



Public Document Pack STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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COUNCIL

To all Members of Stroud District Council

09 February 2022

You are hereby summoned to attend the Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting of **STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL** in the Council Chamber, Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf, Stroud on **THURSDAY, 17 FEBRUARY 2022** at **7.00 pm**

Kathy O'Leary
Chief Executive

Please Note: The meeting is being held in the Council Chamber at Stroud District Council and will be streamed live on the Council's [YouTube Channel](#). A recording of the meeting will be published onto the [Council's website](#). The whole of the meeting will be recorded except where there are confidential or exempt items, which may need to be considered in the absence of press and public.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the following measures have been put in place to reduce the risk of transmission:

- a maximum of 6 members of public will be permitted in the Council Chamber at any one time, if you would like to attend this meeting please contact democratic.services@stroud.gov.uk.
- Members, officers and any members of the public are requested to wear a face covering when they are not addressing the meeting (unless they are unable to, for medical reasons).
- You must not attend this meeting if you, or anyone you live with, has symptoms of Covid-19, you have received a positive test result or if you are otherwise required to self-isolate.
- Lateral flow device tests (LFD) to be carried out within 24 hours before the meeting and the results reported on the government website <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result> or to 119.
- Doors and windows will be opened as necessary during the meeting to ensure adequate ventilation.

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES

To receive apologies for absence.

Council
Thursday, 17 February 2022

Agenda Published: Wednesday, 9 February 2022

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2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

To receive declarations of interest.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

To receive announcements from the Chair of Council, Leader of Council or Chief Executive.

4. **LGA CORPORATE PEER CHALLENGE REVIEW (Verbal Report)**

To receive a verbal report on the LGA Corporate Peer Challenge taking place in March.

Recommendations from Committees

5. **RECOMMENDATION FROM STRATEGY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

5a. **THE FAIR PAY AND SENIOR PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2021/22 (Pages 5 - 10)**

The Council is required under the Localism Act 2011 to approve and publish a policy statement on Senior Pay.

5b. **COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME (Pages 11 - 24)**

To set a Council Tax Support Scheme for the period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

5c. **STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL CAPITAL STRATEGY (Pages 25 - 50)**

To approve the Council's Capital Strategy.

5d. **GENERAL FUND BUDGET 2022/23, CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (Pages 51 - 182)**

To consider the Council's financial position over the medium term and set a budget requirement and the level of council tax for 2022/23.

5e. **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES - REVISED 2021/22 AND ORIGINAL 2022/23 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2021/22 - 2025/26 (Pages 183 - 202)**

To present to the committee the revised budget estimates for 2021/22 and the original estimates for 2022/23.

6. **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM AUDIT AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

6a. **MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT - GIFTS AND HOSPITALITY (Pages 203 - 204)**

Council is asked to consider the recommendations from Audit and Standards Committee and the Constitution Working Group for the addition of a reference to 'Gifts and Hospitality' in the Members Code of Conduct.

6b. **EXTERNAL AUDIT PROCUREMENT (Pages 205 - 226)**

To agree the arrangements for the provision of external auditors to review the Council's Statement of Accounts and Value for Money Arrangements.

6c. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY**

AND MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY STATEMENT 2022/23 (Pages 227 - 260)

This report outlines the Council's prudential indicators for 2022/23 – 2024/25 and sets out the treasury strategy for this period. It fulfils three key reports required by the Local Government Act 2003:

- reporting prudential indicators required by the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities;
- a treasury management strategy in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management;
- an investment strategy in accordance with the DLUHC investment guidance.

It also fulfils the statutory duty to approve a minimum revenue policy (MRP) statement for 2022/23.

7. STANDARDS SUB-COMMITTEE (Pages 261 - 262)

To establish a Standards Sub-Committee as required by Article 7.3 of the Council's Constitution which was agreed by Council on 21 October 2021.

8. CONTINUATION OF THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE ECONOMIC GROWTH JOINT COMMITTEE - UNTIL 31 MARCH 2023 (Pages 263 - 266)

To consider a request to extend the operation of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) until 31 March 2023 and to delegate authority to the Head of Paid Services to amend the Inter - Authority Agreement (dated 4th September 2014) accordingly.

9. CIVIC TIMETABLE 2022/23 (Pages 267 - 268)

To agree a timetable for the civic year 2022/23.

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	The Fair Pay and Senior Pay Policy Statement 2021/22			
Purpose of Report	The Council is required under the Localism Act 2011 to approve and publish a policy statement on Senior Pay.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES that this statement is approved as recommended by Strategy and Resources Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	A copy of this statement has been provided to Unison.			
Report Author	Lucy Powell, Head of HR Email: lucy.powell@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The Council is required to publish a statement by the 31 st March 2022 for the ensuing financial year. The nature and content must adhere to guidelines issued by the then Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government.			
Background Papers	Information on the Council's workforce was extracted from the Council's Human Resources/Payroll system. The remuneration of the individual senior officers is also published in the Council's Statement of Accounts and on the Council's website.			
Appendices	None			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This Pay Policy Statement is produced on an annual basis in accordance with Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011. It is made available on the Council's website.
- 1.2 The Council has published information on senior pay for a number of years on its website and in its Statement of Accounts. It has also responded openly and in full to Freedom of Information Act requests for such details.
- 1.3 The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 places additional publication requirements on local authorities to publish data on their websites. This includes the requirement either to publish the data on their website or place a link on their website to such data. Additional requirements of the Code include the requirement for local authorities to publish: -
- A list of responsibilities of senior staff
 - Details of bonuses and "benefits-in-kind" for all employees whose salary exceeds £50,000
 - The pay multiple, defined as the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings for the given year and the median earnings figure of the whole of the authority's workforce.

This information is available on the Council's website.

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2. **Pay Accountability - Senior Pay Policy Statement for Stroud District Council 2021 - 22**
- 2.1 Both the Localism Act 2011 and the Transparency Code 2015 require the definition and publication of data on the lowest paid employees, their remuneration and the clarification of the relationship of pay between the lowest and highest paid groups of employees.
- 2.2 The lowest paid employees of the Council are on the Apprentice grade and have a salary at 09/11/2021 of £12,444.00. The highest paid employee has a salary at 09/11//2021 of £118,437.00. This is calculated as a ratio of 1:10 between the lowest and the highest paid employees of the Council. The Government's view is that the salaries ratio in the public sector should not exceed 1:20, so the Council is well within these guidelines. A comparison of Stroud 1 to Stroud 12 produces a ratio of 1:6.
- 2.3 There is only a requirement by the Government to pay Apprentices £4.30 per hour. However, the Apprentice grade at the Council has been based on the National Minimum Wage for 2021 18-20yr olds of £6.56 this will however, rise to £6.83 on 01/04/2022 together with rates for 21-22 age group £8.36 to £9.18 and 23 and over age group £8.91 to £9.50).
- 2.4 Since 2013, the Council has paid the Living Wage Foundation (LWF) living wage to staff on Stroud 1 by way of a supplement to basic pay. As a result of Local Government pay award the STR1 salary is now above the LWF salary and therefore no supplement is required. The Council will continue to monitor the STR1 salary and LWF salary. Our practice has been to increase the Living wage foundation rate on 1st April. So that rate will increase to £9.90 on 01/04/2022.
- 2.5 The pay multiple, defined as the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings for the given year and the median earnings figure of the whole of the authority's workforce was 4.38.

3. Level and Elements of Remuneration in 2021-2022

The Council pays 'spot' salaries to all employees. There are 13 spot salaries:

Stroud Grade	Salary	FTE	Headcount	FTE Nov 2020	Headcount Nov 2020
STR APP	£12,444.00	1	1	1.00	1
STR1	£18,328.00	6.80	27	3.96	28
STR2	£19,698.00	26.04	57	25.52	51
STR3	£22,183.00	74.38	90	72.60	83
STR4	£27,041.00	73.57	81	71.81	79
STR5	£32,234.00	68.44	76	63.28	70
STR6	£37,890.00	36.29	40	37.78	40
STR7	£43,857.00	26.66	27	22.58	23
STR8	£50,745.00	12.85	14	11.19	12
STR9	£57,096.00	9.60	10	7.80	8
STR10	£75,174.00	0	0	0.00	0
STR11	£82,200.00	4	4	4.00	4
STR12	£118,437.00	1	1	1.00	1
TOTAL		340.64	428* Actual = 417	323.11	401* Actual = 366

* This figure shows employees with contracted hours at each Stroud grade. The 'actual' figure indicates exact headcount, as some employees have more than one post at different grades.

- 3.1 There are no bonuses, annual increments or performance related payments. A salary supplement or honorarium can be paid when an employee carries out a substantial increase in duties and responsibilities.
- 3.2 The actual headcount has increased by 13.93% since last year. This increase is due to a combination of filling vacant posts that were already in the establishment but not filled and also a few new posts as a result of the FFF programme. We also had several maternity leave positions become available throughout the year that required back filling.
- 3.3 The Chief Executive is employed under Chief Executives' Terms and Conditions. All other senior officers are employed under National Joint Council (NJC) for local government services. The Council publishes an Employee Handbook that sets out local terms and conditions of employment. This is available on the staff intranet.
- 3.4 The pay in relation to individual senior officers is shown below;

Chief Executive

- Salary of £118,437.00 subject to any national pay award.
- Employed under the Chief Executives' Terms and Conditions
- Election Fees as Returning Officer as set out in the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees for District and Parish Elections; Parliamentary, European Parliament, Referendum, Police Area Returning Officer Fees as specified by the Ministry of Justice, the Home Office or the Electoral Commission. The fees vary from year to year depending on the nature and number of elections. This is classed as a separate employment for superannuation purposes.
- Payment of membership of the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives (invoiced direct to the Council)

Strategic Directors (Resources, Place, Communities and Change & Transformation)

- Salary of £82,200 - £87,337.50 (subject to any national pay award)

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- Taxable mileage payable in line with HMRC reimbursement rates.
- Payment of membership of one professional body (invoiced direct to the Council)
- Election fees payable to officers as election staff, as determined by the Returning Officer using the appropriate scale of fees prescribed nationally or under the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees

Heads of Service

- Salary of £57,096 subject to any national pay award
- Taxable mileage payable in line with HMRC reimbursement rates.
- Payment of membership of one professional body (invoiced direct to the Council).
- Election fees payable to officers as Deputy Returning Officer or election staff, as determined by the Returning Officer using the appropriate scale of fees prescribed nationally or under the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees

Monitoring Officer

- The permanent post is currently vacant and there are interim arrangements in place to cover this role at present.
- Taxable mileage payable in line with HRMC reimbursement rates (for perm role)
- Payment of membership of one professional body (invoiced direct to the Council) (for perm role)
- Election fees payable to officers as Deputy Returning Officer or election staff, as determined by the Returning Officer using appropriate scale of fees prescribed nationally or under the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees.

Section 151 Officer (This role is covered by Strategic Director of Resources)

- Salary of £85,282.50 (subject to national pay award)
- Taxable mileage payable in line with HRMC reimbursement rates.
- Payment of membership of one professional body (invoiced direct to the Council).
- Election fees payable to officers as Deputy Returning Officer or election staff, as determined by the Returning Officer using appropriate scale of fees prescribed nationally or under the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees.

Service Managers

- Salaries in range from £37,890 to £50,745 subject to any national pay award
- Taxable mileage payable in line with HMRC reimbursement rates.
- Payment of membership of one professional body (invoiced direct to the Council).
- Election fees payable to officers as Deputy Returning Officer or election staff, as determined by the Returning Officer using the appropriate scale of fees prescribed nationally or under the Gloucestershire Scheme Scale of Fees

4. Remuneration on Recruitment

4.1 Chief Executive

The remuneration would be reviewed prior to advertisement by the Strategy & Resources Committee or its panel under delegated authority from the Council. The Committee's membership is agreed by the Council at its Annual General Meeting and is politically balanced.

The full Council appoints the Chief Executive based on a recommendation from the Committee.

4.2 Strategic Directors, Heads of Service, Service Managers, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer

The remuneration and allowances are set out in the Employee Handbook and the published salary scales

The Monitoring Officer & Section 151 Officer are reserved by Law and appointed by Full Council.

