned for the internally borrowed cash is required.

	Qtr.4
Prudential Borrowing	£'m
Total External Borrowing (PWLB)	14.000
Other Local Authorities	10.000
Leases	0.142
Internal Borrowing	11.108
Total Prudential Borrowing at 31.03.2026	35.250

Appendices to Report

1. Details of revenue carry forwards into 2026/2027
2. Capital Investment Programme – budget monitoring table as of 31st March 2026
3. S137 Expenditure 2025/2026
4. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Update Qtr. 4 2025/2026
5. A summary of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts and expenditure for financial year 2025/2026
6. Planning Applications Statutory Fees schedule 2026/2027
7. Review of Reserves as of 31st March 2026
8. MUFG Interest Rate Forecast 26 March 2026
9. MUFG Monthly Investment Analysis Review March 2026

RECOMMENDATION(S):

- a) Members of the Committee accept the **DRAFT** out-turn position of a £2.117m gross contribution to reserves against the revised budget for 2025/2026, which includes £0.629m of approved revenue carry forwards into 2026/2027. **The remaining balance being a net underspend and contribution to reserves of £1.488m.**
- b) Members approve the creation of a new earmarked reserve 'Planning Fee Reserve'.
- c) Members of the Committee approve the **balance of £1.488m** be transferred as follows (2.2):

- £0.200m contribution to the Maintenance of Facilities Reserve
 - £0.150m contribution to the Health and Wellbeing Reserve – Temporary Accommodation
 - £0.370m contribution to a new Planning Fee Reserve
 - £0.088m contribution to the Business Rates Volatility Reserve
 - £0.645m contribution to the Project Investment Reserve (LGR)
 - £0.035m Transfer to the Business Planning Contingency budget
- d) Members of the Committee approve the use of Earmarked Reserves - £0.303m (2.5.1).
- e) The Committee accepts the use of Earmarked Reserves approved by the Chief Finance Officer using Delegated powers (2.5.2).
- f) Members of the Committee approve the contributions to Earmarked Reserves - £0.073m (2.5.3)
- g) The Committee accepts the contributions to Earmarked Reserves approved by the Chief Finance Officer using Delegated powers (Section 2.5.4).
- h) The Committee approves the amendments to the statutory fees and charges be included in the schedules for 2026/2027 (2.4.2) and recommend to Council for approval.

CAPITAL

- i) The Committee accepts the final Capital Outturn position of £7.206m (Section 3).
- j) Committee approves the amendments to the Capital Schemes 2025/2026 as detailed in 3.2.1 to 3.2.2.
- k) Committee approves the amendments to the Capital Schemes 2026/2027 as detailed in 3.2.3 and 3.3.4.

TREASURY

- l) The Committee accepts the report, the treasury activity and the prudential indicators (Section 4).

FINAL REVENUE BUDGET OUTTURN 2025/2026

2. The final Revenue out-turn for 2025/2026 is a net contribution to reserves of **£1.488m** as detailed in the table below.

This is after taking account of £0.629m of revenue budget carry forwards. The details of which are provided at **Appendix 1**.

Details of headline variances by Cluster can be found below at 2.1 and 2.2.

Cluster	Base Budget	Revised Budget	Actual Outturn	Outturn Variance before Cfws	Carry Forwards	Outturn Variance after Cfws
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Our Council	8,461,200	9,158,000	8,501,996	(656,004)	369,500	(286,504)
Our People	2,121,700	2,341,900	2,182,646	(159,254)	112,200	(47,054)
Our Place	5,052,900	5,634,300	4,995,174	(639,126)	147,000	(492,126)
Grand Total	15,635,800	17,134,200	15,679,816	(1,454,384)	628,700	(825,684)
Interest Receivable	(524,700)	(524,700)	(813,789)	(289,089)	0	(289,089)
Investment Income - Property Portfolio	(1,552,700)	(1,670,600)	(1,786,491)	(115,891)	0	(115,891)
Drainage Board Levies	552,600	552,600	552,590	(10)	0	(10)
Parish Precepts	2,850,200	2,850,200	2,850,190	(10)	0	(10)
Interest Payable	686,000	686,000	569,777	(116,223)	0	(116,223)
MRP/VRP (repayment of borrowing)	980,100	980,100	977,754	(2,346)	0	(2,346)
Net Revenue Expenditure	18,627,300	20,007,800	18,029,847	(1,977,953)	628,700	(1,349,253)
Transfer to / (from) General Fund	(156,600)	(2,159,700)	(2,161,894)	(2,194)	0	(2,194)
Transfer to / (from) Earmarked Reserves	2,684,300	2,793,600	2,410,320	(383,280)	0	(383,280)
Amount to be met from Government Grant or Council Tax	21,155,000	20,641,700	18,278,273	(2,363,427)	628,700	(1,734,727)
Funding Income						
Business Rate Retention Scheme	(6,654,900)	(6,141,600)	(5,935,314)	206,286	0	206,286
Collection Fund Surplus - Council Tax	(275,600)	(275,600)	(184,681)	90,919	0	90,919
Parish Councils Tax Requirement	(2,850,200)	(2,850,200)	(2,850,200)	0	0	0
New Homes Bonus	(499,400)	(499,400)	(499,356)	44	0	44
Other Government Grants	(2,726,300)	(2,726,300)	(2,777,230)	(50,930)	0	(50,930)
Council Tax Requirement	(8,148,600)	(8,148,600)	(8,148,600)	0	0	0
TOTAL FUNDING	(21,155,000)	(20,641,700)	(20,395,381)	246,319	0	246,319
Balanced Budget / Funding Target	0	0	(2,117,108)	(2,117,108)	628,700	(1,488,408)

Carry Forwards - Approved at Year End	431,200
Carry Forwards - Use of Earmarked Reserves	197,500
Total Carry Forwards	628,700

2.1 The significant variances against budgets being:

Cluster	EXPENDITURE	Total £000	Direction of Travel From Prev. Qtr.
PRESSURES			
Our Council	Insurance Premiums - Increase due to renewal volume changes.	£30	↑
Our Council / Our Place	Fuel - (£137k) underspend - average price per litre across the year is £1.07 (compared to £1.10 average price per litre for the year 2024/2025). Vehicle repairs and maintenance costs £156k pressure.	£19	↓
Our People	Parish Lighting - Repairs and Maintenance and Electricity.	£44	NEW
Our Council	NNDR collaborative agreement payment.	£32	NEW
	Various forecast outturn variances <£10k.	(£44)	↓
		(£581)	

Cluster	INCOME	Total £000	Direction of Travel From Prev. Qtr.
BUDGETED INCOME EXCEEDED			
Corporate Accounting	Interest Receivable (£289k), Interest Payable (£116k).	(£405)	↑
Our Council	Supplementary Services - Big Bin Hire (7k). Bulky Waste Collections (19k).	(£26)	↑
Our Council	Commercial Waste income due to increased customer base.	(£21)	↑
Our Place	Property Services - Rental income increases.	(£75)	↑
Our Place	Planning Fee Income has exceeded budgeted levels due to completion of a number of large applications.	(£372)	↑
Our People	Trinity Art Centre income has exceeded budgeted levels.	(£40)	New
Our Place	Planning Policy - Legal Charge Refunds relating to previous year costs.	(£40)	New
Funding	Windfall Income: Government Grants - MHCLG - Internal Drainage Board Levies Support.	(£51)	↓
Funding	Business Rates - Net Gain.	(£88)	New

Cluster	INCOME	Total £000	Direction of Travel From Prev. Qtr.
BUDGETED INCOME EXCEEDED			
Corporate Accounting	Interest Receivable (£289k), Interest Payable (£116k).	(£405)	↑
Our Council	Supplementary Services - Big Bin Hire (7k). Bulky Waste Collections (19k).	(£26)	↑
Our Council	Commercial Waste income due to increased customer base.	(£21)	↑
Our Place	Property Services - Rental income increases.	(£75)	↑
Our Place	Planning Fee Income has exceeded budgeted levels due to completion of a number of large applications.	(£372)	↑
Our People	Trinity Art Centre income has exceeded budgeted levels.	(£40)	New
Our Place	Planning Policy - Legal Charge Refunds relating to previous year costs.	(£40)	New
Funding	Windfall Income: Government Grants - MHCLG - Internal Drainage Board Levies Support.	(£51)	↓
Funding	Business Rates - Net Gain.	(£88)	New

Cluster	INCOME	Total £000	Direction of Travel From Prev. Qtr.
BUDGETED INCOME NOT ACHIEVED			
Our Council	Crematorium income is down against budget due to an increase in direct cremations and farewell services.	£61	↑
Our People	Housing Standard - Less Civil penalty notices issued £12k. £25k relates to budgeted income from Selective Licensing scheme which didn't proceed.	£37	↓
Our People	Wellbeing Lincs Responder Service.	£38	New
Our People	Housing Benefits Subsidy - forecast loss of subsidy reclaimed on supported accommodation placements £83k, reduced by budget savings against Housing Benefit administration (£21k).	£62	↑
Our Place	Street Naming and Numbering Income is below budgeted levels.	£13	New
		(£907)	

SERVICE BUDGET VARIANCE	(£658)
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CORPORATE BUDGET VARIANCE	(£830)
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TOTAL VARIANCE	(£1,488)
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2.2 Allocation of the Net Contribution to Reserves

Members are asked to approve the allocation of the net contribution to reserves of **£1.488m** as detailed in the table below:

Forecast Net Contribution to Reserves £000	(1,488)	Notes
Contribution to Maintenance of Facilities Reserve	200	Reduced balance due to large projects funded from reserve e.g. TAC boundary wall.
Contribution to Health and Wellbeing Reserve - Temporary Accommodation (TA)	150	TA Rolled into core spending power from 2026/27. Base budget of £50k - 2025/26 costs c£250k but expected to reduce from 2026/27.
New Planning Fee Reserve	370	Establish Planning Fee Reserve to (a) Smooth impact on budget of the timing of planning application receipts, and (b) Resource Development Management team (in response to ongoing planning consultation).
Contribution to Business Rates Volatility Reserve	88	Business Rates Retention surplus in year to allow for variations against estimates within the MTFP.
Carry Forward to Business Planning Contingency	35	Feasibility study into future options at the Roses site in Gainsborough and surrounding area.
Contribution to Project Investment Reserve (LGR)	645	Remaining balance to build reserve for LGR costs.
Remaining Balance £000	0	

2.3 Significant items (>£10k) of note by Cluster:

2.3.1 Our Council

- **Supplementary Services**

The Bulky Waste Collection service has generated **£0.019m** in additional income for the year.

The Big Bin Hire service was initially introduced for a 12 month period, in July 2025 Committee approved continuing the service as a business as usual offering and has achieved **£0.007m** of net income in 2025/2026.

The expenditure and income budgets for the service have been built into the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) from 2026/2027, with a forecast net income of £0.018m pa.

- **Commercial Waste**

Commercial Waste income has generated **£0.021m** above the target for the year due to an increase in customer base.

- **Insurance Premiums**

There is a pressure of **£0.030m** against the insurance premium budget for 2025/2026. The budget was forecast based on existing information at the time of budget setting. It did not consider any renewal volume changes, such

as changes to property values, and increases in fleet numbers which have occurred since. The final renewal price reflects all known renewal uplifts.

- **Utilities**

There was an overall underspend against utility budgets (gas and electricity) of £0.052m during 2025/2026, primarily relating to the Guildhall.

There is a contract in place for electricity up to the 30th September 2028, and gas up to the 31st March 2027. Prices are reviewed annually but fixed for the year ahead to provide a level of certainty around future costs.

Gas at the crematorium is a separate contract until 31st March 2029, again reviewed annually.

- **Software**

There is a total saving across several software contracts of £0.021m. Budgets had been set incorporating an inflationary increase to all contracts; however, several didn't increase by the level expected.

- **NNDR Collaborative Agreement Payment**

A one off payment was made in relation to the NNDR collaborative agreement with City of Lincoln Council for contractual increase payable resulting in a pressure against budget of £0.032m.

- **Corporate Contingency Budgets**

There are revenue contingency budgets held to:

- mitigate risks
- provide support for projects within approved business plans
- utilise for county wide projects, and
- offset potential pressures identified through the Medium Term Financial Plan where the values and/or timing of spend was unconfirmed at the time of budget setting.