5. Remuneration on ceasing to hold office/be employed by the Council

5.1 Chief Executive

The Committee would make a recommendation to the full Council.

5.2 Strategic Directors, Heads of Service, Service Managers, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer

The terms of any redundancy or retirement are set out in the Employee Handbook (Section 3.3).

6. Publication and Access to Information Relating to Remuneration

6.1 This pay policy statement is published on the Council's website located under Open Data at <http://www.stroud.gov.uk/opendata>

6.2 The Council's Constitution and the Council's Statement of Accounts are published at www.stroud.gov.uk

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial Implications

Salary budgets are considered as part of the annual budget setting process and there are no additional financial implications from this report.

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7.2 Legal Implications

The Localism Act 2011 requires relevant authorities to prepare and publish an annual Pay Policy Statement which outlines the local authority's approach to the pay of its workforce and in particular the pay of its senior staff.

The authority is also required to publish specific information on the pay and reward of senior staff earning more than £50,000 on its website in line with the guidance in the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272012 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

7.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this approval.

7.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**COUNCIL****17 FEBRUARY 2022**

Report Title	Council Tax Support Scheme			
Purpose of Report	To set a Council Tax Support Scheme for the period 01 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES to adopt the scheme and changes for 2022/23 as recommended by the Strategy and Resources Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	Consultation took place between 15 November 2021 and 31 December 2021.			
Report Author	Simon Killen, Revenue & Benefits Manager Email: simon.killen@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	Council could choose to adopt a local scheme that reduces the Council Tax support that working age claimants receive			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A – Summary of Scheme Appendix B – Changes to existing scheme			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Welfare Reform Act 2012 abolished Council Tax benefit. Section 10 of the 2012 Act added a new section 13A to the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 so that, in respect of dwellings in England, a person's liability to pay Council Tax is reduced in accordance with the billing authority's Council Tax Reduction Scheme. Liability may be reduced "to such an extent as the billing authority thinks fit." Billing authorities can apply a reduction in particular cases or by determining a class of case. Liability for Council Tax can be reduced to nil.
- 1.2 Each billing authority is required to develop a local Council Tax Support scheme each year for working age people.
- 1.3 Since 2013/14 the Council has adopted the Governments default scheme which has meant no changes or reduction in the support we provide
- 1.4 Council Tax Support is provided to around 6,000 households at an annual cost of £6.5m which includes both working age and pension age claimants. Working age caseload is around 3,200 households, a small % increase since the start of the pandemic.
- 1.5 Within Gloucestershire some of our neighbouring authorities have reshaped their schemes to an income banded scheme whilst others have changed to include a maximum % award.

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- 1.6 More recently income tolerance levels have been adopted to simplify the administration process alongside universal credit.
- 1.7 Between 15/11/21 and 31/12/21 a consultation was carried out on the council's website. This was seeking views from residents, as well as interested parties such as Citizens Advice, on the Council Tax support scheme. The consultation provided very little feedback, other than clarification around administration and process.
- 1.8 Residents over state pension age are protected from any changes.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 Since 2013/14 the funding from central government to support the local working age scheme has continued to reduce in line with other central funding cuts. The council has so far absorbed any shortfall in funding assisted by utilising our local powers to reduce council tax discounts on empty properties, along with a premium charge.
- 2.2 If we were to look to reduce costs to the council, changes would have to be made to the level of support provided to working age claimants.
- 2.3 We need to modernise and make changes to the current scheme so that it works together with the changes that are being made at a national level with the roll out of Universal Credit. People who have made the transition to Universal Credit have their entitlement to this recalculated each month, taking into account any fluctuations in income. As Universal Credit is income for the purposes of council tax support, a change also has to be made to the person's council tax support. This then results in revised changes to council tax instalments every month which can make budgeting very difficult for those claimants.
- 2.4 We receive over 2,000 changes of circumstances each month, which is an increase of 47% on previous years, significantly increasing the administrative work of the team and the inconvenience for claimants. The changes to the scheme will make a major impact on streamlining this process.
- 2.5 On 3rd February 2022 the government announced a Council Tax Energy Rebate payment of £150 to households in Council Tax Bands A-D. This payment must be disregarded as income for the purposes of calculating eligibility for both working age and pensioner local Council Tax support schemes in 2022/23. Once the government lay regulations, the scheme will be updated to reflect this change.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 As more people claim Universal Credit or transfer to it, the need to revise the council tax support scheme and simplify the administration, make the claiming process easier and simpler, becomes more pressing.
- 3.2 The report recommends we continue to provide a maximum of 100% support and to adopt the proposed administration changes in Appendix B.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

Any administrative savings are likely to be in officer time only at this point.

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4.2 Legal Implications

The Local Government Tax Support 'LCTS' scheme is required under section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the Act") (updated in 2012). The Act states that for each financial year, local authorities must consider whether to revise their LCTS scheme or replace it with another scheme.

The prescribed regulations set out the matters that must be included in such a scheme. Before making any changes, the local authority must, in the following order: -

1. consult with any major precepting authorities
2. publish the draft scheme
3. consult other parties likely to have an interest in the scheme

If a local authority does not make/revise a LCTS scheme by the prescribed deadline, a default scheme will be imposed on the authority which will be effective from April 2022.

One Legal
Tel: 01684 272 691 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

The council is committed to equality and the fair application of the policy, ensuring that people receive fair outcomes in the standard of service they receive from the Council, regardless of their race, gender, age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, marital or civil partnership status and/or disability in line with the principles set out in the Equalities Act 2010.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

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Council Tax Support Scheme

Summary of the proposed scheme for Pension Credit Age persons and Working Age persons 2022/23

Introduction

The current Council Tax Support Scheme will end on 31st March 2022 and, from 1st April 2022, Councils will put in place (if necessary) a new local Council Tax Support scheme. Stroud District Council is proposing to continue the qualifying criteria from the current Council Tax Support Scheme as our local scheme with changes highlighted in Appendix B but essentially means we will continue to award up to a maximum 100% in support.

A consultation process in relation to this proposal was carried out between 15/11/2021 and 31/12/2021.

The purpose of this document is to give a high level overview of the current scheme, so that it is clear what we are proposing to continue. This document will also highlight any differences between the current scheme and the new local scheme that will take effect from 1st April 2022.

The Council Tax Support Scheme for Pensioners

The Government has protected Pensioners (i.e. those who have reached the age at which Pension Credit can be claimed) from change within local schemes. For Pensioners, the rules under the new local scheme will therefore be very similar to those of the current Council Tax Support scheme. An overview of the three basic types of qualification follows:

To qualify for Council Tax Support the person must:

- a. have attained the qualifying age for state Pension Credit,
- b. not be somebody with a partner of Working Age in receipt of Income Support, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance or income-related Employment and Support Allowance and Universal Credit ,
- c. be liable to pay Council Tax for property in which they are resident,
- d. not have capital and/or savings above £16,000, and
- e. have made a valid application for a Council Tax Support.

The three types of qualification are summarised as follows:

1. Where an applicant meets all of the criteria (a-e above) and receives a level of weekly income which is less than or equal to the living allowance set by Central Government (known as the 'applicable amount'); that person qualifies for 100% reduction on their Council Tax and has nothing to pay. However, this may be reduced if they have another adult living with them who is not their partner (this is known as a Non-Dependant Deduction).
2. Where an applicant meets all of the criteria (a-e above) and receives a level of weekly income which is above their applicable amount; the level of reduction will be calculated by taking 20% (known as the taper) of the difference between the income and the applicable amount away from their weekly Council Tax liability. Therefore, dependant on the level of income, the support could be anywhere between 0% and 100%. Again, this may be reduced if they have another adult living with them who is not their partner (this is known as a Non-Dependant Deduction).

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Appendix A

3. Where the applicant meets all of the criteria, apart from the capital limit (a, b, c & e above) and has another adult living with them who is on a low income or on state benefits (who is not their partner and does not pay rent to them); they may qualify for a reduction (known in the current Council Tax Benefit scheme as 'Second Adult Rebate'). Dependant on the level of income received by the 'second adult' this could give a reduction of up to 25%. This may be up to 100% for qualifying student applicants.

The Council Tax Support Scheme for Working Age claimants

As with the current Council Tax Support qualifying criteria, to qualify for Council Tax Support the person must:

- a. be someone who has not reached Pension Credit age, for whom a Council Tax Support claim can be calculated, unless they have a partner who is of working age,
- b. be liable to pay Council Tax for property in which they are resident,
- c. not have capital and/or savings above £16,000,
- d. have made a valid claim for Council Tax Support.

The three types of qualification are summarised as follows:

1. Where an applicant meets all of the criteria (a-d above) and receives a level of weekly income which is less than or equal to the living allowance set by Central Government (known as the 'applicable amount'); that person qualifies for 100% reduction on their Council Tax and has nothing to pay. However, this may be reduced if they have another adult living with them who is not their partner (this is known as a Non-Dependant Deduction).
2. Where an applicant meets all of the criteria (a-d above) and receives a level of weekly income which is above their applicable amount; the level of reduction will be calculated by taking 20% (known as the taper) of the difference between income and applicable amount away from their weekly Council Tax liability. Therefore, dependant on the level of income, the support could be anywhere between 0% and 100%. Again, this may be reduced if they have another adult living with them who is not their partner (this is known as a Non-Dependant Deduction).
3. Where the applicant meets all of the criteria, apart from the capital limit (a, b & d above) and has another adult living with them who is on a low income or on state benefits (who is not their partner and does not pay rent to them); they may qualify for a reduction (known in the current Council Tax Benefit scheme as 'Second Adult Rebate'). Dependant on the level of income received by the 'second adult' this could give a reduction of up to 25%. This may be up to 100% for qualifying students.

Legislation

It is proposed that eligibility under the new local scheme mirrors what is already set out in legislation relating to the previous Council Tax Benefit scheme. Our scheme will mirror any changes made to the HB regulations after the CTB regs ended including.

- Removal of the family premium from 01 May 2016 for new claims and changes of circumstances for existing claimants who have a child or become responsible for a child after 30 April 2016
- Match the removal of allowances for third and subsequent children born after April 2017
- The restrictions in tax credits for two children and the removal of the family element from 2017
- Restrictions for those claimants leaving the UK for longer than one month
- Exception will be that Backdating will be limited to a maximum of three months for all CTS claimants

For reference these regulations are;

- The Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992,
- The Social Security Administration Act 1992,
- The Council Tax Benefit Regulations 2006
- The Council Tax Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state Pension Credit) Regulations 2006,
- The Housing Benefit Regulations 2006
- The Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state Pension Credit) Regulations 2006.

These regulations set out how Council Tax Benefit was claimed, calculated and paid. The local Council Tax Support scheme will mirror all of these criteria and a summary of the key factors follow:

Applicable Amount

This is the living allowance that determines the financial needs of claimants. These are determined annually by Central Government and the local scheme will use the same figures in line with Social Security benefits. As shown in the detailed qualifying criteria above, they are used to determine your entitlement. Generally, if your income (including benefits and assumed income from capital) is lower than your applicable amount you will receive full support (less any deduction for any non-dependants living in your household). If your income is higher than your applicable amount then you will receive less than 100% support. Applicable amounts are calculated by making allowance for your personal needs, any children in the household, as well as premiums for certain household circumstances; for example if there is a disabled person within the household.

Income and Capital

Income is all of the money that the applicant (and other members of their household) have coming in from earnings, social security benefits, maintenance payments, pensions and other sources. Some forms of income will have what is known as a 'disregard' applied to them. This means that, for the purposes of calculating Council Tax Support, they may be partially or fully ignored.

Any capital that the applicant has (for example savings, shares or other property) will contribute to the calculation as well as their income. The Council will work out an assumed weekly income from the applicant's capital/investments (known as tariff income) and this will be used to calculate a total income figure, so that this can be used to calculate entitlement. Again, some capital will be disregarded within the calculation.

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Appendix A

Evidence

The Council will, as with the current Council Tax Support scheme, require all applicants to provide evidence of most forms of income and capital. The Council will also require evidence of applicant's identity upon making a claim for Council Tax Support.