The base budget for 2025/2026 was £0.506m, with £0.472m added as approved carry forwards from 2024/2025 resulting in a revised budget for the year of £0.978m.

£0.473m has been applied in year, £0.219m has been approved for carry forward into 2026/2027 (**Appendix 1**). £0.286m has been confirmed as not required during 2025/2026.

- **Crematorium**

There is a pressure on income of £0.061m for standard cremation services, partly due to an increase in direct cremations and farewell services. The MTFP reflects the latest business plan, as presented to Corporate Policy and Resources Committee in October 2024.

2.3.2 Our People

- **Housing Benefit Subsidy**

We have new accommodation providers in West Lindsey who are offering supported accommodation and because the providers are not Registered Providers of Social Housing we cannot claim full subsidy on the Housing Benefit we pay out to any tenants in these properties. There is a possibility that West Lindsey will be responsible for 50% of the benefit paid on these properties and as the accommodation is supported accommodation the rents are far higher than normal rents. These landlords are being urged to become Registered which means they will be regulated, and full Housing Benefit subsidy can be claimed from the Department for Work and Pensions. Work is underway for one landlord to become registered, but the timescales are unknown.

The impact of this for 2025/2026 is a pressure of £0.083m on Housing Subsidy.

This has been reduced by £0.021m budget saving against Housing Benefit administration – with a net pressure of £0.062m.

- **Housing Standards**

There is a pressure on income of £0.037m against the fees and charges budget for this service. £0.012m is due to a reduced number of civil penalty notices being issued in 2025/2026. £0.025m relates to the Selective Licensing Scheme with budgeted income not being realised due to the scheme not proceeding.

- **Wellbeing Lincs Responder Service**

The current contract with East Lindsey District Council to host the Wellbeing Responder Service is for five years, from 13.01.25 to 12.01.30, with potential extensions thereafter.

Initial estimates of the impact of the contract on the bottom line for the Council were a contribution of £0.077m. Following a full year of the service being operational the actual contribution for 2025/2026 was £0.039m – a shortfall of £0.038m.

Within the initial estimate we had over budgeted for certain elements of the contract. The ongoing impact for the MTFP will be reviewed ahead of budget setting for 2027/2028 to reflect actual costs and income generated.

- **Homelessness**

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Funding of £0.536m was received from the MHCLG for 2025/2026. This funding was sufficient to meet the needs of the service during the year.

The service holds a base budget of £0.05m as WLDC contribution towards the service – this wasn't required during 2025/2026 and is reported as an underspend.

- **Parish Lighting**

The Council holds a budget in order to operate and maintain street lighting in parish areas, including electricity and repairs and maintenance. We have a shared service arrangement with Lincolnshire County Council for the provision of maintenance works and electricity billing. This enables residents to report streetlight faults related to WLDC lights via FixMyStreet and they are directed to Lincolnshire County Council for action. The Council also uses other contractors especially where urgent repair work is required.

The service has reported a pressure for 2025/2026 of £0.044m due to an increase in electricity costs and unforeseen repairs and maintenance.

During the 2025/2026 financial year electricity costs dramatically increased due to various national and global factors beyond our control.

During the period we had a higher volume of streetlight faults requiring maintenance work resulting in increased costs. If a repair related to an older style Sox lamp (not LED), where practicable the repair would include upgrading to LED to achieve longer term sustainability.

During 2026/2027, the Council will continue to complete LED upgrade works on our street lighting. This will help to contribute longer term to reduced maintenance and electricity costs.

- **Trinity Art Centre**

Trinity Art Centre income has exceeded budgeted levels by £0.04m, which is attributable to the success of live performances including the pantomime, bar sales and an increase in secondary venue hire.

2.3.3 Our Place

- **Fuel**

There is an underspend against fuel budgets of £0.137m. The average fuel price for the year was £1.07 per litre (compared to the average price paid per litre during 2024/2025 of £1.10).

This has been offset by a pressure against vehicle repairs and maintenance budgets of £0.156m, due to the responsive and unpredictable nature of works required.

The net impact is a pressure of £0.019m.

Fuel prices mainly follow crude oil prices, which are very sensitive to ongoing geopolitical conflicts. As a result, we have seen an increase in fuel prices in recent months, with the 2026/2027 average fuel price to date being £1.40 per litre – if prices were to continue at that level for the full year we would anticipate a pressure against budget of c£0.07m.

- **Street Cleansing - Hire of Sweepers**

There is an underspend against vehicle hire budgets of £0.089m. The service holds a budget for the hire of sweepers and has entered into a lease agreement for two sweepers during 2025/2026.

A change in accounting rules for the lease of property, plant and equipment (accounting standard IFRS16 effective from the 1st of April 2025) means that the sweepers must be treated as a Right of Use Asset (ROUA) on our balance sheet instead of as a service revenue cost.

Whilst there is a saving in year one of the agreement, capital costs are applied from year two and for a year following the end of the agreement. This has been reflected in the MTFP with effect from 2026/2027.

- **Street Naming and Numbering**

Income achieved for the year was £0.013m below the budgeted level due to market factors affecting demand on the service during the year.

- **Planning**

Planning application fee income has generated £0.372m above the target for the year due to the completion of a number of large developments.

Due to the difficulty in forecasting the timing of the completion and receipt of large planning application fees, it is proposed to create a new Earmarked Reserve 'Planning Fees'.

Where a net surplus is generated in year this will be transferred to the reserve at year end and may be drawn down into service, in years where there is a pressure against income budgets due to the timing of completion of large developments (section 2.2). The reserve would smooth the impact on the budget of the timing of planning application receipts.

- **Planning Policy**

Legal charge refunds relating to costs incurred in previous financial years were received in 2025/2026 **£0.04m**.

- **Property Services**

There is additional income of **£0.075m** due to additional income following RPI reviews of rent which were due in year for a number of properties.

2.3.4 Corporate Accounting

- **Interest Payable/Receivable**

Income for interest receivable is **£0.289m** above the revised budget. This is due to the base rate being slightly higher than the peak expected when the budget was set. This combined with pro-active treasury management has meant that the Council is forecast to exceed its interest receivable budget. In addition, there is an underspend on interest payable of **£0.116m** due to a lower borrowing requirement than forecast at the time of budget setting for 2025/2026.

2.3.5 Funding

- **Windfall income**

We have received windfall grant income of **£0.051m** in relation to a Government Grant for internal Drainage Board Levies Support.

- **Business Rates**

There is an overall net gain from Business Rates of **£0.088m**.

It is proposed to transfer the surplus to the Business Rates Volatility Reserve to meet the costs of any variances against the business rate retention scheme in future years. This will increase the balance on the reserve to £2.318m – this equates to c80% of the annual budget for business rates (section 2.2).

2.3.6 Establishment

Salary budgets 2025/2026 were based on an estimated 3.0% pay award across all scale points.

On the 22nd of April 2025 the National Employers made full and final offers of 3.2% to each of the four negotiating groups for which they have responsibility. This offer was formally accepted on the 23rd of July 2025.

Based on a full establishment, costs have increased by £0.027m. As the organisation currently carries vacancies above the 2% vacancy factor allowed for, the impact of the pay award has been contained within existing budget provision.

An underspend of £0.164m is reported against employee costs:

Underspend of £0.164m due to vacancies above the 2% vacancy factor, offset by pressures due to the appointment of temporary resources to cover vacancies. This equates to -0.96% of the total employee budget.

2.4 Fees and Charges

2.4.1 £5.503m has been received in Fees and Charges income during 2025/2026 against a budget of £5.015m, a gain of £0.488m.

The significant variances forecast for the year are:

- Planning application fees £0.372m
- Trinity Arts Centre – ticket sales and consumables £0.040m
- Supplementary Services – bulky waste collections and big bin hire £0.026m
- Commercial Waste collections £0.021m
- Reduction in street naming and numbering income £0.013m
- Housing Standards – reduced civil penalties and selective licensing £0.037m
- Crematorium income below target £0.061m

2.4.2 Amendment to Fees and Charges Schedule 2026/2027

a) Building Safety Levy (statutory)

A statutory Building Safety Levy is coming into force 1st October 2026, introduced under the Building Safety Act 2022.

This is a government levy (tax) on new residential development and is designed to raise money to fix historic building safety defects (e.g. cladding issues post-Grenfell) and aims to shift remediation costs away from leaseholders and taxpayers and onto the development industry.

Thriving Council Committee		Building Safety Levy			
2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate		
£	£	£			
Building Safety Levy					
STAT	Standard Rate	Per square metre	£18.58	£0.00	£18.58 OS
STAT	Previously Developed Rate		£9.29	£0.00	£9.29 OS

b) Planning Application Fees (statutory)

Since 1st April 2025, planning fees are now subject to annual indexation. They increase every year (1st April) by the rate of inflation - as measured by the CPI rate in September (up to a maximum of 10%). They are rounded up or down to the nearest £1.

This is set out in regulation 18A of The Town and Country Planning (Fees for Applications, Deemed Applications, Requests and Site Visits) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

The Planning Fees were published by the MHCLG on the 27th February 2026 and the schedule is provided at **Appendix 6**.

The published fees included fees in relation to the carrying out of any operations connected with exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas and the monitoring of mining and landfill sites which were not previously included in our fees schedule:

Thriving Places Committee		Planning Applications Continued			
2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate		
£	£	£			
Operations					
STAT	Exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas	Not more than 7.5ha, per 0.1 ha or part thereof	£725.00	£0.00	£725.00 OS
STAT		More than 7.5ha, £54,255 and an additional £215 for each 0.1h in excess of 7.5ha up to maximum of £427,537	£215.00	£0.00	£215.00 OS
STAT	Exploratory winning and working of oil or natural gas	Not more than 15ha, per 0.1 ha part thereof	£366.00	£0.00	£366.00 OS
STAT		More than 15ha, £54,896 and an additional £215 for each 0.1h in excess of 15ha up to maximum of £111,159	£215.00	£0.00	£215.00 OS
STAT	Exploratory works not covered in drilling, or winning of oil or gas	Not more than 15ha, per 0.1 ha part thereof	£333.00	£0.00	£333.00 OS
STAT		More than 15ha, £49,786 and an additional £196 for each 0.1h in excess of 15ha up to maximum of £111,159	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00 OS
STAT		In any other case, for each 0.1ha site area part therefore, up to maximum £2,676	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00 OS
STAT	Monitoring of mining and landfill sites	The whole or part of the site is active, in any other case £174	£523.00	£0.00	£523.00 OS

2.5 Use of and Contribution to Reserves – Net Movement to Reserves £0.243m.

2.5.1 Use of Reserves – Member Approval Required - £0.303m

The following use of Earmarked Reserves is greater than £0.05m and requires the approval of Thriving Council and Resources committee:

- Thriving Gainsborough – LUF Match Funding Revenue Expenditure:
 - £0.129m from Investment for Growth Reserve
 - £0.174m from Revenue Grants Unapplied Reserve - LUF Capacity & Capability Grant

2.5.2 Use of Reserves – Delegated Decision - £0.165m

The Chief Finance Officer has used delegated powers to approve the use of earmarked reserves up to £0.05m.

- £0.021m from Revenue Grants Unapplied Reserve - Elections New burden grant for Canvassers Fees.
- £0.005m from Investment for Growth Reserve - Approved capital spend moved to revenue due to being below deminimus (e.g.<£0.01m). Gainsborough Shop Front Improvement Scheme.
- £0.019m from Maintenance of Facilities Reserve - Condition survey work identified in the SAMP:
 - £0.003m Commercial Properties
 - £0.003m Miscellaneous Properties
 - £0.002m Property Services (other misc. properties)
 - £0.012m Cemeteries
- £0.025m from Enforcement Costs Reserve – Shortfall in civil penalties income 2025/2026.
- £0.019m from Investment for Growth Reserve – Gainsborough Heritage Regeneration Scheme match funding.
- £0.016m from Maintenance of Facilities Reserve – WLDC Parking Strategy 2026-2031 (Parking Matters Ltd.).
- £0.022m from CIL Reserve. Shortfall in CIL income 2025/2026.
- £0.038m from Revenue Grants Unapplied Reserve:
 - £0.015m Levelling Up Parks Fund
 - £0.023m DEFRA Food Waste Transitional Resource Grant

2.5.3 Contribution to Reserves – Member Approval Required £0.073m

The following contributions to Earmarked Reserves are greater than £0.05m and requires the approval of Thriving Council committee:

Balance of Grant with no Conditions to Repay Transferred to Revenue Grants Unapplied:

- £0.073m Home Office - Asylum Dispersal Grant.

2.5.4 Contribution to Reserves – Delegated Decision £0.151m

The Chief Finance Officer has used delegated powers to approve the contributions to earmarked reserves up to £0.05m.

- £0.004m to Community Grant Scheme Reserve. Community lottery income 2025/2026.
- £0.016m to Investment for Growth. Net revenue costs for Scampton (One Public Estate (OPE) funding £38.5k less £22.9k costs).
- Balance of Grants with no Conditions to Repay Transferred to Revenue Grants Unapplied – Total £0.131m:
 - £0.004m MHCLG Healthy Homes Project
 - £0.003m Active Lincolnshire School Games Organiser Fund
 - £0.044m MHCLG Supported Housing Strategy
 - £0.028m MHCLG Renters Right Act 2025
 - £0.027m Defra Biodiversity Net Gain Grant
 - £0.025m Defra Air Quality New Burdens Grant

2.5.5 Review of Reserves

Details of the balances held on usable reserves as of 31st March 2026 and forecast balance to the 31st March 2032 is included within the report for review at **Appendix 7**.

The movements to and from reserves are those which have been formally approved and does not include pipeline projects which are yet to be formalised.

Reserves Name	Balance at 31/03/26 £	Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Other Approved Movements - Net Contribution To Reserve £	Other Approved Movements - Net Contribution (From) Reserve £	Estimated Balance at 31/03/32 £
Service Investment / Renewals Total	5,598,451	(852,900)	0	5,722,600	(5,776,300)	4,691,851
Contingency / Risk Total	6,673,434	(650,000)	0	0	(1,306,700)	4,716,734
Investment for Priorities Reserve Total	8,680,038	(5,697,100)	273,700	671,600	(2,100,500)	1,827,738
Earmarked Reserves Total	20,951,923	(7,200,000)	273,700	6,394,200	(9,183,500)	11,236,323
General Fund Balance Total	3,804,707	0	0	0	(258,800)	3,545,906
Capital Receipts Total	1,109,029	(800,000)	0	282,297	(263,100)	328,226
Capital Grants Total	3,609,213	0	0	10,228	0	3,619,441
Usable Reserves Grand Total	29,474,872	(8,000,000)	273,700	6,686,725	(9,705,400)	18,729,897

An update on the balance of usable reserves will be presented to members on a quarterly basis during 2026/2027 as part of budget monitoring reporting and will be further developed following a Government decision on LGR proposals.

A separate 'Annual Review of Usable Reserves' will be presented to Thriving Council Committee in November as part of the MTFs process for 2027/2028.

2.6 Grants

As of 1st April 2025, we had an amount of £1.169m relating to grants received

which had yet to be expended. Budget provision will be created throughout the financial year as required to deliver projects in accordance with grant terms. The final balance as of 31st March 2026 is £1.071m.

The spend eligibility deadline for both UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) was previously 31st of March 2026, this has been extended to the 30th of September 2026. Costs must be related to activity that takes place on or before the 30th of September 2026. As schemes are progressing in West Lindsey, this is unlikely to have a significant impact but will provide more time to ensure the grant will be fully utilised. An update on the UKSPF is provided at **Appendix 4**.

2.6.1 Successful Grant Bids and New Grant determinations

The following grants have been received during this period:

Grant Issued By	Grant Name	£
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)	Rent Allowance	2,450,829
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Extended Producer Responsibility Grant	753,388
North East Lincs Council	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	629,860
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Pride in Place	285,000
Lincolnshire County Council	Household Support Fund	197,955
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Funding Floor	146,518
Midlands Neyt Zero Hub (MNZH)	Warm Homes Local Grant	134,238
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	New Home Bonus	124,839
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Recovery Grant	76,192
Lincolnshire County Council	Disabled Facilities Grant top up grant	69,288
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)	Discretionary Housing Payments	65,338
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)	Housing Benefit Admin Grant	53,343
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Homelessness	53,133
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Revenue Support Grant	45,906
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Supported Housing	43,846
Lincolnshire County Council	Homes For Ukraine	43,345
National Heritage Lottery	Townscape Heritage (THI)	39,970
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	National Insurance grant	31,076
Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA)	Air Quality Grant	25,274
Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (MHCLG)	Redmond Review	18,518
Various small grants		16,385
Department for Work & Pensions (DWP)	Rent Rebate	2,760
		5,307,002

Income and expenditure budgets will be created to reflect the grant being received and spend activity where applicable.

Other Items for information

2.7 Planning Appeals

In Quarter 4 2025/2026, to the end of March 2026, there were two appeals determined – both of which were dismissed.

Period	Number of Appeals	Allowed	Dismissed
January	2	0	2
February	0	0	0
March	0	0	0
Total for Quarter 4	2	0	2

There is one live application for costs awaiting decision. Appeal costs are not budgeted for and therefore any costs allowed will be a direct loss to the Council.

2.8 Aged Debt Summary – Sundry Debtors Aged Debt Summary Final 2025/2026 Monitoring Report

At the end of March 2026, there was a total of £0.170m outstanding debt in the system over 90 days. Much of this debt was over 150 days old (95%) and mainly comprised of:

- Housing £0.057m
- Property Services £0.036m
- Environmental Services £0.032m
- ICT £0.013m

For each of these areas the debt recovery process is under way for all debt over 90 days, payment plans are being put in place where possible.

The level of outstanding debt for the same period 2024/2025 is provided below for information:

2024/2025 Total £	Month	90 – 119 days £	120 – 149 days £	150+ days £	2025/2026 Total £
231,309	Quarter 1 - ending May 2025	2,921	14,696	192,303	209,920
233,728	Quarter 2 - ending Sept 2025	50,549	27,313	169,298	247,160
177,446	Quarter 3 - ending Dec 2025	8,526	2,182	169,260	179,967
190,201	Quarter 4 - ending Mar 2026	3,431	5,375	161,299	170,106

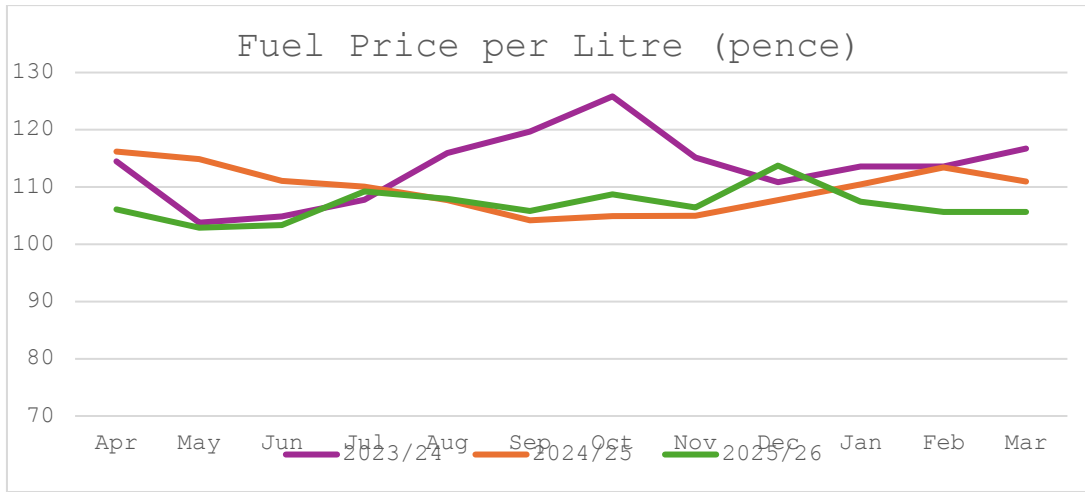
2.9 Changes to the Organisation Structure

2.9.1 There have been no changes to the organisational structure during the period.

2.10 Fuel

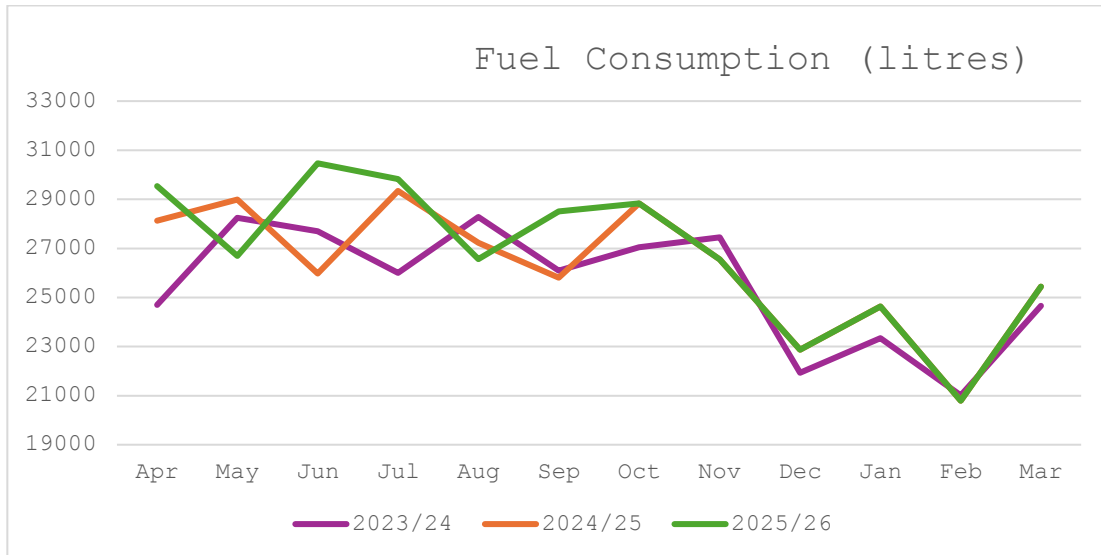
2.10.1 The chart below shows the actual price paid per litre of fuel, in pence, for each year from 2023/2024 to 2025/2026.

The prices shown for 2025/2026 are actuals for the year, for the period April 2025 to March 2026, at an average of £1.07 per litre. The average price paid per litre during 2024/2025 was £1.10.



2.10.2 The chart below show the actual volume of fuel purchased, in litres, for each year from 2023/2024 to 2025/2026.

There is a drop in fuel purchased December to February, which reflects the pause in Garden Waste collections.



3.1 CAPITAL UPDATE – Final Outturn 2025/2026

3.1.1 The Capital Budget forecast out-turn is £7.206m against a revised budget of £14.324m. This results in a variance (underspend) of **£7.118m**.

This is made up of:

- **£0.653m** net underspend
- **£1.698m** requested carry forward from 2025/2026 to 2026/2027
- **£4.767m** requested budget movement to revenue

3.1.2 Individual Schemes are detailed in the table contained within the report at **Appendix 2** with commentary provided on performance.

3.2 Capital Programme Update 2025/2026

The detailed capital monitoring table is included within the report at **Appendix 2**. The amendments to the following schemes are requested:

3.2.1 Net Underspend Position - **£0.653m**

- **ERP Systems Phase 2** – no further spend anticipated on this scheme, so budget to be returned to reserves **£0.398m**
- **Local Authority Housing Fund** – Budget was allocated according to assumptions made on property prices. These came in lower than those assumed **£0.167m**
- **Thriving Gainsborough Resources** – Scheme now finished with no actual spend on this element of the scheme, so budget to be returned to reserves **£0.056m**
- **Civic Car Replacement** – CP&R meeting on 11/12/25 approved the sale of the civic car. The car has now been sold with proceeds to be held in capital receipts **£0.030m**
- **Food Waste Collection** – Final vehicle was delivered in March 26. £0.019m added for retrofitting 360 cameras to all vehicles which will be funded from unspent capital food waste grant already received **£0.019m**
- **Firewall Upgrade & Replacement** – Procurement completed. Actual capital costs less than anticipated **£0.016m**
- **Shop Front Improvement** – costs moved to revenue as below de-minimis **£0.005m**
- **Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2** – Project now complete, with a small underspend against budget **£0.001m**
- **Market Rasen 3-year vision** – 5-6 Market Place and 16 King Street, now to be funded from UKSPF **£0.001m**
- **Guildhall Meeting Room Equipment** – Installation completed with a small overspend to be funded from reserves **£0.001m**
- **Disabled Facilities Grants** – Additional spend in year, to be funded from additional grant received in year **£0.001m**

3.2.2 Movement of budget to revenue - £4.767m

- **Purchase of RAF Scampton** - Capital scheme is to be removed from the capital programme following advice from our External Auditors who have recommended that the transaction be posted through the revenue account. This is because the Council would be purchasing and selling the site on the same day with net nil impact on the accounts £4.75m
- **Member ICT Provision** - Members ICT equipment will be revenue cost due to value being below de -minimis level £0.017m

3.2.3 Carry Forward request from 2025/2026 into 2026/2027 - £1.845m

- **Thriving Gainsborough, Cinema** – Balance of capital financing for LUF schemes transferred to Cinema project at year end. Overall remaining balance of £0.342m to be carried forward to 2026/2027 onto capital scheme 'Thriving Gainsborough-Final Allocations'.