Change of Circumstances

Recipients of Council Tax Support must notify the Council immediately if there are any changes that might affect their right to, or the amount of, Council Tax Support received.

This will include where they live; who they live with; changes in earnings, benefits and capital; the employment status of everyone in the household; a member of the household leaving or going into hospital or prison. Applicants will have a duty to notify the Council of any change of circumstances that they might reasonably be expected to know might affect their Council Tax Support entitlement.

Payment and Notification

All awards of Council Tax Support will be credited direct to the applicant's Council Tax account. Applicants will be notified in writing about their weekly award and how it was calculated or (where they are not entitled) that their claim has been unsuccessful. Where Council Tax Support is awarded the applicant will also receive a new Council Tax bill with their reduced liability (even where they are entitled to 100% support and the bill is zero).

Overpayments

As with the current Council Tax Support scheme, where an applicant has been awarded support and it is later determined that they should not have been entitled, an overpayment will have occurred. In most instances, where this is the applicants error, this overpayment will be added to their Council Tax account and collected as normal. Where this is not possible (for example if the account is now closed because the applicant has moved) normal recovery actions will be undertaken. The Council will be able to get an attachment to that benefit to recover Council Tax; which is possible within the current arrangements.

Claiming

Currently claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support are made on the same form. It is proposed that this will remain the same when the new local Council Tax Support scheme is introduced. Minor adjustments will need to be made to take account of the change in the name of the scheme (for example); however it is anticipated that a very similar form will be used and be available in exactly the same formats as with the current scheme. A shortened claim form has been introduced for use by claimants who are claiming and / or receiving Universal Credit.

Moving Over to the New Scheme

The Council will not be asking existing Council Tax Support recipients to make a fresh claim for Council Tax Support. As the same qualifying criteria will apply, we will simply transfer all Council Tax Support claims in payment on 31st March 2022 to the new scheme.

Universal Credit

Full service was rolled out across the district for a broader range of claimants from 4th October 2018. It has become more widely available for couples and families but only for new claims or where there is a significant change of circumstances.

The impact of Universal Credit will be monitored with a view to introduce a "tolerance level" of income change which would mean we ignore changes of less than a certain per cent or a certain amount.

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Appendix A

Where claimants are employed and receiving Universal Credit, their net wage after tax, national insurance and pension deductions will be used in the assessment.

Where claimants are self-employed and are or were receiving Universal Credit, we will follow Universal Credit and use the relevant national minimum wage to make an assessment on their income where they have declared no profit.

It is proposed that eligibility under the new local scheme mirrors what had already been set out in legislation relating to the old Council Tax Benefit scheme, other than the annual uprating of premiums, allowances, non-dependant deductions and any changes to the national pension age scheme that need to be reflected in the local working age scheme.

Our scheme will also mirror any changes made to the HB regulations after the CTB regs ended including:

- Removal of the family premium from 1 May 2016 for new claims and changes of circumstance for existing claimants who have a child or become responsible for a child after 30 April 2016.
- Match the removal of allowances for third and subsequent children born after April 2017
- The restrictions in tax credits to two children and the removal of the family element from 2017
- restrictions for those claimants leaving the UK for longer than one month
- Exception will be that backdating will be limited to a maximum of three month for all CTS claimants.

HBRO = Housing Benefit Run On, an additional award of benefit for the first four weeks of employment where the customer was previously unemployed for a continuous period of 26 weeks

CTS = Council Tax Support

Taper = the rate at which benefit is reduced as income increases

Second Adult Rebate = an award of benefit based on the income a second person in a property

What are the differences between the old Council Tax Benefit Scheme and the new local Council Tax Support Scheme?

There are some things, aside from the name, that will be different under the new local scheme. However, these are factors that will not generally affect the main qualifying criteria.

These differences are:

- **Discretionary Housing Payments** – Where someone did not receive full benefit (Housing Benefit or Council Tax Benefit) and there was the risk of financial hardship; the Council had a discretionary budget that it could use to top up Housing and/or Council Tax Benefit. Under the new local Council Tax Support scheme this discretionary allocation of

money is not available and there will not be any payment of discretionary support. This has not caused wide-ranging difficulties as we have been operating a Council Tax Support Scheme since April 2013.

- **Fraud** – The previous Council Tax Benefit scheme operated under Benefit Legislation and the Council had powers to investigate and prosecute fraudsters accordingly. The new scheme is not a benefit. It is a discount under Council Tax legislation and benefit investigation powers do not apply. However, under the Fraud Act 2006 the Council has very similar powers to investigate and prosecute those that fraudulently claim Council Tax Support.
- **Appeals** – The current appeals system (and processes) changed from those we had in place in relation to Council Tax Benefit. The Valuation Tribunal Service will be responsible for hearing appeals against Council Tax Support.
- **Universal Credit** – The introduction of Universal Credit may change the level of evidence and information that we require from applicants. Currently, for claimants of such benefits as Income Support and Job Seeker's Allowance, we receive information from the Department for Work and Pensions that reduces the duplication for the claimant. The DWP will only tell us of Universal Credit amounts if the claimant gives their permission, otherwise we will need to contact them like any other claimant.

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LOCAL COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT SCHEME – 2022/23

Proposal	Change to the Existing Scheme	Revision to existing wording of the scheme	Number of Households Affected	Impact of Changes
1.	To revise the scheme to limit the circumstances when a change in household circumstances will cause the level of the LCTS scheme to be changed. Specifically limiting changes to households in receipt of Universal Credit where the amount changes by £10 or less per week LCTS is not altered	<p>To introduce wording into the scheme to define a relevant change of circumstances for Universal Credit claims which will limit the circumstance when a new assessment of LCTS will be revised to the following circumstances;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a change in the UC award of more than £10 or; • There is a move in or out of employment or; • There is a change to the household membership or; • There is a change to the council tax liability 	All LCTS working age households by the end of full UC roll-out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 30 – 50% reduction in the average number of change in circumstances for people in receipt of UC • Limit the number of council tax bills produced annually • Allow action to follow existing automated process in most circumstances

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**COUNCIL****17 FEBRUARY 2022**

Report Title	Stroud District Council Capital Strategy			
Purpose of Report	To approve the Council's Capital Strategy.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES to approve the Capital Strategy at Appendix A as recommended by Strategy and Resources Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	None			
Report Author	Graham Bailey, Principal Accountant Tel: 01453 754133 Email: graham.bailey@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The Council's Capital Strategy was introduced in April 2019 and should be subject to annual approval.			
Background Papers	CIPFA Prudential Code 2021			
Appendices	Appendix A – Stroud District Council Capital Strategy			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Under the Local Government Act 2003 the Council should have regard to the CIPFA Prudential Code. In 2018 this code was revised to include a requirement for every local authority to produce a "Capital Strategy". The CIPFA Prudential Code was revised and re-issued in December 2021.
- 1.2 The CIPFA Prudential Code 2021 states that "In order to demonstrate that the authority takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with service objectives and properly takes account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability, authorities should have in place a capital strategy that sets out the long-term context in which capital expenditure, borrowing and investment decisions are made and gives due consideration to both risk and reward and impact on the achievement of priority outcomes. Authorities should report on and clearly distinguish investments for treasury management, service and commercial purposes".
- 1.3 The Capital Strategy was last approved by Council 25 February 2021 and the document should be reviewed at least annually and must be considered a "live" document to be used throughout the financial year.

2. THE CAPITAL STRATEGY

- 2.1 The proposed Capital Strategy is attached at Appendix A. It sets out the Council's principles on how the Capital Programme is put together, how Capital expenditure can be

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financed and how the Council approaches and manages the risks related to the Capital Programme.

- 2.2 The Capital Strategy is split into four main sections to enable the reader of the strategy to clearly see the main issues as they are presented.
- 2.3 Section one sets out the basics of Capital Expenditure and the general principles which the Council will follow in its capital programme. The principles are as follows;
- Capital Investment is a vital tool in delivering strategic priorities
 - The capital programme will include only these schemes which assist in delivering a Council priority
 - The evaluation of capital schemes for inclusion on the programme will follow an agreed process which allows scrutiny whilst not limiting innovation and adaptability
 - The funding of the capital programme must be considered alongside the revenue budget and balance sheet position as part of the Council's integrated financial planning
 - Capital projects will be monitored and evaluated, both during and after completion, to ensure their efficient progress and that any lessons learnt can be transferred to other Council schemes
- 2.4 Section two shows how the Council will select, approve and monitor capital schemes. Changes have been made this year as a result of the Investment and Development Panel no longer being and in place, and also to better reflect the role of Policy Committees in the process.
- 2.5 Section three covers the different sources of funding for Capital Projects and the principles that will be followed in applying them. This includes the Council's policy on new borrowing setting out that the Council must consider the interest and MRP implications of any new borrowing.
- 2.6 Section Four links to existing Council policies on risk and treasury management. It also includes an analysis of the skills and knowledge within the organisation.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Amendments arising from the CIPFA Prudential Code 2021 have been made to the Strategy approved by Council in February 2021. Also relevant text and tables have been updated to reflect the current capital schemes and related financial data.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

There are no significant financial implications from the report. The Capital Strategy sets out the Council's approach to setting and monitoring the capital programme.

The Strategy has been updated this year to reflect the new priorities within the Council Plan.

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4.2 Legal Implications

Legal implications are set out in the body of the report.

One Legal
Tel: 01684 272203 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

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Stroud District Council Capital Strategy

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2. Background
3. Capital Expenditure
4. The link between revenue and capital
5. The purpose of Capital Investment
6. What are our Priorities?
7. Existing capital schemes
8. Achieving Priorities through capital investment
9. Asset management
10. Capital Disposals
11. Multi-Year Capital Projects
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13. The importance of capital appraisals
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Section 1 – Principles of the SDC Capital Strategy

1. Introduction

Welcome to the Capital Strategy for Stroud District Council. The following document sets out how the Council sets out its priorities for Capital investment including links to existing delivery plans and strategy documents. It also considers the ways in which capital expenditure may be financed, including the impact that the Strategy has on the budgets of both the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The strategy will also set out the links with Treasury Management objectives and determine the authority's approach to risk in those objectives.

This document is a fundamental part of the Council's business planning process from both a financial and service perspective. It sets out a framework whereby the authority's capital resources can be effectively allocated to those projects which may help the Council achieve wider corporate objectives, protect existing assets and support financial sustainability.

1. Capital Investment is a vital tool in delivering strategic priorities

Principles

2. The capital programme will include only these schemes which assist in delivering a Council priority

of

3. The Council will not consider schemes purely to generate a commercial return, as part of the budget strategy to close the gap between expenditure and resources

the

4. The evaluation of capital schemes for inclusion on the programme will follow an agreed process which allows scrutiny whilst not limiting innovation and adaptability

Capital

5. The funding of the capital programme must be considered alongside the revenue budget and balance sheet position as part of the Council's integrated financial planning

Strategy

6. Capital projects will be monitored and evaluated, both during and after their completion, to ensure their efficient progress and that any lessons learnt can be transferred to other Council schemes

2. Background

As part of its wider treasury management objectives the Council must have regard to the “Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities” (henceforth to be referred to as the Prudential Code), as produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA). The 2018 revision of the Prudential Code introduced the requirement for authorities to produce a Capital Strategy representing as it does best practice in financial planning. The 2021 revision of the Prudential Code has further amended the requirements for a Capital Strategy. This document is Stroud’s Capital Strategy and it sets out baseline practices. As the capital ambitions of the authority continue to grow the Strategy will serve as a basis for building that capital programme and can be updated as and when new priorities, schemes or methods of financing are introduced. It is a live document forming a fundamental part of the ongoing strategic planning of the Council.

3. Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure is incurred on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of an asset. These assets can be tangible such as buildings or vehicles, as well as intangible such as software products or licenses. Revenue expenditure is that which is incurred on the day to day running costs of the Council.

4. Linkage between revenue and Capital

Capital and revenue expenditure are often treated as separate components of local authority budgets and funding for each is considered separately. However, it should be regarded as a vital component of successful financial planning that revenue and capital budgets are intrinsically linked, therefore this capital strategy should be deemed to form a key part of the authority’s medium term financial planning process.