The reconsolidated budget forms the remaining part of the match funding which is required through the grant funding agreement to be invested in the Levelling Up Programme of works. This includes finalising the letting and fit out contributions for the commercial units which are now within the Council's property portfolio as well as final invoices relating to contract retention periods, legal matters, and remaining works.

- **Capital Enhancements to Council Properties** - Underspend due to delays in projects. Trinity Arts Centre boundary wall project will complete in 2026/2027 and will utilise the budget of £0.289m to be carried forward to 2026/2027.
- **1.3 Town Centre Regeneration- commercial premises grant** - Construction and supply delays on site. Carry forward £0.228m to 2026/2027.
- **Carbon Efficiencies - Street Lights** - LED Street light upgrade work will be phased over multiple financial years. Project to be broken down into manageable areas and is subject to contractor availability. £0.210m carry forward into 2026/2027 - delays due to staffing resources.
- **Warm Homes Local Grant** - Overspent because other councils could not meet delivery. WLDC project delivery increased by 26% however it will be fully funded MNZH. Drawback £0.141m from 2026/2027.
- **1.1 Flagship Community Grants Programme** – UKSPF extended to 30/09/2026. Grants are in the claim process and will be finalised in 2026/2027. Carry forward £0.137m to 2026/2027.
- **Local Authority Housing Fund - Temp Accommodation** - Costings were based on average price per property but were lower than anticipated. ACIS

were also able to utilise two of their properties which also reduced costs. Carry forward £0.108m to 2026/2027 as may need to be repaid.

- **Grange Farm - Community Supported Living** - Site not going to reach practical completion due to utilities not being able to hook the building up within the time frames planned. Carry forward £0.100m to 2026/2027.
- **Changing Places Unit** - Project expected to complete in 2026/2027. Carry forward £0.098m to 2026/2027.
- **CRM System** - £0.050m relates to the AI phase. A portion of this will be transferred to the Contact Centre project once the AI phase starts. The remaining cost will be for CRM development. £0.085m to be carried forward to 2026/2027.
- **Vehicle Replacement Programme** - The only outstanding vehicle purchase as of 31 Mar 2026 is the replacement of the bulky waste vehicle. Budget underspend to fund delivery of vehicle in 2026/2027. Carry forward £0.065m to 2026/2027.
- **Parks Fund Project** - Following the appointment of a temporary Green Spaces Officer this work can now progress and will be completed by 31/03/27. Carry forward £0.047m to 2026/2027.
- **5-7 Market Place Redevelopment** - Awaiting confirmation of final account figure. Carry forward £0.045m to 2026/2027.
- **Hemswell Cliff Investment for Growth** - Carry forward £0.031m to 2026/2027 when the work is expected to be completed.
- **Northgate Replacement/Upgrade** - Work relating to the letter's module is still outstanding. This budget will be required to be carried forward into 2026/2027 to enable it to take place £0.030m.
- **CCTV Expansion** - Final column works to be completed by LCC to enable installation of the last few CCTV cameras. Remaining balance of £0.010m to be carried forward to complete the scheme in 2026/2027.
- **Thriving Gainsborough - Pocket Park** - Retention payment of £0.010m payable April 2026. Carry forward £0.010m to 2026/2027.
- **Gainsborough Heritage Regeneration** - 18 completed, 3 grants awarded, 4 developing schemes / architect appointed. Drawback £0.006m from 2026/27 to cover overspend in 2025/2026.
- **Thriving Gainsborough - Whitton Gardens** - Retention payment of £0.005m payable May 2026. Carry forward £0.005m to 2026/2027.

- **Desktop Refresh** - Orders complete for 2025/2026 carry forward £0.003m to 2026/2027.
- **Contact Centre** – AI Phase still to be completed. Funding will be transferred from Customer Relationship Management (CRM) scheme once the costs are known. Carry forward £0.002m to 2026/27.

3.3 Acquisitions, Disposals and Capital Receipts

3.3.1 The Council has made the following acquisitions during Quarter 4 2025/2026 which have been added to the asset register:

Asset	Acquisition Date	Capital Scheme	Acquisition Amount £
Meeting Room Equipment&TV's	30/01/2026	Guildhall Meeting Room Equipment	12,614
MX16 CPN - 7.5T Food Waste	10/02/2026	Food Waste Collection	13,000
LN26 EVM ISUZU 11T Food waste	27/03/2026	Food Waste Collection	116,310
			141,924

3.3.2 The Council has made the following asset disposals during Quarter 4 2025/2026:

Asset	Disposal Date	Processed Date	Disposal Amount £
YT20 GOP - Skoda Superb	29/01/2026	02/02/2026	15,500
Website Development	05/03/2026	09/03/2026	0
North Warren Rd Depot - Security System	16/03/2026	17/03/2026	0
			15,500

3.3.3 Capital Receipts - The total value of capital receipts received in 2025/2026 at the end of Quarter 4 total £0.019m:

- £0.003m repayments of DFG Grants
- £0.016m sale of civic car

3.3.4 **Increase to Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Scheme** - A request is also submitted to increase the DFG budget in 2026/2027 due to additional funding received late in 2025/2026 (11/03/2026). Due to the timing of the funding, budgets had not been increased in 2025/2026 so was not available to be carried forward. The amount requested is £0.058m.

4. TREASURY MONITORING – Quarter 4 (January – March 2026)

The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2025/2026, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by the Council on 3 March 2025. It sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:

- Security of capital;
- Liquidity; and
- Yield.

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

- 4.1 Officers can confirm that there have been no breaches of Prudential Indicators as detailed at 4.9 below.
- 4.2 Interest received (January - March) is more than the average 7-day Sterling Overnight Index Average (SONIA) (4.02%) with an average yield of 4.047% (including CCLA) and 3.953% (excluding CCLA). The Council budgeted to receive £0.519m of investment income, the outturn is now £0.767m.

4.3 Interest Rate Forecasts

The Council's treasury advisors, MUFG, have provided the following forecasts on 8th April 2026:

MUFG Corporate Markets Interest Rate View 25.03.26												
	Jun-26	Sep-26	Dec-26	Mar-27	Jun-27	Sep-27	Dec-27	Mar-28	Jun-28	Sep-28	Dec-28	Mar-29
BANK RATE	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.75	3.50	3.50	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25	3.25
3 month ave earnings	4.00	3.90	3.80	3.80	3.70	3.50	3.50	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30	3.30
6 month ave earnings	4.20	4.10	4.00	3.90	3.90	3.70	3.70	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50
12 month ave earnings	4.60	4.50	4.40	4.20	4.20	4.00	4.00	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80	3.80
5 yr PWLB	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.80	4.60	4.40	4.20	4.20	4.10	4.10	4.10	4.10
10 yr PWLB	5.50	5.50	5.40	5.30	5.10	4.90	4.70	4.70	4.60	4.60	4.60	4.60
25 yr PWLB	6.00	6.00	5.90	5.80	5.60	5.40	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.20	5.10	5.10
50 yr PWLB	5.80	5.80	5.70	5.50	5.40	5.20	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.90	4.90

Appendix 8 details MUFG detailed commentary on Interest Rate Forecasts (as of 26 March 26).

4.4 Investments

The Council held investments of £19.645m on 31st March 2026. The table below details these investments for Quarter 4:

Investments at Qtr. 4	Qtr. 4 £m
LGIM Money Market Fund	6.945
CCLA Money Market Fund	5.500
Local Authority	6.000
Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	0.200
CCLA Property Fund	1.000
Insight Money Market Fund	0
Total	19.645

MUFG Monthly Investment Analysis Review March 2026 is included in **Appendix 9**.

4.5 Investment in Local Authority Property Fund (CCLA)

The total the Council has invested now stands at £1m (of an approved £4m). Interest is receivable on a quarterly basis.

4.6 New External Borrowing

New short-term borrowing of £5.0m was taken during Quarter 4, January to March 2026 for cashflow purposes.

4.7 Total Prudential Borrowing at Quarter 4

Prudential Borrowing	Qtr. 4 £m
Total External Borrowing	24.000
Total Internal Borrowing	11.108
Leases	0.142
Total Prudential Borrowing	35.250

4.8 Borrowing in advance of need

The Council has not borrowed in advance of need during the period ending 31st March 2026.

4.9 Compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits

It is statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. The Council's approved Treasury and Prudential Indicators (affordability limits) are included in the approved Treasury Management Strategy (TMS).

During the financial year to date the Council has operated within these treasury and prudential indicators and in compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices.

The prudential and treasury Indicators are shown below and consider the revisions to the Capital Programme as detailed in section 3 of this report.

	Original £m	Qtr. 4 £m
Treasury Indicators		
Authorised limit for external debt	40.000	40.000
Operational boundary for external debt	35.000	35.000
External Debt	24.000	24.142
Investments	(13.000)	(19.645)
Net Borrowing	11.000	4,497
Prudential Indicators		
Capital Expenditure	13.383	7,206
Leases	0	142
Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	35.251	35.250
<i>Of Which is Commercial Property</i>	<i>18.661</i>	<i>18.661</i>
Annual change in CFR*	(0.834)	(0.835)
External Debt	24.000	24.142
Under/(over)borrowing	11.251	11.108
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream*	8.94%	8.58%
Incremental impact of capital investment decisions:		
Increase/Reduction (-) in Council Tax (band change per annum)	£0.00	-£10.16

5. STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS TO PUBLISH:

SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE, BUILDING CONTROL ACCOUNT

We are required to publish the following data on our website as part of Statutory Requirements, annually each year. They are included in this report for information.

5.1 SECTION 137 EXPENDITURE

Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act (as amended) empowers local authorities to make contributions to certain charitable funds AND not for profit bodies providing a public service in the United Kingdom. For 2025/2026, the maximum amount allowable was £11.10 per head of population (99,208) which equates to £1.101m.

The Council's expenditure in 2025/2026 under this power was £0.498m (£0.566m in 2024/2025), being £0.603m below the maximum amount allowable.

The published data is contained within this report at **Appendix 3**.

5.2 BUILDING CONTROL ACCOUNT

The Building Control Regulations 2010 requires authorities to publish a financial statement relating to the building regulations chargeable and non-chargeable account.

The following statement shows the deficit for the chargeable and non-chargeable work for the year 2025/2026.

	Chargeable 2025/26 £m	Non- Chargeable 2025/26 £m	Total 2025/26 £m
Expenditure for year	0.315	0.270	0.585
Income for year	(0.253)	0	(0.253)
(Surplus)/Deficit for year	0.062	0.270	0.332

5.3 COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL)

Following a change in the CIL Regulations 2010 (as amended). The Government have introduced a new reporting requirement called an Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS), which includes Section 106

monitoring and must be published on or before the 31st of December of that year. The IFS for 2024/2025 is now published on the Council's website and the IFS for 2025/2026 will be published on or before 31st December 2026.

A summary of the CIL receipts and expenditure for financial year 2025/2026 is included at **Appendix 5**.

ASSOCIATED IMPLICATIONS

Legal: None arising as a result of this report.

REVENUE

The revenue out-turn position for 2025/2026 is a gross contribution to reserves of £2.117m against the revised budget for 2025/2026, which includes £0.629m of approved revenue carry forwards into 2026/2027. **The remaining balance being an underspend and contribution to reserves of £1.488m.**

The General Fund Balance as of 31 March 2026 is £3.805m (excluding carry forwards). This includes £1.488m net contribution to reserves which will be allocated from GFB as approved by this committee as proposed at section 2.2. Excluding the year end surplus the balance is £2.317m which is within the range of the minimum working balance agreed by Members of between £2.0m and £2.5m.