The impact of capital expenditure upon the revenue budgets of the authority must be an intrinsic part of assessing capital projects at the business case stage.

The following table sets out some of the key impacts of capital expenditure upon the revenue budget.

Revenue Savings

- Direct Income from assets
- Reduced maintenance costs
- Savings in labour costs

Revenue Costs

- Running costs of new assets
- Minimum Revenue Provision (loan principal)
- Interest costs from borrowing (or lost investment interest if internally borrowing)
- Revenue funding of capital programme

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As an indication of the current cost of the existing capital programme, the proposed Council budget for 2022/23 includes the following sums for loan principal and interest costs.

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
General Fund	£000	£000	£000	£000
MRP	1,041	1,215	1,171	1,122
Interest	133	95	95	95
GF Total	1,174	1,310	1,266	1,217
Housing Revenue Account				
VRP	-	-	-	-
Interest	3,379	3,379	3,379	3,379
HRA Total	3,379	3,379	3,379	3,379

5. The Purpose of Capital Investment

Investment through Capital Expenditure should enable the better delivery of service priorities.

Service priorities are those areas that the Council has identified through the Council Plan. Capital expenditure may be a specific component of the corporate priority itself, such as the delivery of new affordable housing within the District or investment in an asset which helps to achieve the priority, such as new leisure facilities to improve public health.

6. What are our Council priorities?

The Council vision is “Leading a community that is making Stroud district a better place to live, work and visit for everyone”. This vision is to be realised through the Council Plan.

Council priorities are set out in the Council Plan 2021-26. There are three distinct priorities:

- Environment and Climate Change
- Community Resilience and Wellbeing
- Economy, Recovery and Regeneration

The Council Plan can be found at

<https://stroud.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s1742/Item%2012a%20-%20Appendix%20A%20-%20Draft%20Council%20Plan%202021%20-%202026.pdf>

The Delivery Plan will be reviewed annually and progress will be monitored quarterly by Strategy and Resources Committee.

7. Existing Capital Priorities

The Capital Programme includes a number of high profile Capital Schemes and Priorities. These priorities are;

- New Build Housing, existing stock maintenance and support for affordable homes – the provision of housing is a key element of the Council Plan and the capital programme reflects this. The HRA capital programme now includes a second phase of new house building. To support the provision of future new builds the capital programme now also includes a budget for the purchase of land. This is a strong example of the use of capital planning to identify assets required (land) to support the provision of a Council priority (housing).
- Regeneration of the Canal – Support for the redevelopment of the Canal is a key component of the Council’s capital programme. “Stroudwater Connected” represents the next critical phase of the canal redevelopment that has bid successfully for £8.9m of HLF Lottery funding. Also, the Council has committed capital funds of £3 million to support the project.
- Redevelopment of Brimscombe Port – Brimscombe Port is the Council’s primary mixed use regeneration scheme for the upcoming period. Successful completion of the project will produce an increase in housing supply and provision for business accommodation as well as the restoration of a historically significant inland port. Funding for the scheme is likely to be drawn from a variety of sources including Council contributions, a loan from Homes England and funding through a joint venture agreement with a delivery partner.
- Addressing climate change will require significant investment and the current capital programme includes borrowing of £1.432m for water source heat pumps at Ebley Mill and Brimscombe Port.
- The Council is most of the way through a £1.8m investment in ICT infrastructure transformation.
- Support for waste and recycling through effective asset and fleet management – under the terms of the Ubico contract the Council is responsible for procuring the vehicles and equipment required. It is vital that the Council plans long-term to secure the assets that are required. Failure to do so risks inefficiencies in providing the service and the financial costs of operating aging machinery.

As the Capital Strategy should be considered a live document these schemes and priorities are subject to change.

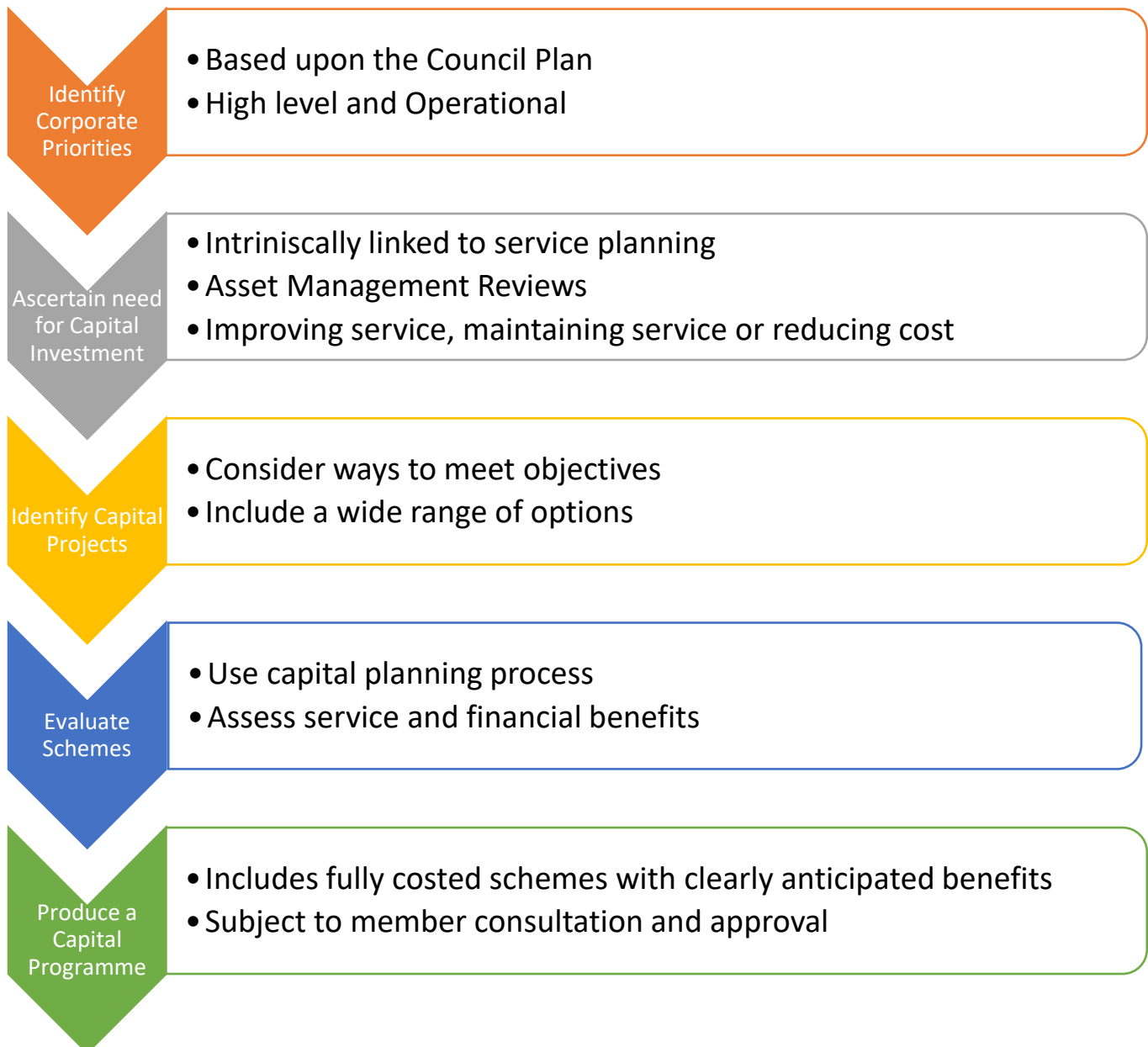
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Appendix A

8. Achieving priorities through capital investment.

Capital expenditure and investment is a key tool in achieving Council priorities. Targeted investment can provide the Council with the assets it needs to deliver high quality, value for money services in accordance with the Council Plan. Capital investment opportunities may be targeted to deliver additional corporate priorities.

The diagram below is an illustration of the key principles and processes for initiating a capital project up to approval stage.



It should be recognised that the ideas for capital schemes could come from a wide variety of sources including officers, external stakeholders, individual members or Council committees.

9. Asset Management

Asset Management is the process by which the authority considers whether its assets are appropriate to deliver the high quality services demanded by residents. This process may identify a number of different outcomes for assets including;

- Change in use to meet the demands of a service
- Investment is required to improve the condition of an asset
- A new asset is required to better meet the Council priorities
- The need to dispose of the asset to realise its value in monetary terms

The Council will use active asset management to consider both its current asset base and its future asset base. The capital programme will be used to bridge the gap to ensure that the authority has sufficient assets in the long term.

The current capital programme does not include any allowance for backlog maintenance. This should be considered in future revisions to the capital programme as part of the asset management process.

The Council has an existing Corporate Asset Management Strategy and the principles contained within that document are those which are to be used in the asset management process.

10. Capital Disposals

The asset management process may determine that the value of an asset is best realised through disposal. Sale of assets should be through an open market process to determine the best value.

Cash received from a sale of a property is a capital receipt. The use of these funds is restricted to purchasing new assets or repayment of existing debt. Decisions as to the use of Capital Receipts are to be made by Council after receiving advice from Strategy and Resources Committee and the Section 151 Officer. The Council will not make decisions about the ring-fencing of capital receipts before amounts are known and the use of such receipts has been considered in the light of the Council's overall financial position.

The existing General Fund capital programme is not dependent on a planned programme of capital receipts.

The HRA capital programme includes assumptions on levels of right to buy receipts as well as other capital receipts.

11. Multi-Year Capital Projects

Capital projects deliver assets which will provide services to the Council for a number of years. As a result of the significance and complexity of a number of these projects they may take a number of years to plan and deliver.

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Appendix A

When setting the Capital Programme, Council will approve the schemes to be included, the budget for their delivery and the timescale in which they are to be achieved. Unless schemes have clearly defined development and delivery phases with separate objectives, budgets and timescales Council should be asked to approve a budget to cover the whole of the project being delivered. Approval of the entire budget at the point of inception gives certainty for the project and assists officers in ensuring delivery.

The budget for approval will include an expected cash flow projection showing how much of the anticipated project budget will be incurred in each year of the Capital Programme. Any variations in timing of cash flows between years will be reported as part of the budget monitoring process. This should be regarded as part of the normal development of a capital project.

The Section 151 Officer will use delegated powers to re-profile capital expenditure between years after consideration of the Council's overall financial position.

Changes in the profile of a capital project which require additional money added to the overall budget will be reported to members.

12. Use of capitalisation flexibilities.

Regulations around the flexible use of capital receipts allow the authority to use new capital receipts to fund the revenue costs of Council re-structuring which will generate savings in future years. This is subject to the Council approval of a policy on the flexible use of capital receipts. The Council currently has no proposal to make use of these flexibilities.

Section 2 – Selecting, Approving and Monitoring Capital Schemes

13. The Importance of Capital Business Cases

The processes described in the following section are to be regarded as the authority's formal procedures for setting and monitoring capital projects. This process has been developed to ensure that the Council's capital programme contains schemes which are in line with objectives, meet its asset management requirements and are both affordable and deliverable. This process will give elected members confidence that decisions they are being asked to make regarding the capital programme have been based on a sound system of decision making.

All capital schemes to be considered in the capital programme must have been the subject of an evaluation process including a business case to ensure the Council can target its capital resources effectively.

14. Information to be considered in Capital Decision Making

When making decisions as to which schemes are included on the capital programme the presented business case must include information on these main factors.

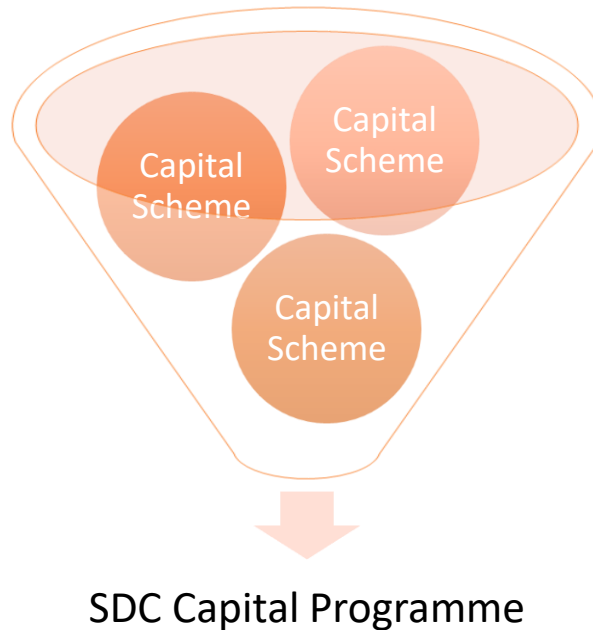
- Financials – All anticipated costs and potential revenue streams must be set out. This should include risk analysis to show factors which may impact upon those numbers and where appropriate sensitivity analysis to show potential future scenarios.
- Strategic Objectives – As discussed capital schemes must meet Council priorities and the ability of a scheme to impact upon objectives must be clearly demonstrated. This should include the wider social and environmental impact of the capital project. This must be accompanied by evidence supporting the conclusions made.
- Capacity - All capital schemes, even those funded by external sources, require officers within the Council to implement them and this must be considered as part of the appraisal process. Where a project requires the procuring of additional resource to deliver the scheme this detail must be included in the financial analysis.
- Deliverability - The success of capital projects depends not just on the financial and non-financial resources of the District Council. External factors which impact on the deliverability of the project should also be considered as part of the planning process.

The purpose of this evaluation process is effectively to act like the image below.

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Appendix A

Ideas for a range of capital schemes should be considered and it is those which best fit the strategic vision of the Council within the financial parameters available which make it onto the Capital Programme.



15. Governance of the Capital Programme

This strategy sets out the governance relationship relating to the capital programme and the respective role of Members and Officers in relation to the decision making process. The roles of the various groups are as follows.

Decision making on the capital programme is likely to be an iterative and often circular process with information flowing both ways between these respective groups.

As an example the following timescale may be followed for producing the capital programme during the main budget setting process. This should not be regarded as definitive as capital projects are often regarded as they arise.

Apr – Jun – Officers produce list of new capital project ideas

July – Strategic Leadership Team assess those to require business cases

September – November – Regeneration and Investment Board work with Officers to select schemes and produce a capital programme.

December – Capital Programme incorporated within overall Council budget. Service Committees consider their budget for the upcoming year.

February – Budget approved by Strategy and Resources Committee and Council.

Strategy and Resources Committee

- Formally agrees the capital programme
- Receives budget monitoring reports covering financial and non-financial elements of capital schemes

Policy Committees

- Review capital business cases for additions to the programme
- Recommends the capital programme for the following year on to Strategy and Resources Committee

Strategic Leadership Team

- Reviews Business Cases submitted
- Performs initial sift of viable schemes
- Approves proposed list of capital schemes
- Discussions will include Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Section 151 and Head of Property Services

Service Managers / Heads of Service

- Identify priorities and opportunities for capital investment
- Act as, or appoint, project managers to lead on schemes and complete outline business cases

16. In-Year Capital Decisions

Selecting projects to go onto the Capital Programme must remain possible outside of the usual capital budget setting process. The authority needs the flexibility to take advantage of schemes which present themselves at any stage during the year.

Capital schemes presented in year should go through the same appraisal process as schemes considered at budget setting time. The business case must indicate whether they are self-financing (through an external grant or savings/income which meet borrowing costs) or require the commitment of Council resources.

In rare cases there may be insufficient time for a capital purchase to go through the full Committee cycle, such as in the case of an opportunity land purchase. In such an instance where it is above delegated powers of officers the decision will be made by the Section 151 Officer and Head of Paid Service, in consultation with the Chair of Strategy and Resources Committee. This only applies where there is an existing budget approved by full Council which may be used.

Capital schemes fully funded by external grants should not automatically be included on the capital programme without a process of due consideration as even fully funded schemes have a cost in relation to officer time.

17. Monitoring Capital Projects

Effective monitoring of projects is a vital element of good capital governance.

Capital projects are often significant not only in terms of financial resources required but in terms of organisational capacity, impact upon Service delivery and reputational risk. It is therefore vital that there is sufficient monitoring carried out upon schemes to allow stakeholders to be informed of progress and for members and officers to make decisions as required.

In order to meet the requirement Strategic Leadership Team will receive a monitoring report showing the current spend against capital projects at the end of each financial quarter, with an outturn report at year-end. Strategic Leadership Team may then invite project managers for schemes with variances deemed to be significant, either financially or in terms of project progress, to attend the meeting to present a progress report.

Policy Committees will receive information on the progress of capital projects as part of the finance budget monitoring reports already received. Committees may also add specific projects to their work plan should they wish to scrutinise projects in depth.

Schemes requiring additional funding to be committed by the District Council as a result of either changes in cost estimate or extensions of scope will be the subject of a report to, and decision by, both Strategy and Resources Committee and Council. This should be regarded as a key element of a well-managed capital programme.

18. Post Project Evaluation

All Capital Projects must be the subject of a post project evaluation. This must be completed by the Project Manager. This should not be regarded as an onerous process but simply the final stage of good project management. Key findings will be reported to the relevant service Committee. A Corporate Register of completed projects and listed key lessons is to be maintained and managers planning new projects must have due regard for any lessons previously learnt. As part of the year-end closedown process the finance team will request a copy of the completed post project evaluation for all projects which have completed in year.

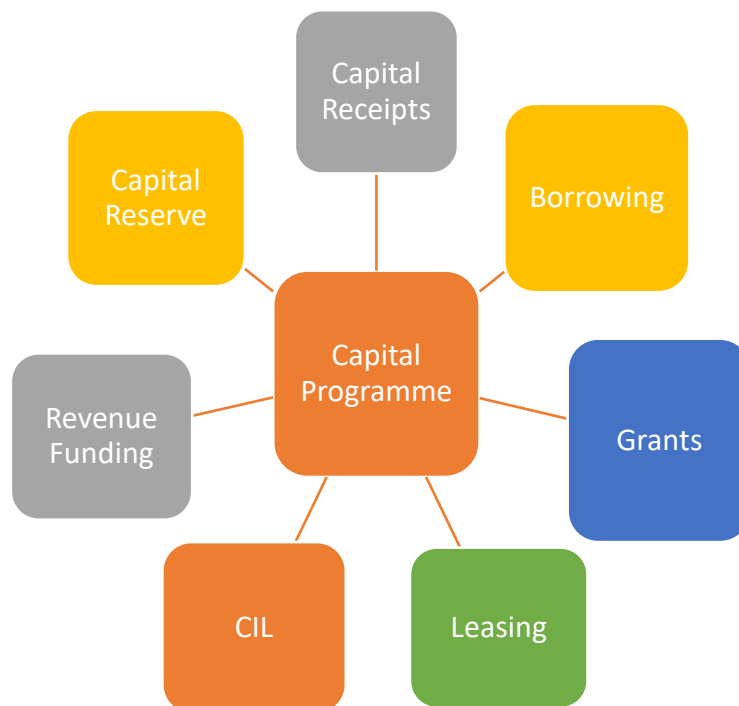
Section 3- Financing the Capital Programme

19. Capital Funding

There are a number of distinct sources of funding which can be utilised to finance capital expenditure. Some funding sources are ring fenced and can only be used for Housing Revenue Account capital expenditure, or a particular capital project. Consideration of funding must be made when projects are at the planning stage. No capital project will be put forward without funding having been identified to complete the project. Where capital schemes are in multiple phases, perhaps requiring an initial development phase to ensure funding for the final phases, this will be considered as part of the planning stage and clearly reported.

Capital funding cannot be used to fund revenue costs which may arise from a capital scheme such as a consultant's costs on feasibility before a project is identified.

The possible options for Capital Financing are shown in the table diagram below followed by a clarification of the characteristic and potential usage of each one.



20. SDC Resources

Capital Receipts

The sale of assets with a value of more than £20,000 generates income known as capital receipts. Legislation requires these to be spent on either new capital investment or the

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Appendix A

repayment of existing debt. The government is allowing some flexibility in the use of capital receipts up until 31 March 2022 to fund revenue costs of transformation projects where these are expected to generate revenue savings in future years (See Section 12).

HRA Right to Buy compulsory sale of council houses generate receipts that may be retained to cover the cost of transacting the sales and to cover outstanding debt on the property sold, but a proportion of the remainder must be surrendered to Central Government.

All other HRA capital receipts may be retained provided they are spent on affordable housing, regeneration or paying off housing debt.

General Fund capital receipts can be retained in full. These can arise from the sale of land and buildings, vehicles, plant and equipment, and also through the repayment of loans or grants.

An active asset management planning process is needed to review the asset requirements of the Council and therefore to identify surplus assets which may be sold to generate capital receipts.

Capital Reserve

Reserves are set aside from revenue resources and earmarked for particular purposes. The capital reserve is earmarked to be used to finance properly authorised capital schemes. At any one time, some or all of the capital reserve will be earmarked to finance part of the current year and future years' capital programme.

Leasing

One way of acquiring new assets is to lease. This is commonly used to procure lower value assets that may be below the £20,000 de minimis level for treating as capital expenditure, for example small vehicles or photocopiers. The cost of leasing should always be compared with other means of financing, in recent years it has not been the most cost effective source of capital funding.

For accounting year 2022-23 a technical distinction between finance leases and operating leases will end with the introduction of IFRS16. This will mean an increase in the Council's CFR, an increase in property, plant and equipment long term assets totals on the balance sheet, together with a corresponding long term liability representing the principal element of future lease payments. For Stroud District Council the impact for current leased assets is assessed to be immaterial with the only assets affected photocopiers, some leased vehicles and some leased-in land used as part of two car parks. The de-minimis level will further limit the already low impact. Detailed calculations will be required during 2022-23 financial year for disclosures, and accounting entries required for that year. There will be no impact on costs or cash flows for the Council, the impact will be of a presentational and compliance nature.

Prudential Borrowing

The Council is able to borrow money on the money market or from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) to fund capital schemes. A preferential PWLB certainty rate of interest is allocated to Councils who apply for it, and it is the policy of this Council to take advantage of the certainty rate each year.

For all schemes initially funded from borrowing, the Council will have to fund the repayment and interest costs as there is no longer any central government “supported borrowing” allocations and related revenue support.

The Council is only able to borrow for “unsupported borrowing” (also known as Prudential Borrowing) under the guidance contained in the CIPFA Prudential Code whereby, in summary, the Council is required to ensure that all borrowing is both prudent and affordable. All schemes funded from prudential borrowing are approved by full Council. As part of the Treasury Management Strategy each year full Council approves a limit for affordable borrowing and capital schemes will be considered in the light of that limit.

As required by the 2021 Prudential Code this Council states it will not undertake capital investments that are primarily for financial return and finance them with borrowing, as this would breach the prohibition of borrowing to invest for financial return.

21. External Funding

Capital Grant from Government or Government Agency

Central government and government agencies provide capital grant funding that can be either ring fenced or non-ring fenced. Examples of ring fenced grants that the Council has received are disabled facilities grants (DFG’s) and Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) canal project funding.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

Any monies received from developers for infrastructure from the Community Infrastructure Levy will not be allocated to a specific service but will be allocated under the CIL arrangements (“the Regulation 123 List”) in line with Council’s capital scheme priorities.

The process for allocating CIL funds will be in accordance with the process agreed by Strategy and Resources Committee.

Section 106 Agreements

Developer consents may attract Section 106 funding to spend on a particular asset or site as an alternative to CIL.

Capital contributions from partner organisation

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Appendix A

When capital projects are devised it is open for project managers to invite funding from a range of partner organisations. Partner organisations in recent years have included Gloucestershire County Council, Stroud Town Council, Cotswold Canals Trust and Friends of the Cowle Museum.

Revenue contributions

Services who are leading a capital project may make savings within their revenue budgets during a particular year and in some circumstances use that saving to part-fund a capital project.

22. Policy on use of Capital Funding

The Council will look to use external funding sources where possible to meet the funding requirements of its capital programme.

Where the use of SDC resources are required the authority will look to utilise reserves, revenue funding or capital receipts as these create no long term revenue cost implications on the Council.

Borrowing will be used as the last possible source of funding and should be restricted only to those schemes which generate sufficient savings or income to meet the costs of interest and the Minimum Revenue Provision.