Balance of reserves as of 31 March 2026 excluding carry forwards and year-end surplus held in General Fund Balances:

	£m
General Fund Balance	2.317
Earmarked Reserve	20.952
Capital Receipts	1.109
Capital Grants Unapplied	3.609
	27.987

The items with significant variances are contained within this report at 2.1 and 2.3.

CAPITAL

The capital programme outturn for 2025/2026 is expenditure of £7.206m against a revised budget of £14.324m, a variance (underspend) of **£7.118m.**

The amendments to the 2025/2026 capital schemes are detailed at 3.2.1 to 3.2.2.

That amendments to the 2026/2027 capital schemes are detailed at 3.2.3 and 3.3.4.

TREASURY

The Treasury Management activities during the reporting period are disclosed in the body of this report. Total external borrowing is currently £24.142m.

There have been no breaches of Treasury or Prudential Indicators within the period of this report.

Average investments for the quarter 4 (January - March) were £19.067m, which achieved an average rate of interest of 4.047% (October - December

was £17.538m, 4.099%).

Staffing:

Salary budgets 2025/2026 were based on an estimated 3.0% pay award across all scale points.

On the 22nd of April 2025 the National Employers made full and final offers of 3.2% to each of the four negotiating groups for which they have responsibility. This offer was formally accepted on the 23rd of July 2025.

Based on a full establishment, costs have increased by £0.027m. As the organisation currently carries vacancies above the 2% vacancy factor allowed for, the impact of the pay award has been contained within existing budget provision.

LGR implications: None arising as a result of this report.

Equality and Diversity including Human Rights: None arising as a result of this report.

Data Protection Implications: None arising as a result of this report.

Climate Related Risks and Opportunities: None arising as a result of this report.

Section 17 Crime and Disorder Considerations: None arising as a result of this report.

Health Implications: None arising as a result of this report.

Risk Assessment:

This is a monitoring report only.

Title and Location of any Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

N/A

Call in and Urgency:

Is the decision one which Rule 14.7 of the Scrutiny Procedure Rules apply?

i.e. is the report exempt from being called in due to urgency (in consultation with C&I chairman)

Yes

No

Key Decision:

A matter which affects two or more wards, or has significant financial implications

Yes

No

APPENDIX 1

REVENUE CARRY FORWARDS – USE OF EARMARKED RESERVES

Budget underspends to be carried forward into 2026/2027, which have been previously approved are provided below for information only.

The following carry forwards are approved use of Earmarked Reserves where the project has slipped into future years.

USE OF EARMARKED RESERVES		FINAL 2025/2026		
Cluster	Business Unit	£ 000	Purpose of Carry Forward	Name of Reserve
Thriving People	Community Action - Project Delivery	16	Hemswell Cliff Regeneration - revenue spend to support capital scheme. Prosperous Communities Committee (18.03.25) approved the spend of the capital budget in 2025/2026 with this revenue budget to be carried forward to support the delivery of those projects. Original budget of £10k approved in 2020/2021 (from Community Grant Scheme EMR) , a further £10k approved during 2023/2024 (from Communities at Risk EMR).	Community Grant Scheme
Thriving People	Community Support - Equipment Maintenance	6	£10k in 2025/2026 funded from UKSPF for defibrillator equipment which has resulted in an underspend on the base budget within revenue. Balance on defibrillator scheme equipment budget originally funded from Earmarked Reserves to be carried forward to support the scheme in future years.	Community Grant Scheme
Thriving Places	Economic Regeneration - Consultants	5	Technical support provided from Heritage Lincolnshire for Market Rasen Building Grant Scheme. UKSPF funding has been utilised first due to funding deadlines.	General Fund Balances
Thriving Places	Economic Regeneration - Project Delivery	9	£7.8k Ringfenced budget which we administer on behalf of the Place Board, new business networking collaborations being developed. £1.3k Gainsborough Development Trust legacy funding, project ideas are being developed to meet the original ethos and priorities.	Budget Planning Contingency
Thriving People	Community Environment - Grants and Contributions	62	UKSPF Grant applied in year. Carry forward match funding to be spent by September 2026 due to scheme extension.	General Fund Balances
Thriving Places	Economic Development - Consultants	100	UKSPF Grant applied in year. Carry forward match funding to be spent by September 2026 due to scheme extension.	Feasibility Fund
TOTAL		198		

APPENDIX 1

REVENUE CARRY FORWARDS – APPROVED BY LEADERSHIP TEAM AT YEAR-END 2025/2026

Bids for budget underspends to be carried forward into 2026/2027, which required Leadership Team approval are as follows.

BASE BUDGET C/FWDS PENDING APPROVAL BY LT APRIL 2026		FINAL 2025/2026	
Cluster	Business Unit	£ 000	Purpose of Carry Forward
Thriving Council	Human Resources - Corporate Training	83	Unspent training budget to be carried forward to 2026/2027 in full to support development of staff. Base Budget for 2026/2027, before carry forward, is £60k.
Thriving Council	Members Costs - Councillors Training & Seminar Expenses	11	Unspent member training budget to be carried forward, as not all training delivered as anticipated in year. Mandatory training is required next year along with a programme of softer training. For a number of years the budget has been profiled so we have a double budget in year 1 (induction year) – with the remnants carried over each year throughout the 4 year term of office for councillors. Base Budget for 2026/2027, before carry forward, is £10.8k.
Page 120 Thriving Council	Financial Services - Salaries	35	Salary underspend arising from in year vacancies. Carry forward to support the transition of officers into new posts within the team by extending the current Finance Business Partner agency contract for up to 3 mths to the 30th June 2026. This will enable handover, training and provide team resilience over the closedown period and quarter 1 monitoring for 2026/2027. Total period of agency contract 9 months.
Thriving Council	Car Parks - Urgent and unforeseen Building Maintenance Works	1	To support the installation of contactless card payment functionality on all Pay & Display machines. This work forms part of the Parking Strategy report and its defined scope. Subject to approval of the strategy in April/May 2026. Agreed with S151 Officer.
	Car Parks - Programmed Maintenance Works	4	
	Car Park - Equipment Maintenance	1	
Thriving Council	Corporate Contingencies - Project Delivery	102	BUDGET PRESSURE CONTINGENCY: 1) £88.3k Remaining balance of the Management Structure savings to be carried forward into 2026/2027 to provide for potential costs arising once the senior structure implemented. 2) Feasibility works (RPT Consulting) for TAC £5k and Gainsborough Leisure £8.8k. Work procured, to take place during 2026/2027.
Thriving Council	Chief Executive - Salaries	5	SALARY CONTINGENCY: Additional Chair & Vice Chair allowances for new policy committee. As reported to G&A 24.03.26, 2026/2027 cost to be funded from contingency budget and reflected in the ongoing base budgets from 2027/2028. Base Budget for 2026/2027, before carry forward, is £53.4k (+ £16.7k Homes Health Restructure).

BASE BUDGET C/FWDS PENDING APPROVAL BY IT APRIL 2026		FINAL 2025/2026	
Cluster	Business Unit	£ 000	Purpose of Carry Forward
Thriving Council	Corporate Contingencies - Project Delivery	1	CEX CONTINGENCY: Vinyl's for staff walkways (based on initial quotes provided March 26). Base Budget for 2026/2027, before carry forward, is £44.8k.
Thriving Council	Corporate Contingencies - Project Delivery	111	BUSINESS PLANNING CONTINGENCY: 1) £8k Procurement of Tiger Prism for telephone reporting. 3-year costs as per draft report pending. 2) £7k Crematorium Review. Commences 13.04.26 due to take 2 months to complete, with 6 days on site. 3) £62k Remaining balance of budget originally earmarked for the implementation of the HR system. System not live as at 31.03.26 and further costs anticipated early 2026 4) £33.7k for Asset Review work to be undertaken early 2026/2027. Base Budget for 2026/2027, before carry forward, is £81.5k.
Thriving Council	Planning Policy - Shared Service	27	£53.7k was carried forward at year end 2024/2025 to support Ecologist costs for 3 years (to Oct 2026). Cost incurred during 2025/2026 of £27k (final figure to be confirmed by NK), leaving a balance remaining of £26.7k. This is requested as a carry forward into 2025/2026 to meet the requirements of the SLA which supports the shared ecologist we have with NK and CoL.
Thriving Council	ICT Infrastructure - Project Delivery	21	Contact Centre Technology: Carry forward of budget to fund compliance costs for income management solution in 2026/2027.
Thriving Places	Housing Standards - Project Delivery	29	Funds which were previously made available for Selective Licensing work (£35k) was approved by Prosperous Communities Committee on the 19th of March 2024 to be made available to support the work within the Private Rented Sector Commitment. As additional healthy homes project funding was received the carry forward wasn't needed during 2025/2026. Remaining balance requested to be carried forward into 2026/2027 to continue this work.
TOTAL		431	
GRAND TOTAL		629	

APPENDIX 2

CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2025/2026

Cluster/Scheme	Stage	Actuals	Base Budget	Revised Budget incl. Contingency	Forecast Outturn	Over/ (Under) Spend	Carry Forwards/ Drawbacks	Narrative	Expected Completion Date	Contingency Forecast Outturn	Contingency Budget
		£	£	£	£	£	£			£	£
Corporate											
Firewall upgrade & Replacement	Stage 1	19,591	35,200	35,200	19,591	(15,609)	0	Procurement completed. Actual capital costs less than anticipated.	31/08/2025	0	0
Our Council											
Capital Enhancements to Council Properties	BAU	141,493	125,000	430,600	141,492	0	(289,108)	Underspend due to delays in projects. TAC boundary wall project will complete in 2026/27, and will utilise the budget of £289.1k to be c/fwd to 2026/27.	BAU	0	0
Carbon Efficiencies - Street Lights	Stage 3	0	180,000	210,000	0	0	(210,000)	LED street light upgrade work will be phased over multiple financial years. Project to be broken down into manageable areas and is subject to contractor availability. £210k c/fwd into 2026/27 - delays due to staffing resources.	Multi Year	0	0
Civic Car Replacement	Pre Stage 1	0	0	30,000	0	(30,000)	0	CP&R meeting on 11/12/25 approved the sale of the civic car - car will be sold in 2026/27 with proceeds to be held in capital receipts.	N/A	0	0
Contact Centre	Stage 2	0	0	2,100	0	0	(2,100)	AI Phase still to be completed. Funding will be transferred from Customer Relationship Management (CRM) scheme once the cost are known.	31/03/2026	0	0
CRM System	Stage 3	10,350	0	95,400	10,350	0	(85,050)	£50k is AI. A portion of this will be transferred to the Contact Centre project once the AI phase starts. The remaining cost will relate to CRM development. £85k to be c/fwd to 2026/27.	31/03/2027	0	0
Desktop Refresh	BAU	12,321	12,100	14,900	12,321	0	(2,579)	Orders complete for 2025/26 carry forward £2.6k to 2026/27.	31/08/2026	0	0
ERP Systems Phase 2	Stage 2	0	200,000	398,400	0	(398,400)	0	No further spend anticipated.	31/03/2028	0	0
Guildhall Meeting Room equipment	Stage 3	12,614	0	11,900	12,614	714	0	Installation completed.	31/03/2026	0	0
Member ICT Provision	Stage 3	0	0	16,700	0	(16,700)	0	Members ICT equipment will be revenue cost due to value being below diminimus level.	31/10/2025	0	0
Northgate Replacement/Upgrade	Pre Stage 1	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	(30,000)	Work relating to the letters module is still outstanding. This budget will be required to be c/fwd into 2026/27 to enable it to take place.	31/03/2027	0	0
1.1 Flagship Community Grants Programme	Stage 3	167,005	0	303,700	167,005	0	(136,695)	UKSPF Extended to 30/09/2026. Grants are in the claim process and will be finalised in 2026/27. C/fwd £136.7k to 2026/27.	30/09/2026	0	0
Changing Places Unit	Stage 3	2,194	0	100,000	2,194	0	(97,806)	Project expected to complete in 2026/27. C/fwd £97.8k to 2026/27/	31/03/2027	0	0
Disabled Facilities Grants	BAU	984,297	736,200	983,200	984,297	1,097	0	Additional funding received in 2025/26 to cover the £1k shortfall.	BAU	0	0
Grange Farm - Community Supported Living	Stage 3	100,000	100,000	200,000	100,000	0	(100,000)	Site not going to reach practical completion due to utilities not being able to hook the building up within the time frames planned. C/fwd £100k to 2026/27.	31/07/2026	0	0
Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2	Stage 3	1,318,307	0	1,319,300	1,318,307	(993)	0	Project now complete.	31/07/2025	0	0
Local Authority Housing Fund - Resettlement	Stage 3	379,010	410,700	546,200	379,010	(167,190)	0	Budget was allocated according to assumptions made on property prices, these came in lower than those assumed. Budget was reallocated to allow for additionalities within the temporary accommodation element of the project. The MOU with MHCLG allows reallocation between different elements of the project.	31/03/2026	0	0
Local Authority Housing Fund - Temp Accommodation	Stage 3	598,073	385,500	705,700	598,073	0	(107,627)	Costings were based on average price per property, but were lower than anticipated. Acis were also able to utilise two of their properties which also reduced costs. C/fwd £107.6k to 2026/27 as may need to be repaid.	31/03/2026	0	0
Parks Fund Project	Stage 3	0	0	47,500	0	0	(47,500)	Following the appointment of a temporary Green Spaces Officer this work can now progress and will be completed by 31.03.27. C/fwd £47.5k to 2026/27.	31/03/2027	0	0
Warm Homes Local Grant	Stage 3	540,789	0	400,000	540,789	0	140,789	Overspent because other councils could not meet delivery. WLDC project delivery increased by 26% however it will be fully funded MNZH. Drawback £140.8k from 2026/27.	31/03/2028	0	0