Any borrowing incurred to support the provision of new build housing within the Housing Revenue Account must be demonstrated to be affordable over a period of 30 years.

Major Sources of Funding for the Capital Programme – Risks and Restrictions

General fund Receipts	HRA Receipts	Capital Reserve	Revenue Funding	Borrowing	Grant funding / S106
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions - Used for capital expenditure or debt repayment only • Risks - Can only be used once 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May only be used on the HRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions - None. Also usable on revenue expenditure • Risks - Can only be used once. Decision required as to best use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions - None • Risks - Decision required as to best use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions - For capital expenditure only. Must be within affordable limit set by Council. Not for capital investments. • Risks - Creates an ongoing MRP and interest liability over the life of the asset 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restriction - Dependent on grant conditions • Risks - Objectives set out by third party. Not in line with SDC priorities.

23. Relationship between Capital Strategy and Treasury Management

Treasury management refers to the processes of managing and reporting on the Council's performance in matters of investment and borrowing.

The Council's policy on Treasury Management has numerous links to the Capital Strategy. It is not intended that this Strategy replace the reporting requirements of the Treasury Management Strategy and includes a summary of the major points of that strategy and associated governance processes.

Key Treasury decisions are the responsibility of full Council and are contained within the Treasury Management Strategy.

These include

- Approved limits on borrowing
- Limits for investment types and counterparty limits
- Planned capital expenditure
- Estimates for the future Capital Financing Requirement
- Policy on the Minimum Revenue Provision

Detailed discussion on these matters is delegated to the Audit and Standards Committee who then make recommendations on to full Council.

The key impact of a capital programme using borrowing is the creation of a "Capital Financing Requirement" (CFR). The CFR represents the need to borrow external funds as a result of expenditure funded through borrowing. Having a CFR creates the need for a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), a sum to be put to one side each year from the General Fund for repayment of debt.

The Council's MRP policy is to make provision for the repayment of debt equally over the life of the asset that the borrowing relates to.

The current projections of General Fund MRP are shown in the table below.

	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000
Opening CFR	15,202	16,906	16,670	19,948	19,279
Borrowing	2,805	805	4,493	502	87
Budgeted MRP	(1,101)	(1,041)	(1,215)	(1,171)	(1,122)
Closing CFR	16,906	16,670	19,948	19,279	18,244

The Treasury Strategy approved in February 2021 sets out the following limits for borrowing. These will be revised by as part of the Treasury Management Strategy to be considered by Council in February 2022.

	2021/22 (£m)	2022/23 (£m)	2023/24 (£m)
Authorised Debt Limit	143	150	153

The Audit and Standards Committee receive at a minimum a mid-year monitoring report for Treasury management and an end of year outturn report. Where circumstances require, such as a material fall in the value of investments, a report would be prepared and presented to the next meeting of the Committee by the S151 Officer.

Section 4- Risk Management

24. Embedding Risk Management in the Capital Programme

The Capital Strategy must be considered alongside the principles of risk management. Risks are inevitable within a capital programme, as with all aspects of Council operations, and effective management of risk is a vital part of the capital strategy.

The Council has a pre-existing “Risk Management Policy Statement & Strategy” which sets out the authority’s approach to risk and risk management. All principles included within that document should be considered as embedded within the Capital Strategy.

For the purpose of clarity, the Risk Management Policy Statement is repeated here

The Council is committed to securing **effective risk management** as part of its responsibility to deliver effective public services within its district.

It acknowledges that effective risk management **helps strengthen its capacity and ability to efficiently meet its corporate priorities and core business.**

In managing its risks, SDC commits to:

(a) Operate in a **culture of creativity and innovation, rather than risk avoidance;**
and

(b) Act consistently within recognised best practice to **identify, evaluate and secure the proportionate control of its risks.**

The types of risk the authority is exposed to in the Capital Programme are summarised below;

- Financial Risk – The risk of significant cost overruns or income generation not performing as expected. The authority has a low appetite for this risk as it would impact upon available resources. Mitigation will be in the form of close scrutiny of capital spending through the budget monitoring process.
- Strategic Risk – The risk of not delivering key Council priorities or projects. Mitigation will be in the form of careful selection and planning of capital projects before commencement and project managers reviewing project progress and taking

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Appendix A

corrective action where necessary. Major changes in the outcomes of schemes will be reported to the appropriate Committee.

- Governance risk – The risk of capital spending decisions not being appropriately considered and decisions not being made at the correct level. Mitigation is the governance principles contained within the capital strategy.
- Resourcing risk – The risk that insufficient funds are available to fund the capital programme or that the incorrect type of funds is applied to capital projects. This is mitigated by the financing of capital projects being reviewed by the S151 Officer as part of the budget setting and the outturn.

25. Knowledge and Skills within the organisation

The Capital Programme is developed and monitored within the finance team by professionally qualified accountants who are required to undertake Continuing Professional Development to ensure their knowledge remains relevant. They have many years of experience in managing local authority capital programmes.

The Property Services team has officers of multiple disciplines who are experienced at leading capital projects, managing the Council's property portfolio and working within the local property market. They have experience of dealing with acquisitions, disposals, new commercial and residential development and redevelopment of brownfield sites. The team of Chartered Surveyors are required to undertake Continuing Professional Development to retain their membership of the RICS.

Legal Services will be provided by One Legal who will form a key part of the decision making around Capital projects. All solicitors are required to complete an annual Statement of Competence to the regulatory body to ensure any professional training needs are identified and addressed.

Where necessary external advice may be sought for all types of financial, property and legal advice. These costs, or at least appropriate estimates, will be included in the business cases of capital schemes.

Officers will work with members to ensure that training needs for elected members are appropriately identified. As a minimum annual training will be provided around the Treasury Management Strategy.

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	General Fund Budget 2022/23, Capital Programme and Medium-Term Financial Plan			
Purpose of Report	To consider the Council's financial position over the medium term and set a budget requirement and the level of council tax for 2022/23.			
Decision(s)	<p>As recommended by Strategy and Resources Committee, Council RESOLVES:</p> <p>a) to approve the updated Medium-Term Financial Plan as set out in Appendices A-E</p> <p>b) to increase the council tax by £5 to £222.52 at Band D, an increase of less than 10p per week for the services provided by Stroud District Council;</p> <p>c) to note the uncertainty around the impact of changes to future local government funding</p> <p>d) to approve the Capital Programme, as set out in Appendix F</p> <p>e) to approve the planned changes to the reserves as set out in Section 4 of the report and Appendix G</p> <p>f) to approve the fees and charges policy and list of Council fees and charges as set out in Appendices H and I.</p> <p>In addition to the recommendations from the Strategy and Resources Committee, Council RESOLVES:</p> <p>g) To approve the Council Tax Charges for the District as set out in Appendix J.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual consultation with residents and businesses • Budget Holders on budgets and savings • Committees and Council on Council Plan 			
Report Author	Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	The Committee may choose to make alternative budget recommendations to Council			
Background Papers	DLUHC Provisional Finance Settlement; Service Committee Revenue Estimates			
Appendices	Appendix A – Medium Term Financial Plan Appendix B – Changes in Budget Appendix C – Council Plan Additions Appendix D – Budget Summary Appendix E – Committee Budgets Appendix F – Capital Programme Appendix G – Earmarked Reserves Appendix H – Fees and Charges Policy Appendix I – Fees and Charges 2022/23 Appendix J – Council Tax Setting			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

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1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Council approved the Budget Strategy to 2026 at its meeting on 21 October 2021. This agreed the framework for the budget setting process in advance of the detailed budget work being undertaken by the authority.
- 1.2 The following report sets out the details of the Authority's Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) for the period 2021/22 – 2025/26. Each section of the report is laid out to focus on a specific area of the budget.
- 1.3 The MTFP for the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) have been prepared in tandem and should be regarded as the overall financial strategy for the Council. The information is delivered within two separate reports for the purposes of clarity of decision making only.
- 1.4 The report is structured as follows;
 - Estimates of Major Funding
 - Adjustments to Revenue Budget
 - The Medium-Term Financial Position and planned use of reserves
 - Capital Programme
 - Statement of Chief Financial Officer
- 1.5 Appendix A sets out the summary of the Council's Medium-Term Financial Plan. It shows adjustments to the plan as well as the estimates of major funding sources and movement on key reserves.
- 1.6 Appendix B shows all the identified savings and pressures over the life of the plan. Each figure represents a change to the base budget.
- 1.7 Appendix C is a summary of the additional items included within the budget related to projects supporting the new Council Plan.
- 1.8 Appendix D sets out a summary of the total revenue expenditure budget for 2022/23.
- 1.9 Appendix E shows the revenue estimates for each committee, with those for Strategy and Resources Committee being shown in detail. The detail behind the other Committee expenditure budgets is included within the service estimates report taken to each Service Committee.
- 1.10 Appendix F shows the planned capital programme for the General Fund and the sources of financing which are estimated in the medium term.
- 1.11 Appendix G shows the impact of the Medium-Term Financial Plan on the earmarked reserves within the General Fund.
- 1.12 Appendix H is the fees and charges policy setting out how the Council considers fees and charges, with the new list of charges being shown at Appendix I.
- 1.13 Appendix J shows a breakdown of the Council Tax charges in the District, including parishes. This appendix has been simplified from previous years to show the key

information. Gloucestershire County Council sets its Council Tax on February 16th. If there any changes from their draft levels at that meeting a written update will be provided to Stroud Councillors at the meeting on February 17th.

- 1.14 There are no changes to billing as a result of the £150 Council Tax rebate scheme announced by Central Government as part of the package to support households with energy bills. Although described as a rebate, this will be a payment scheme outside of the Council Tax process and bills are not adjusted.

2. ESTIMATES OF MAJOR FUNDING

2.1 The provisional local government financial settlement for 2022/23 was announced on December 16th, 2021. As has been the trend in the most recent years the settlement covers a single year period. Therefore, funding estimates can be made with some certainty for that year, but there is still no information on the position after that point. This inevitably makes budgeting for the medium term extremely challenging. The main features of the provisional settlement affecting Stroud are

- A confirmation of a £5 Band D increase referendum limit for Council Tax for Shire District authorities
- “Negative RSG” – representing the fourth year of cuts from a previous four-year settlement, continues to be funded by Central Government
- The reset of Business Rates Growth has been delayed by a further, likely final, year
- An additional year of New Homes Bonus grant has been awarded
- Two additional non-ringfenced grants have been awarded.

2.2 The settlement is still provisional at the time of writing. However, no significant changes are expected from the final settlement when it is released. Any material change to funding numbers in the MTFP would be updated at that point if required.

2.3 The impact of the settlement is explained in the paragraphs below and show in the MTFP at Appendix A.

2.4 The provisional settlement includes a commitment from government that future funding allocations will be based on an up-to-date assessment of needs and resources. This data has not been refreshed since 2013/14 so is overdue an assessment. DLUHC will be working with the local government sector to update this system and will then consult upon the changes.

2.5 This effectively restarts the process previously known as the “Fair Funding Review”, by which funding will be redistributed across local government. It is generally accepted that this will mean funds moving from District Councils to Upper Tier authorities with more acute funding pressures. Estimates within the MTFP, most particularly around the Business Rates figures, include some early estimates of the impact of this review.

2.6 Although we are likely to see a fall in our funding as a result of this review, it has been stated that there will be a scheme of transitional support to smooth the reduction. There is no indication at this stage as to the form that this may take. The Council’s funding advisors have made some preliminary estimates, and these are included in the figures for Business Rates retention within the MTFP.

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Council Tax

- 2.7 The provisional settlement included a provision for District Councils to increase their Band D Council Tax by the higher of 2% or £5 for the 2022/23 year. This contrasts with upper tier authorities who are permitted increases of 3%. Police Forces have been permitted increases of £10 for a Band D Property.
- 2.8 In line with the decision from Council in October 2021, the Medium-Term Financial Plan includes an increase of £5 which represents an increase of 2.3%. Council will be considering, alongside the budget papers, a continuation of the Local Council Tax Support Scheme. This scheme will still provide 100% support for those who are not able to pay their Council Tax bills.
- 2.9 The Budget Strategy included an assumption that the Council Tax base would increase by 1.5%. This has been a good measure for the District in the past although growth for 2021/22 was only 1.17% as a result of the pandemic impact.
- 2.10 Actual tax base growth for 2022/23 has been confirmed as 1.9%. This additional housing growth over the 1.5% estimate represents approximately 184 properties at Band D level and therefore generates an additional £41k per annum in Council Tax income.
- 2.11 The Council Tax base has been calculated using a collection rate of 99%, reflecting historic high performance in Stroud in the collection of Council Tax. Although the pandemic has had an impact on collection rates and arrears, it is still judged to be appropriate to use this rate at the present time.
- 2.12 In 2021/22 the Council was awarded a “Local Council Tax Support” grant of £174k to reflect the impact of additional support claims on the Council Tax base. This grant was for one year only and will not be received in 2022/23.
- 2.13 The Council is carrying a deficit in its Collection Fund related to lost income from Council Tax in 2020/21. This was 75% funded by Central Government. At the end of the 2020/21 year an earmarked reserve was set up to cover this deficit over a three-year period. The MTFP at Appendix A shows the latest Council Tax deficit and the use of the reserve to fund it.

Business Rates

- 2.14 As mentioned in 2.1 the settlement includes confirmation that Business Rates growth is not being reset in 2022/23. This had previously been highlighted as a possibility in the Budget Strategy. The impact of this is that funding is retained within the District that would otherwise have been redistributed elsewhere.
- 2.15 The figures for retained business rates have therefore been recalculated for the next financial year. As reported in the Budget Strategy, the delayed growth reset leads to additional income being retained in 2022/23 and the estimated retained rates figure is now shown in Appendix A.
- 2.16 The Business Rates retention system is the main lever through which the government can redistribute funding nationally. This is, therefore, likely to be the method through which not only growth is reset, but the results of the fair funding review are implicated. Business Rates forecasts from 2023/24 onwards are an estimate based on modelled potential impacts of the review. When more clarity about future years is available it will be reported to members.

- 2.17 The multiplier by which business rates bills are calculated for businesses has been frozen by Central Government for the upcoming year. This means that there will be no inflationary increase on business rates bills. Councils are to be compensated for this loss of income through a direct grant, and the estimated rates income within the MTFP includes the current estimate of this amount.

- 2.18 The Gloucestershire Business Rates Pool will continue to operate in 2022/23 as a result of the delayed growth reset. In line with the approach used in previous years, no pool income is included in the base budget as the level of funding available cannot be confirmed until the outturn position at the end of the financial year. As in previous years the amount received, and the allocation of the funding, will be considered by Strategy and Resources Committee as part of the outturn report process.

- 2.19 As with Council Tax, Business Rates had a Collection Fund deficit at year end 2020/21. This was created by the significant Business Rates holidays awarded last year. Central Government funding was received to cover this cost and Appendix A shows both the Collection Fund deficit and the reserve funding being used to offset.

New Homes Bonus

- 2.20 It had previously been assumed that New Homes Bonus (NHB) would contribute only £218k of funding in 2022/23. This is because this was expected to be the final year of legacy payments under the old system. Central Government had consulted on a replacement system for incentivising housing growth but there had been no further announcements from DLUHC.

- 2.21 The provisional settlement actually included one additional payment of NHB to reflect the housing growth between 2020 and 2021. This additional year of growth is the largest single year of New Homes Bonus that Stroud has ever received at 1.213million. This gives a total allocation for the year, including the legacy payment, of £1.431 million.

- 2.22 This large grant year is the product of housing growth within the District and a reduction in the number of long-term empty properties. The central government calculation of New Homes Bonus records that an additional 685 homes have been completed in the District (1.9% Band D equivalent increase) and the number of long-term empty properties has fallen by 291 from 866 to 575 (34%).

- 2.23 The future of New Homes Bonus is to be included as part of the review on the future of local government funding referred to in Paragraph 2.4. It is highly likely that the grant in its current form will be phased out and the MTFP therefore continues to assume no further funding from this source after 2022/23.

Other non-ringfenced grants

- 2.24 In 2021/22 the Government awarded District Councils a grant to reflect the particular cost pressures of providing lower tier services. This lower tier services grant was worth £105k to Stroud. Although this grant was expected to be for one year only it has been extended to 2022/23 and our new allocation is £111k.

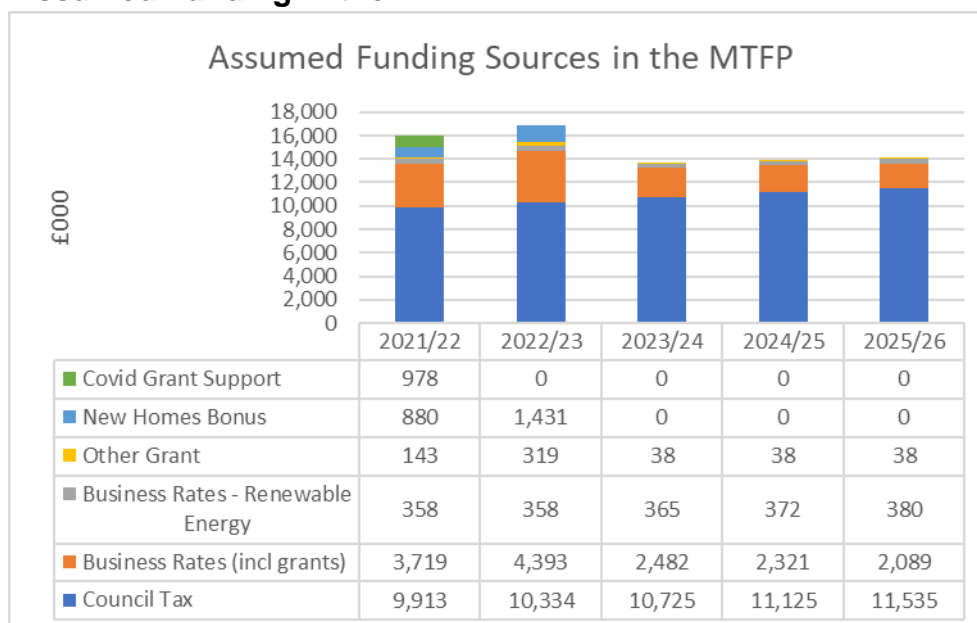
- 2.25 There is further grant funding available in the form of the 2022/23 Services Grant. This represents a portion of the £1.5 billion pound national allocation announced in the Autumn 2021 Budget to support Local Government. The allocation for Stroud is £170k and the provisional settlement is very clear that that this funding is for one year only. The

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settlement also states that this grant will not form part of any transitional support system once the review of local government funding has taken place. However, the money is expected to remain within the overall local government funding envelope and be reallocated through an alternative method.

- 2.26 The system of Covid support grants to reflect the general cost of Covid response, and lost fees and charges income has now ended. There is no therefore no specific grant support included in the MTFP for 2022/23 and onwards.
- 2.27 The sources of funding included within the MTFP are summarised in the table below.

Table 1 – Assumed Funding in the MTFP



3. ADJUSTMENTS TO REVENUE BUDGET IN FUTURE YEARS

- 3.1 The following section sets out the most significant changes which have been made in the 2022/23 budget. For the purposes of this report additional allocations of budget, or reductions in income targets are referred to as “pressures”. An increase in income targets or reduction in expenditure budgets are referred to as “savings”.

Recurring Budget Changes

- 3.2 There are a number of inflationary changes which have an impact over the life of the MTFP and these are included as annual adjustments. In the national economy inflation is currently a significant issue (CPI is 5.4% at the time of writing). This inevitably makes forecasting a challenge, and inflation is likely to have a number of impacts which aren't known at this point. This may particularly be the case in the capital programme where the cost of materials is a major driver.
- 3.3 The local government pay award negotiations nationally are still not resolved for 2021/22 and there has been no progress on 2022/23. This means that forecasts for both years are still subject to great uncertainty. The MTFP includes an additional allocation for the 2021/22 award of £79k per annum to reflect the fact that it will certainly be above the budgeted 1%. An increase of £273k, representing 2.5% is included for the upcoming year.

- 3.4 A number of supplier contracts have increased in price and a budget allowance of £313k is include for 2022/23 year. The largest increase is with Ubico where impacts of inflation and the need to increase market supplements to mitigate staffing pressures are felt.
- 3.5 The Ubico contract sum for next year of £6,921,808 also includes an increase for additional recycling and street cleaning rounds as a result of the increase in the number of houses across the district. The table below, reproduced from the Environment Committee budget report, summarises the changes in the contract.

Table 2 – Changes in the Ubico Contract

	£000
Opening Budget	6,379
New Rounds	228
Market Supplement	74
Pay Inflation	173
General Vehicle Costs	68
Premises Insurance	(25)
Corporate Support	24
2022/23 Budget	6,921

- 3.6 The Council's contracts for Utilities must be renewed part way through 2022. It is expected that the costs will increase considerably based upon the current energy market. Assumptions of a 50% increase for gas and a 40% increase for electricity have been included.
- 3.7 The upcoming financial year is the final year of a three-year programme to reduce the Council's contribution to the Gloucestershire Pension Fund. This was based upon the recommended contribution level set by the actuary to the fund. At the time of writing the process of renewing the contribution levels for the upcoming financial years is about to begin. At this early stage of discussions it seems likely that contributions will remain stable at the new reduced level and the MTFP has been prepared on that basis.
- 3.8 The budget process has again included a review of fees and charges across the organisation and the compiling of a comprehensive document including all of the Council's charges. This is included at Appendix I. As per the Budget Strategy charges have been increased on average by 3% resulting in anticipated extra income of £102k. This income is used to meet inflationary pressures in providing chargeable services. Although the level of inflation is higher than the fee increase, it has not been deemed necessary to further increase fees and charges above the 3% level.
- 3.9 Environment Committee agreed a freezing of the charge for the garden waste service in reflection of the increases in recent years (although it was also frozen for the current year) and the growth in subscribers to the service. The charge will be reviewed again as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process.
- 3.10 The fees and charges policy document, setting out in full the Council's process for setting fees and charges, along with the governance process, is included at Appendix H.

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- 3.11 Borrowing Costs are anticipated to increase across the life of the Medium-Term Financial Plan. This is a result of the capital programme investment in a number of areas, most significantly the Canal and Brimscombe Port. The Council's Treasury Management Strategy has a policy of maximising internal cash resources before taking on any new external borrowing.
- 3.12 Although the Bank of England base rate has recently increased to 0.25% there is no significant expectation of increased return on investment in the upcoming financial year. The Council's pooled funds continue to deliver good returns, and this is included in budgeted investment income. During the lifetime of the MTFP the capital gains these pooled returns have experienced will become part of usable reserves and the MTFP will be revised to reflect that position at that point.

Additional Budget Allocations – Pressure on Existing Services

- 3.13 The Budget Process carried out includes a review of all budgets based upon current services pressures and budget monitoring forecast. Many areas are still seeing additional pressures in relation to pandemic response which is often reflected in financial monitoring. The Medium-Term Financial Plan includes a number of budget adjustments to reflect these circumstances. These are shown in Appendix B and the details of the major changes are recorded in the paragraphs below.
- 3.14 Additional budget has been included to meet the cost of supported accommodation which falls upon the General Fund as costs are in excess of housing subsidy received. This issue was reported in the Budget Strategy and has been included at the £200k p.a. anticipated at that point. This will be closely monitored throughout the upcoming financial year.
- 3.15 Also included within the Budget Strategy was a £50k per annum allowance for IT software to reflect increasing costs, particularly as the Council enhances its digital offer. This increase is included in the final MTFP as part of this budget.
- 3.16 The increase in the number of properties in the District over the last few years has seen gradual increases in the expenditure on replacement bins and recycling receptacles each year. This has reached the point where an additional budget allocation is required and a sum of £68k per annum on an ongoing basis has been included. This is funded through the higher than anticipated Council Tax base and the New Homes Bonus. The spend will be monitored in 2022/23 and the budget reviewed again if necessary.
- 3.17 The One Legal Partnership, of which Stroud is a member, has reviewed the Senior Staffing Structure in the current year. This is to allow the service to continue to develop as the basic structure has not changed from the original two partner model. An additional Director of One Legal post has been created at the same time as a business development role. This structure has been considered by the Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group which oversees the partnership. The additional cost has been shared amongst the four partner authorities equally and £61k per annum has been included in the MTFP.
- 3.18 As referenced in 3.13 a number of services have seen staffing pressures across the year and additional budget has been included to reflect changed staffing profiles and the need to meet Council Plan commitments. These are listed in Appendix B. The sum relating to the planning team is partly composed of an allocation to increase the resource available for planning enforcement roles to assist with recruitment of staff.