Cluster/Scheme	Stage	Actuals	Base Budget	Revised Budget incl. Contingency	Forecast Outturn	Over/ (Under) Spend	Carry Forwards/ Drawbacks	Narrative	Expected Completion Date	Contingency Forecast Outturn	Contingency Budget
		£	£	£	£	£	£			£	£
Our Place											
1.3 Town Centre Regeneration	Stage 3	25,000	0	25,000	25,000	0	0		30/09/2026	0	0
1.3 Town Centre Regeneration- commercial premises grant	Stage 3	222,338	0	450,000	222,338	0	(227,662)	Construction and supply delays on site. C/fwd £227.7k to 2026/27.	30/09/2026	0	0
5-7 Market Place Redevelopment	Stage 3	0	44,900	44,900	0	0	(44,900)	Awaiting confirmation of final account figure. C/fwd £44.9k to 2026/27.	Unknown	0	44,900
CCTV Expansion	Stage 3	8,651	0	18,400	8,651	0	(9,749)	Final column works to be completed by LCC to enable installation of the last few CCTV cameras. Remaining balance of £9.7k to be cfwd to complete scheme in 2026/27.	31/03/2027	0	0
Food Waste Collection	Stage 2	352,780	80,000	333,600	352,780	19,180	0	Final vehicle was delivered in March 26. £19.2k added for retrofitting 360 cameras to all vehicles which can be funded from unspent capital Food waste grant already received.	31/03/2026	0	0
Gainsborough Heritage Regeneration	Stage 3	190,137	365,746	184,546	190,137	0	5,591	18 completed, 3 grants awarded, 4 developing schemes / architect appointed. Drawback £5.6k from 2026/27.	30/09/2026	0	0
Hemswell Cliff Investment for Growth	Stage 2	74,042	104,670	104,670	74,042	0	(30,628)	C/fwd £30.6K to 2026/27 when the work is expected to be completed.	31/03/2027	0	0
Market Rasen 3 year vision	Stage 3	0	0	600	0	(600)	0	5-6 Market Place and 16 King Street, now to be funded from UKSPF, steering group to agree new target properties.	30/09/2026	0	0
Purchase of RAF Scampton	Stage 2	0	4,750,000	4,750,000	0	(4,750,000)	0	Following discussions with our auditors (KPMG) it has been agreed that we can treat this transaction as revenue. Remove from the capital programme.	30/11/2026	0	0
Shop Front Improvement	Stage 3	0	22,900	5,000	0	(5,000)	0	£5k costs moved to revenue as below diminimus.	30/09/2026	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Cinema	Stage 3	1,142,914	0	1,041,100	1,142,914	444,340	(342,526)	Balance of capital financing for LUF schemes transferred to Cinema project at year end. Overall remaining balance of £342.5k to be cfwd to 2026/27 onto capital scheme 'Thriving Gainsborough-Final Allocations'.	31/03/2026	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Market Place/Streetscape	Stage 3	46,073	150,000	222,500	46,073	(176,427)	0	Project complete - balance of capital financing (from Investment for Growth reserve) moved to Cinema project.	30/09/2025	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Pocket Park	Stage 3	0	13,800	24,200	0	(13,917)	(10,283)	Retention payment of £10.3k payable April 26. Balance of capital financing (from Investment for Growth reserve) moved to Cinema project. Cfwd £10.3k to 2026/27	11/04/2026	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Resources	Stage 3	0	0	56,100	0	(56,100)	0	No spend required 2025/26.	30/06/2025	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Townhall THI	Stage 3	9,577	0	9,900	9,577	(323)	0	Scheme completed.	31/03/2026	0	0
Thriving Gainsborough - Whitton Gardens	Stage 3	185,124	250,000	444,200	185,124	(253,673)	(5,403)	Retention payment of £5.4k payable May 26. Balance of capital financing (from Investment for Growth reserve) moved to Cinema project.	30/05/2026	0	0
Unlocking Housing (LoS)	Stage 3	69,591	0	69,600	69,591	(9)	0	Scheme completed.	31/08/2025	0	0
Vehicle Replacement Programme	BAU	594,024	595,900	659,000	594,024	0	(64,976)	The only outstanding vehicle purchase as at 31 Mar 26 is the replacement of the Bulky Waste vehicle. Budget underspend to fund delivery of vehicle in 2026/27.	BAU	0	0
Total Capital Programme Gross Expenditure		7,206,295	8,592,616	14,324,116	7,206,295	(5,419,610)	(1,698,211)			0	44,900

APPENDIX 3

S137 EXPENDITURE 2025/2026

Section 137 of the 1972 Local Government Act (as amended) empowers local authorities to make contributions to certain charitable funds AND not for profit bodies providing a public service in the United Kingdom.

The Council's expenditure in 2025/2026 under this power was £497,699.81 (£566,179.45 in 2024/25).

Payee	£	Reference
14th Gainsborough Scouts	1,200.00	CG24-25 117-112, CG25-26 11
Active Lincolnshire Partnership	6,000.00	Active Lincolnshire Partnership 25/26
Bardney Village Hall & Playing Field	9,699.60	CG25-26 076
Benjamin Adlard School	500.00	CG25-26 08
Bishop Norton Parish Council	250.00	CG25-27 047
Blyton Evergreens	200.00	CG25-26 216
Brattley Scampton & Aisthorpe Village Hall	9,959.50	CG25-26 056
Broadcast Engineering Conservation Group	2,900.00	CG25-26 061
Brookenby Venue	500.00	CG25-26 112
Brookenby Venue	9,116.54	CG25-26 096
Broxap Limited	706.00	0000345589
Caistor and District Lions CIO	1,000.00	CG25-26 16
Caistor Goes	660.00	CG25-26 14, 15
Caistor Grammar School	774.00	CG25-26 158-160
Cherry Willingham Parish Council	1,500.00	CG25-26 176,186
Citizens Advice Bureau	60,200.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
DISABILITY SOCIAL NETWORK	250.00	CG24-25 075, CG25-26 194,
FCC Recycling (UK) Ltd	10,750.00	CG25-26 048
FCC Recycling UK Ltd	1,190.23	020997
Fenton Parish Council	500.00	CG24-25 116
Fiskerton Village Hall	600.00	CG25-26 12,13,188, 191
Fiskerton Village Hall	8,000.00	CG25-26 062
Franco Boxing Club	506.65	CG24-25 106
Gainsborough Adventure Playground Association	15,000.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
Gainsborough Armed Forces and Veterans Breakfast Club	1,050.00	CG24-25 115, CG25-26 206-214
Gainsborough Cricket Club	1,200.00	CG25-26 29, 30, 113,114,115
Gainsborough Men's Shed	5,000.00	CG25-26 079
Gainsborough Town Tennis Club	100.00	CG25-26 22
Gainsborough Trinity Foundation	26,000.00	CG25-26 055
Glentworth Village Hall	4,481.60	CG25-26 075
Glentworth Village Hall	518.40	CG25-26 075
Grasby Parish Council	3,109.00	CG25-26 197
Great Limber Parish Council	500.00	CG25-26 205
Greetwell Parish Council	500.00	CG25-26 204
Hackthorn & Cold Hanworth Parish Council	500.00	CG25-26 184
HAPPYHOOVESLINCSCIC	1,500.00	CG25-26 121
Hemswell Cliff Parish Council	200.00	CG25-26 18
Hemswell Parish Council	3,000.00	CG25-26 169
Ingham Parish Council	500.00	CG25-26 19, 179
Julie Smith - Wildline	250.00	CG25-26 082
Keelby Parish Council	600.00	CG25-26 113/114
Knaith Parish Council	400.00	CG25-26 168
Langworth Group Parish Council	900.00	CG25-26 217-219
Lincoln Area Dial A Ride	13,000.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
Lincoln Lindsey Blind Society	646.00	CG25-26 198, 199
Lincolnshire County Council	30,000.00	Call Connect Core Funding 2025/26
Live & Local	3,500.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
Lytec Ltd	1,195.00	CG25-26 049
Market Rasen & Louth RUFC-Community Facilities Fund	20,000.00	CG25-26 093
Market Rasen & Louth RUFC-Community Facilities Fund	10,000.00	CG25-26 093

Payee	£	Reference
Market Rasen RAF Air Cadets - 2292 Squadron	700.00	CG25-26 01, 02, 03
Market Rasen Town Cricket & Association Football Club	1,600.00	CG25-26 070, 071
Market Rasen Town Cricket & Association Football Club	10,000.00	CG25-26 116
Marton & Gate Burton Village Hall	750.00	25-26 163
Meynell Kindergarten	12,370.21	CG25-26 053
Morton District Church Council (St. Paul's Church)	500.00	CG25-26 162
Morton Village Hall	100.00	CG25-26 31
Nettleham Art Group	250.00	CG25-26 187
Nettleham Bowls Club	300.00	CG25-26 06, 07
Nettleham Gardeners Association	600.00	CG25-26 23, 24, 202, 203
Nettleham Parochial Church Council	350.00	CG25-26 04, 05
Osgodby Parish Council	100.00	CG25-26 09
Reepham and Cherry Willingham Short Mat Bowls Club	800.00	CG25-26 193, 192
Reepham Pre School	300.00	CG25-26 196, 197
Riseholme Parish Council	879.00	CG25-26 133, 134
ROSE COMMUNITY GROUP	200.00	CG25-26 185
Roy Bowser Allotment Association	300.00	CG25-26 215, 221
Saxilby & Ingleby Good Neighbour Scheme (SIGNS)	1,500.00	CG25-26 137
Saxilby Public Recreation Ground	275.00	CG25-26 097, 174
Saxilby Public Recreation Ground	4,000.00	CG25-26 086
SAXILBY SCOUT & GUIDE ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COMM	6,240.00	CG25-26 068, 2ND PAYMENT
SAXILBY SCOUT & GUIDE ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COMM	10,560.00	CG25-26 068
Saxilby Village Hall	400.00	CG25-26 189, 190
Saxilby With Ingleby Parish Council	200.00	CG25-26 170
Saxilby With Ingleby Parish Council	3,500.00	CG25-26 140, 149
Scothern Parish Council	21,000.00	CG25-26 087
Scothern Parochial Church Council	474.00	CG25-26 172
Scothern Recreation Centre	55.00	CG25-26 17
Scotter Bowls Club	300.00	CG25-26 131, 132
Scotton Village Hall Management Comm	8,000.00	CG25-26 102
Stumgothic Ltd	1,460.00	CG25-26 036, 042, 044, 32-46
Snitterby Parish Council	800.00	CG25-26 122
Spridlington Parish Council	2,000.00	CG25-26 052
St Andrew's Carpet Bowls Club	1,298.00	CG25-26 130
St Helens PCC	100.00	CG25-26 164
St John Ambulance Gainsborough (Fundraising)	600.00	CG25-26 118, 119
St. Botolph's Church PCC	93.24	CG25-26 173
Stainfield & Apley Village Hall	15,408.00	CG25-26 069
Stainton Le Vale Parish Meeting	300.00	CG25-26 161
Stepping Stone Theatre For Mental Health	10,000.00	CG25-26 086, 094
Stow Fun Raisers	50.00	CG25-26 175
Stow Parish Council	50.00	CG25-26 201
Sturton By Stow Parish Council	175.00	CG25-26 222-224
Sturton By Stow Primary School	70.00	CG25-26 180
Sturton By Stow Youth Club Ltd	200.00	CG25-26 141-144
Sturton Judo Club	1,297.00	CG25-26 126
Sturton Judo Club	8,162.84	CG25-26 126
Swallow Parish Council	11,850.00	CG25-26 120
Tennyson d'Eyncourt Memorial Hall	16,000.00	CG25-26 059
The Conservation Volunteers	30,000.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
The Rose and Crown-Councillor Initiative Fund	200.00	CG25-26 10-52361
Together Initiative	1,000.00	CG25-26 063
Torksey & District Croquet Club	480.00	CG25-26 171
Upton Parish Council	3,140.00	CG25-26 081
Voluntary Centre Services West Lindsey	25,000.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
Welton & Dunholme Cricket Club	500.00	CG25-26 20, 21
Welton Village Hall Trust	2,000.00	CG25-26 135, 136
West Lindsey Churches Festival	8,000.00	West Lindsey Core Funding 25/26
Willingham Parish Council	50.00	CG25-26 220
Willingham Twinning Association	200.00	CG25-26 25-28

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) UPDATE QTR. 4 2025/2026

Progress: All elements (five) of WLDC's 2025/2026 UKSPF/REPF programme are live and progressing to both planned delivery and spend profiles. We have already met/exceeded forecast outputs/outcomes for a number of programme elements and we are able to report significant spend and outputs to North East Lincolnshire Council (local accountable body) for Qtr. 4 2025/2026 across all five measures. As such there are currently no delivery/spend risks with regards to our programme.

Forward Look: Government have confirmed an extension of the 2025/2026 UKSPF/REPF programme spend window from 31/03/26 to 30/09/26 (this is a spend extension only and does not include any new funding allocations).

UKSPF Programme 2025/2026

Revenue (incl Match Funding & Admin)

Project	Grant	Match Funding	Total Funding	Actuals (Grant)	Actuals (Match Funded)	Commitments	Balance	Comments
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
1.1 Flagship Community Grant Programme - Grant (UKSPF)	22,500	150,000	172,500	19,595	87,896	0	65,009	£2905 Revenue Grant Carry Forward, £62103.83 EMR Requested for Carry Forward
1.2 Support Arts, Sport and Active Leisure	20,000		20,000	14,834	0	0	5,166	£5166 Revenue Grant Carry Forward
1.3 Town Centre Regeneration	140,000		140,000	82,738	0	0	57,263	£57,263 Revenue Grant Carry Forward
2.1 Flagship WL Business Support Programme	40,000		40,000	40,000	0	0	0	
2.3 Growing innovation Administration	50,000 27,474	100,000	150,000 27,474	50,000 27,474	0 0	0 0	100,000 0	£100,000 EMR Requested for Carry Forward
	299,974	250,000	549,974	234,641	87,896	0	227,437	

Revenue (ex Match Funding & Administration)

Project	Grant	Actuals	Commitment	Balance
	£	£	£	£
1.1 Flagship Community Grant Programme - Grant (UKSPF)	22,500	19,595	0	2,905
1.2 Support Arts, Sport and Active Leisure	20,000	14,834	0	5,166
1.3 Town Centre Regeneration	140,000	82,738	0	57,263
2.1 Flagship WL Business Support Programme	40,000	40,000	0	0
2.3 Growing innovation	50,000	50,000	0	0
	272,500	207,167	0	65,333

Capital

Project	Grant	Actuals	Commitment	Balance	Comments
	£	£	£	£	
1.1 Flagship Community Grant Programme - Grant (UKSPF)	65,000	29,140	0	35,860	Capital Grant carried forward
Flagship Community Grant Programme - Grant (REPF)	238,694	137,865	0	100,829	£136,689.25
Town Centre Regeneration	475,000	247,338	0	227,662	Capital Grant Carried forward
	778,694	414,342	0	364,352	£227,662

APPENDIX 5

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL): ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE REPORTED YAR 2025/2026

Section 1 - Receipts and Expenditure

Receipts

Total receipts as at year end 24/25	£ 2,412,222.81
Total receipts received in year	£ 574,806.18
Total receipts as at year end 25/26	£ 2,987,028.99

Expenditure

Total expenditure on infrastructure (see section 2 for more information)	£ -
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Retained

Total infrastructure funding retained as at year end 24/25	£ 1,841,922.13
Total infrastructure funding collected in year	£ 432,229.56
Total infrastructure funding retained as at year end 25/26	£ 2,274,151.69

Section 2 - Items of Infrastructure funded with CIL

Infrastructure item	Recipient	Total CIL amount (a)	Amount allocated to repay money	Amount of (b) that comprises interest on money
None paid in 2025/26				

Section 3 - Administrative Expenses

5% of CIL allocated

Total admin as at year end 24/25	£ 120,611.55
Total receipts received in year	£ 28,740.29
Total admin as at year end 24/25	£ 149,351.84

Section 4 - CIL Passed to Local Councils

25% to Local Councils with Neighbourhood Plan, 15% to Local Councils without Neighbourhood Plan

Total CIL passed to local councils as at year end 24/25	£ 415,536.35
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Name of local council	CIL amount (£)	Percentage (%)	Reference
Owersby	828.56		137068
Scotter	522.34		137576
Nettleton	54.57		138569
Market rasen	543.45		141388
Saxilby with Ingleby	4,118.09		143430
Scotter	6,609.33		144062
Middle rasen	85.88		144475
Langworth Group	370.50		144897
Langworth Group	57.00		144897
Rothwell	1,649.82		145515
Walesby	45.20		145603
Blyton	2,392.03		145988
Upton	586.60		146479
Keelby	7,083.35		147126
North Kelsey	1,820.27		147257
Nettleham	12,263.99		147514
Caistor	354.46		147531
Middle rasen	492.78		147711
Middle rasen	2,686.96		147738
Sturton by Stow	2,413.24		147813
Sturton by Stow	861.40		147816
Scotter	140.97		147915
Cherry Willingham	8,108.53		200003
Upton	204.89		200004
Nettleham	151.29		200005
Nettleham	208.93		200006
Nettleham	158.50		200007
Normanby by Spital	282.50		200008
Osgodby	563.39		200010
Glentham	1,470.57		200011

Total CIL passed to local councils as at year end 25/26	£ 472,665.74
Total CIL due to local councils held over year end (To be paid April 2026)	£ 34,152.78

Total CIL collected on behalf of local councils as at year end 25/26	£ 563,525.46
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Section 5 - Payments in Kind Passed to Local Councils (No data)

Section 6 - CIL Passed to Other Recipients

Name of recipient	CIL amount
N/A	N/A

Section 7 - CIL (including payments in kind) Repaid Due to Being Unspent Within 5 Years (No data)

Section 8 - Infrastructure Payments

APPENDIX 6

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – STATUTORY FEE SCHEDULE 2026/2027

Thriving Places Committee		Planning Applications				
		2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate	
		£	£	£		
Outline Applications						
STAT	Site area (erection of dwellinghouses)	Every 0.1 ha where the site does not exceed 0.5 ha	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Every 0.1 ha between 0.5 ha and 2.5 ha	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT		Where the site area exceeds 2.5 ha, £16,291 and an additional £196 for each 0.1 ha in excess of 2.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £213,769	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT	Site area (erection of buildings)	Every 0.1 ha where the site does not exceed 1 ha	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Every 0.1 ha between 1 ha and 2.5 ha	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT		Where the site area exceeds 2.5 ha, £16,291 and an additional £196 for each 0.1 ha in excess of 2.5 hectares, subject to a maximum in total of £213,769	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
Full Applications (and First Submissions of Reserved Matters, or Technical Details Concept)						
STAT	Alterations/extensions to dwellinghouses, including works within boundaries	Where the application relates to a single dwellinghouse (or single flat)	£548.00	£0.00	£548.00	OS
STAT		Where the application relates to 2 or more dwellinghouses (or two or more flats)	£1,083.00	£0.00	£1,083.00	OS
STAT		Works within/along the boundary of an existing dwellinghouse	£272.00	£0.00	£272.00	OS
STAT	New dwellinghouses	Where number of new dwellinghouses is not more than 10	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Between 10 and 50 dwellinghouses	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT		Where the number of dwellinghouses exceeds 50, £32,578 and an additional £196 for each dwelling in excess of 50 subject to a maximum in total of £427,537	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT	Erection of building (not dwellinghouses, agricultural, glasshouses, plant or machinery)	No increase in gross floor space or no more than 40m ²	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
STAT		More than 40m ² but no more than 1,000m ² . £610 for each 75m ² or part thereof	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Between 1000m ² and 3,750m ² . £659 for each 75m ² or part thereof	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT	Erection/alterations/replacement of plant and machinery	More than 3,750m ² , £32,578 and an additional £196 for each 75m ² in excess of 3,750m ² up to a maximum of £427,537	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT		Where site area does not exceed 1 ha; per 0.1 ha or part thereof	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		More than 1 ha but not more than 5ha; per 0.1 ha or part thereof	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT	The erection of buildings (on land used for agriculture for agricultural purposes)	Over 5 ha £32,578 and an additional £196 for each 0.1 ha in excess of 5 ha to a maximum of £427,537	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT		Not more than 465 m ² gross floor space created	£127.00	£0.00	£127.00	OS
STAT		More than 465m ² but no more than 540m ²	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT	Erection of glasshouses (on land used for the purposes of agriculture)	More than 540m ² but no more than 1000m ² . £610 for the first 540 m2 then £610 per additional 75 m2 (or part thereof) in excess of 540m2	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Between 1000m ² and 4,215m ² . £5,270 for the first 1000 m ² then £659 per additional 75 m ² (or part thereof) in excess of 1000m ²	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT		More than 4,215 m ² , £32,578 and an additional £196 for each 75 m ² in excess of 4,215 m ² up to a maximum of £427,537	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT	Erection of glasshouses (on land used for the purposes of agriculture)	Not more than 465 m ² gross floor space created	£127.00	£0.00	£127.00	OS
STAT		More than 465 m ² gross floor space created but not more than 1000 m ²	£3,405.00	£0.00	£3,405.00	OS
STAT		More than 1000 m ² gross floor space created	£3,677.00	£0.00	£3,677.00	OS

Thriving Places Committee

Planning Applications Continued

2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate
£	£	£	

Applications other than Building Works						
STAT	Car parks, service roads or other accesses	For existing uses	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
STAT	Other Operations (not coming within any of the above categories)	Any site area. £309 for each 0.1 ha (or part thereof) up to a maximum of £2,676	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
Lawful Development Certificate						
STAT		Existing use or operation	Same as Full			OS
STAT		Existing use or operation - lawful not to comply with any condition or limitation	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
STAT		Proposed use or operation	Half the normal planning fee			OS
Prior Approval						
STAT	Larger home extensions		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Additional Storeys on a home		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Agricultural and Forestry buildings & operations		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Demolition of buildings		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Communications (previously referred to as 'Telecommunications Code Systems Operators')		£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT	Change of use from Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E), or Betting Office or Pay Day Loan Shop to mixed use including up to two flats (Use Class C3)		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E), Hotels (Use Class C1), Residential Institutions (Use Class C2), Secure Residential Institutions (Use Class C2A) to a State Funded School		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Building to a State-Funded School		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Building to a flexible commercial use within Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E), Storage or Distribution (Use Class B8), or Hotels (Use Class C1)		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from Commercial/Business/Service (Use Class E) to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3)	£260 for each dwellinghouse	£260.00	£0.00	£260.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from an Agricultural Building to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3)		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT		if it includes building operations in connection with the change of use	£536.00	£0.00	£536.00	OS
STAT	Change of use of a building from Betting Office, Pay Day Loan Shop, Launderette; a mixed use combining one of these uses and use as Dwellinghouse(s); or Hot Food Takeaways to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3)		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT		if it includes building operations in connection with the change of use	£536.00	£0.00	£536.00	OS
STAT	Provision of Temporary School Building on Vacant Commercial Land and the use of that land as a State-funded School, for up to 3 Academic Years		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT	Change of Use of a building and any land within its curtilage from Amusement Arcades/Centres and Casinos to Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3)		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS
STAT		if it includes building operations in connection with the change of use	£536.00	£0.00	£536.00	OS
STAT	Development Consisting of the Erection or Construction of a Collection Facility within the Curtilage of a Shop		£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS

Thriving Places Committee

Planning Applications Continued

		2026/27	VAT Amount	2026/27 Charge Inc. VAT	VAT Rate	
		£	£	£		
Prior Approval						
STAT	Temporary Use of Buildings or Land for the Purpose of Commercial Film-Making and the Associated Temporary Structures, Works, Plant or Machinery required in Connection with that Use	£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS	
STAT	Installation, Alterations or Replacement of other Solar Photovoltaics (PV) equipment on the Roofs of Non-domestic Buildings, up to a Capacity of 1 Megawatt	£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS	
STAT	Erection, extension, or alteration of a university building	£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS	
STAT	Movable structure within the curtilage of a historic visitor attraction, or listed pub/restaurant/etc	£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS	
STAT	Erection, extension or alteration on a closed defence site by or on behalf of the Crown of single living accommodation and/or non-residential buildings	£249.00	£0.00	£249.00	OS	
STAT	Construction of new dwellinghouses	Not more than 10 Dwellinghouses	£441.00	£0.00	£441.00	OS
STAT		Between 10 and 50 dwellinghouses	£476.00	£0.00	£476.00	OS
STAT		more than 50 dwellinghouses. £23,550 + £142 for each dwellinghouse in excess of 50. Maximum fee of £427,537	£142.00	£0.00	£142.00	OS
Reserved Matters						
STAT	Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval	Full fee due or if full fee already paid then £610 due			OS	
Approval/Variation/discharge of condition						
STAT	Removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission	Alterations, extensions to dwellinghouses or works within and/or along boundary	£89.00	£0.00	£89.00	OS
STAT		Non-major (other than householder)	£608.00	£0.00	£608.00	OS
STAT	Discharge or condition(s) - Approval or details and/or confirmation that one of more planning conditions have been complied with	Major development	£2,076.00	£0.00	£2,076.00	OS
STAT		Householder Permissions	£89.00	£0.00	£89.00	OS
STAT		All other permissions	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
Change of Use of a building to use as one or more separate dwellinghouses, or other cases						
STAT		Not more than 10 Dwellinghouses	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS
STAT		Between 10 and 50 dwellinghouses	£659.00	£0.00	£659.00	OS
STAT		more than 50 dwellings, £32,578 and an additional £196 for each dwelling in excess of 50 dwellings up to a maximum of £427,537	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT	Other Changes of Use of a building or land	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS	
Advertising						
STAT	Relating to the business on the premises	£174.00	£0.00	£174.00	OS	
STAT	Advance signs which are not situated on or visible from the site, directing the public to a business	£174.00	£0.00	£174.00	OS	
STAT	Other advertisements	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS	
Application for a Non-material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission						
STAT	Applications in respect of householder developments	£46.00	£0.00	£46.00	OS	
STAT	Applications in respect of other developments	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS	
Application for Permission in Principle						
STAT	Site Area	per 0.1 ha (or part thereof)	£531.00	£0.00	£531.00	OS
Concessions						
STAT	Non-Profit making club, society, organisation or trust, providing sports or recreational facilities	£610.00	£0.00	£610.00	OS	
Operations						
STAT	Exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas	Not more than 7.5ha, per 0.1 ha or part thereof	£725.00	£0.00	£725.00	OS
STAT		More than 7.5ha, £54,255 and an additional £215 for each 0.1h in excess of 7.5ha up to maximum of £427,537	£215.00	£0.00	£215.00	OS
STAT	Exploratory winning and working of oil or natural gas	Not more than 15ha, per 0.1 ha part thereof	£366.00	£0.00	£366.00	OS
STAT		More than 15ha, £54,896 and an additional £215 for each 0.1h in excess of 15ha up to maximum of £111,159	£215.00	£0.00	£215.00	OS
STAT	Exploratory works not covered in drilling, or winning of oil or gas	Not more than 15ha, per 0.1 ha part thereof	£333.00	£0.00	£333.00	OS
STAT		More than 15ha, £49,786 and an additional £196 for each 0.1h in excess of 15ha up to maximum of £111,159	£196.00	£0.00	£196.00	OS
STAT		In any other case, for each 0.1ha site area part therefore, up to maximum £2,676	£309.00	£0.00	£309.00	OS
STAT	Monitoring of mining and landfill sites	The whole or part of the site is active, in any other case £174	£523.00	£0.00	£523.00	OS

REVIEW OF RESERVES AS OF 31ST MARCH 2026

- The GFB includes £1.488m net contribution to reserves at year end 2025/2026 – to be allocated once approved by Thriving Council Committee on the 25th June 2026. Excluding this amount the balance is £2.317m on the 31st March 2026, which is within the minimum working balance agreed by Members of between £2.0m and £2.5m.
- Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation is the RIBA Stage 3 Alliance Leisure work.

Reserves Name	Balance at 31/03/26 £	Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Other Approved Movements - Contribution To Reserve £	Other Approved Movements – Use of Reserve £	Estimated Balance at 31/03/32 £
Service Investment / Renewals Total	5,598,451	(852,900)	0	5,722,600	(5,776,300)	4,691,851
Contingency / Risk Total	6,673,434	(650,000)	0	0	(1,306,700)	4,716,734
Investment for Priorities Reserve Total	8,680,038	(5,697,100)	273,700	671,600	(2,100,500)	1,827,738
Earmarked Reserves Total	20,951,923	(7,200,000)	273,700	6,394,200	(9,183,500)	11,236,323
General Fund Balance Total	3,804,707	0	0	0	(258,800)	3,545,906
Capital Receipts Total	1,109,029	(800,000)	0	282,297	(263,100)	328,226
Capital Grants Total	3,609,213	0	0	10,228	0	3,619,441
Usable Reserves Grand Total	29,474,872	(8,000,000)	273,700	6,686,725	(9,705,400)	18,729,897

Reserve Name	Purpose	Balance at 31/03/26 £	Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Other Approved Movements - Contribution To Reserve £	Other Approved Movements - Use of Reserve £	Estimated Balance at 31/03/32 £
Civic Reserve	To fund replacement of Civic Car. Annual contribution to reserve removed from 2026/2027 onwards (approved by CP&R 11/12/25).	30,000					30,000
District Elections	To finance future Election costs - held every 4 years.	94,000			370,000	(460,000)	4,000
Enforcement Costs - Housing & Planning	To assist with costs incurred in carrying out enforcement works across the Housing and Planning service to fund irrecoverable costs. Works in Default.	4,900					4,900
ICT Reserve	To meet the costs of Information & Communications Technology Upgrades.	443,205			446,400	(259,200)	630,405
Members ICT Reserve	Provision of Members' ICT.	36,819			66,000	(76,000)	26,819
Maintenance of Facilities	To meet future property maintenance requirements.	590,202			617,400	(656,100)	551,502
Neighbourhood Planning Grant	To allocate Neighbourhood Planning Grant income from MHCLG to support cost of Neighbourhood Planning process.	50,000					50,000
Project Investment Reserve	To assist with costs associated with Business Case Development and costs associated with LGR.	966,397				(185,100)	781,297
Invest to Save	To support initial investments which deliver savings to the Council over the medium to longer term.	452,900	(452,900)				0
Revenue Grants Unapplied	Revenue grants which have yet to be expended.	1,070,600				(222,300)	848,300
Trinity Arts Centre	Increase in ticket prices (eff 18/19) to be transferred to EMR for contribution towards future projects. Reserve capped at £50k.	50,000					50,000
Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR)	to hold the EPR funding and monitor application.	1,525,000					1,525,000
Vehicle Replacement Programme	To support service development and replacement fleet across the Authority.	284,429	(400,000)		4,222,800	(3,917,600)	189,629
Service Investment / Renewals Total		5,598,451	(852,900)	0	5,722,600	(5,776,300)	4,691,851

Reserve Name	Purpose	Balance at 31/03/26 £	Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Other Approved Movements - Contribution To Reserve £	Other Approved Movements - Use of Reserve £	Estimated Balance at 31/03/32 £
Business Rates Volatility Reserve	To meet the costs of any variances of the business rate retention scheme.	3,296,907				(1,066,700)	2,230,207
Budget Stability Reserve	This reserve is set aside to smooth the effects of reductions to government funding which may happen during the next Parliament. This will give the Council time to come up with plans to address any budget shortfall and carefully plan any service redesigns which may be necessary.	2,296,927				(157,000)	2,139,927
Uphills Community Centre	Contingency budget for unforeseen repairs & maintenance events at Uphills Community Centre-WLDC is obliged to pay/contribute under current arrangements. Reserve capped at £20k.	7,100					7,100
Insurance Fund	To meet any excess on insurance claims.	73,200					73,200
Redundancy Contingency	To meet costs of staff redundancies.	266,300					266,300
Valuation Volatility	To mitigate any loss on investment from the sale of commercial investment properties.	733,000	(650,000)			(83,000)	0
Planning Fee Reserve	To mitigate the impact of the timing of large planning fee receipts.	0					0
Contingency / Risk Total		6,673,434	(650,000)	0	0	(1,306,700)	4,716,734

Reserve Name	Purpose	Balance at 31/03/26 £	Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Use of Allocation for Reprioritisation £	Other Approved Movements - Contribution To Reserve £	Other Approved Movements - Use of Reserve £	Estimated Balance at 31/03/32 £
Property Asset Fund	To support strategic housing and commercial property initiatives.	591,302	(246,000)			(69,400)	275,902
Community Grant Scheme	Community grant scheme to support community projects and the councillor award initiative.	26,600			136,000		162,600
Cultural Strategy Reserve	To develop the Council's Cultural Strategy in line with the recommendation contained within the Peer Review.	104,800			535,600	(640,400)	0
Communities at Risk	Support for communities at risk (2 identified CAR are currently Hemswell Cliff and South West Ward).	380,612				(268,100)	112,512
Environmental and Climate Change Reserve	Fund projects designed to reduce the carbon impact of the Council's operations.	427,206				(70,000)	357,206
Feasibility Fund	Match funding for the rural business intervention to support businesses with revenue costs.	40,000				(7,400)	32,600
Health and Wellbeing Reserve	To support the delivery of projects aligned to the strategic aims set out in the 'our people' theme within the Corporate Plan. Includes Temporary Accommodation potential budgetary shortfall.	186,100	(100,000)			(33,900)	52,200
Investment for Growth	To support internal and local housing and business growth.	6,638,418	(5,351,100)	273,700		(1,011,300)	549,718
Public Realm	To support the new capital assets created from Grant Funded capital schemes	250,000					250,000
CIL Reserve	Budget smoothing for CIL contributions and expenditure. To fund CIL officer and any other CIL related spend.	35,000					35,000
Investment for Priorities Reserve Total		8,680,038	(5,697,100)	273,700	671,600	(2,100,500)	1,827,738
Earmarked Reserves Total		20,951,923	(7,200,000)	273,700	6,394,200	(9,183,500)	11,236,323
General Fund Balance	A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing.	3,804,707				(258,800)	3,545,906
Capital Receipts	Capital receipts are generated from the sale of a local authority's capital assets, such as land, buildings, or vehicles. The two main uses are: financing new capital expenditure and repaying debt *	1,109,029	(800,000)		282,297	(263,100)	328,226
Capital Grants	To provide a specific, restricted source of funding for long-term investments in physical assets and infrastructure. Large proportion is CIL receipts.	3,609,213			10,228		3,619,441
Use of Reserves Grand Total		29,474,872	(8,000,000)	273,700	6,686,725	(9,705,400)	18,729,897