- 3.19 At its meeting on 2nd December 2021 the Community Services and Licensing Committee agreed a revision to the community grant Scheme for the upcoming year. This scheme is being awarded from the existing sums in the budget for grants and therefore no budget adjustments are required within the MTFP.

Additional Budget Allocations – Council Plan Priorities

- 3.20 The Council Plan, approved in October 2021, sets out the Council priorities for the next five years. That document should be regarded as an integral part of the Medium-Term financial planning process. To be successful the MTFP must be fully aligned with the Council Plan by providing the necessary funds for key projects whilst at the same time providing a financially stable position for the Council to operate on.
- 3.21 The majority of the Council Plan commitments are carried out through the work of existing teams and resources. However, there are a number of areas where additional resource is required to accelerate progress.
- 3.22 Appendix C sets out the investments that have been made as part of this budget into the Council Plan priorities. These are separated out by Council Plan objective. The investments made are a mixture of time limited resources and increases to the base budget. All are fully funded for the life of this Medium-Term Financial Plan.
- 3.23 The additions to the base budget are a new post for enhancing Biodiversity in the District and a change in the structure of the HR team. The Council already has biodiversity capacity across a number of teams and an additional dedicated resource has been added to increase the strategic capacity. For the HR team the resource has been added to create scope to work on organisation development across the Council, but also promote skills and training to others. The existing HR team had no resource for that work and was supported by consultants in the recent modernisation work on organisational culture. Investing in the team will remove the need for that consultancy support.
- 3.24 Included within the Council Plan items is the resource agreed by Strategy and Resources Committee to support economic development work. Until recent appointments the Council had been without a permanent resource in this area. This funding is now included within the budget. When Strategy and Resources Committee consider the Economic Development Strategy post consultation, they will also consider an action plan including commitments against that funding.
- 3.25 There are further increases in relation to the 2030 Strategy. The money to fund two environmental projects officers is extended and there is further additional funding put to one side of £135k to fund the works of the CN2030 Action Plan. It is vital that financial resources are available to support the 2030 Strategy and this is a further investment in that work. This may include projects relating to fuel poverty, air quality monitoring and electric vehicle charging.

Savings for the 2022/23 Year

- 3.26 It is vital that any budgeting process considers not just new resources to commit to priorities but also savings adjustments that can be made to budgets. A number of these have been identified for the upcoming years and these are also shown in Appendix B.
- 3.27 As has previously been agreed by Council, arrangements are being made to share a Monitoring Officer post with another authority. A saving has therefore been included to

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represent half of the budgeted cost of the Monitoring Officer post (£45k). Recruitment of a permanent Monitoring Officer is still expected to take place in 2022.

- 3.28 There is a saving of £298k from an increase in the support service income received in the General Fund from the HRA. This saving is in part due to the pay and non-pay uplifts included across all council services, which the HRA must pay a proportionate share of. It also includes contributions towards IT equipment, pension costs, and the HRA's share of the Fit for the Future project. Included within the net figure is the General Fund paying the HRA an increased sum for the work of the Housing Advice team.
- 3.29 The income from planning applications has been above targets throughout the current financial year. Therefore, in the budget process the income target has been increased by £67k which represents a budget saving.
- 3.30 Income related to waste and recycling has been higher than anticipated in the current year. This relates to both the sale of recyclable material and recycling credits. A saving has therefore been introduced into the plan in anticipation of these income levels being sustained in the upcoming year.

4. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN AND THE USE OF RESERVES

- 4.1 The budget proposed within this report and appendices is in line with the Council's legal requirement to set a balanced budget.
- 4.2 The General Fund equalisation reserve has been a core part of the Medium-Term Financial Plan for a number of years. Holding funds previously from the General Fund balance, this reserve is intended to allow the time to make informed saving decisions, at such time as the fair funding review is completed and the medium-term financial position is known.
- 4.3 The delays for the Fair Funding Review, first announced in 2018, mean that this reserve continues to be held to help with the funding adjustment when it occurs. As shown in Appendix A the equalisation reserve begins to be drawn down over the life of this current plan. This draw down is anticipated to begin in 2023/24 at the point of which the fair funding review is currently anticipated to be implemented. Any savings decisions made will reduce the reliance on the reserve and savings made earlier in the plan will have a greater cumulative impact.
- 4.4 The Collection Fund smoothing reserve was established at the end of the 2020/21 year. Although a significant sum, this holds funding which balances the deficits in the collection funds for both Business Rates and Council Tax arising from the pandemic to give no overall net impact on service budgets. This reserve is drawn down over a three-year period in line with the unwinding of the collection fund deficit.
- 4.5 The Business Rates reserve functions to store, on an annual basis, a portion of the business rates growth above baseline levels. It will then be drawn down as a transitional arrangement to supplement the reduced funding when the rates baselines are reset, and the growth is removed as a funding source. Although the exact timing is not confirmed this reset should be regarded as a definite part of the MTFP, having been a feature of the Business Rates Retention Scheme since its inception in 2013. The balance of this reserve stood at £2.49 million at the end of 2020/21 and a further £500k transfer is planned in 2021/22. Therefore, there is an estimated balance of approximately £3 million at the start of the 2022/23 year.

- 4.6 Although the Budget Strategy initially envisaged a transfer out of the reserve of £800k in 2022/23 to offset the rates reset, this transfer is no longer required. As we have the benefit of one further year of growth before the reset this budget includes a further transfer into the reserve of £500k. This funding can then begin to be drawn down at the point this growth is lost from the base budget.
- 4.7 As confirmed in Paragraph 3.23 the budget now includes the funding to support the Economic Development Strategy. This £386k is held within the Business Rates Pilot reserve which is drawn down to support this work over two years in the MTFP.
- 4.8 An additional £50k of funding is committed towards supporting the bid for money from the Levelling Up Fund. This funding was placed in the Council’s recovery reserve at the end of the 2020/21 year as part of the commitment towards helping the local economy recover from Covid 19. This funding will now be used to resource the bid application.
- 4.9 As in previous years the General Fund working balance remains at £2.169 million throughout the life of the MTFP. This continues to represent approximately 15% of the annual revenue budget.
- 4.10 In the current financial year an income contingency relating to loss of income from Covid-19 was held corporately and is being used to offset income losses. This has allowed the Council to better withstand the pandemic impact than would otherwise have been the case. Although income levels have recovered to some extent in year it is recommended that a similar, although smaller, contingency is held for the upcoming year. This is therefore included in the MTFP at £0.5 million. This will ensure any loss of income does not impact on services or projects. If not required, this contingency can then be released in subsequent budget setting processes.
- 4.11 The MTFP includes £30k in the “welfare reform” reserve. This is a historic reserve available to fund projects helping those most in need of assistance. It is available in the upcoming year, if required, for any projects supporting those in need as a result of rises in the cost of living.
- 4.12 The table below shows the estimated balance of the equalisation reserve over the life of the MTFP.

Table 3 – Balance of the Equalisation Reserve

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
GF equalisation reserve					
Opening	6,846	6,742	6,751	5,606	4,741
Change	(104)	9	(1,145)	(849)	(1,344)
Closing	6,742	6,751	5,606	4,757	3,413

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5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22– 2025/26

- 5.1 The Medium-Term Capital Programme is covered in this section, including descriptions of any major changes to capital schemes or financing requirements. The Capital Strategy is a key component of the financial planning system and the capital programme is produced alongside, and in accordance with that strategy.
- 5.2 The timing of capital programmes across financial years is often subject to variation and scheduling here is set at current best estimates. Variations to timing will be reported as required in future updates to the capital programme. The proposed Capital Programme is set out in the table below with a full list of capital schemes shown in Appendix F.

Table 4 – Capital Programme Summary

Committee	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Community Services and Licensing	147	190	-	-	-
Environment	6,625	7,855	4,337	532	117
Housing (General Fund)	2,721	5,813	365	365	365
Strategy and Resources	1,799	174	3,533	-	-
TOTAL General Fund	11,292	14,032	8,235	897	482
Housing Revenue Account	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436
TOTAL Capital Programme	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012	14,918

- 5.3 The most significant addition to the Capital Programme is the inclusion of the retrofit programme, agreed by Housing Committee, relating to the housing stock. This is funded largely by borrowing, which creates a savings need in the HRA. This is described in greater detail in the HRA Budget Setting report.
- 5.4 The Canal project is included within the capital programme with the costings and Council contribution that form part of the existing budget. The Canal Project Board is currently reviewing all estimated costs and income to produce a revised budget. This will be presented to a future Strategy and Resources Committee and, if necessary, any additional budget asks would need to be recommended on to Council.
- 5.5 The new Council Plan investments at Appendix C include a capital grant to Gloucester City Homes towards the purchase of temporary accommodation within the District which the Council will be able to use to make placements. In line with the Capital Strategy the Housing Committee will consider this business case in February before full Council makes the final decision. The revenue funding needed for this project is included in the MTFP at Appendix B.
- 5.6 The resources needed to fund capital expenditure over the Medium Term are shown in Appendix F.
- 5.7 Borrowing is expected to be a major source of funding for capital over this period. The currently expected borrowing totals are £8.69 million for the General Fund and £31.8 million for the HRA.

- 5.8 Decisions on whether external borrowing or borrowing from internal cash resources are used will be made in line with the Treasury Management Strategy. Both the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account budgets include appropriate revenue provisions for the long-term repayment of debt through the Minimum Revenue Provision and voluntary reserve transfer respectively.
- 5.9 Grants and other external funding received total £25.3 million in the Medium-Term capital programme. This funding received from external sources allows the Authority to continue to develop a large capital programme in comparison to the relative size of the revenue budget. Officers are continuing to work on a number of funding bids and where successful these can be added to the capital budget in year by way of a further Council decision.
- 5.10 The capital reserve, previously set aside as general funding for capital schemes, is budgeted to fund £1.06 million of capital works over the life of the programme. The estimated closing balance unallocated on the reserve is currently £2.1 million. This may be used to fund other capital schemes which arise out of Council Plan priorities.

6. STATEMENT OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

- 6.1 Section 25 of the Local Government Finance Act 2003 places a statutory duty on the Chief Financial Officer to report to the authority, at the time the budget is considered, and the council tax is set, on the robustness of the budget estimates and the adequacy of the financial reserves. The Act requires councillors to have regard to the report in making decisions at the Council's budget and rent setting meetings.
- 6.2 This report primarily focuses on the General Fund and the Capital Programme. My comments in this section relating to the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves should be considered to also apply to the Housing Revenue Account.
- 6.3 The Council has come through the pandemic in a stable financial position. The 2020/21 outturn saw budgeted reserves transfers taking place, and reserves balances have been maintained in line with previous financial plans. Funding has continued to be available to priority services and projects as agreed with members.
- 6.4 There is an inherent risk in the ending of specific Covid support from Central government. As reported to previous Committees this included both general grant funding and compensation for lost fees and charges income. The impact of the pandemic has reduced to such an extent that remaining costs and lost income can be managed through existing SDC resources but Covid impacts must be closely monitored.
- 6.5 It is widely accepted that for a number of years now local government, and in particular Shire Districts, face a very uncertain financial situation with planned local government financial reforms. It is right that Medium Term Financial Plans and approved budgets have been anticipating these impacts for a number of years.
- 6.6 Although these plans have been delayed a number of times we must as an Authority still plan for how to anticipate and respond to their eventual introduction. There is a risk of fatigue in continually expecting reforms that haven't arrived and treating the government reforms less seriously. The financial planning processes in the Council are robust enough to mitigate against the risk but it is something that all should be aware of.
- 6.7 The largest risk as part of those reforms is the reset of Business Rates Growth leading to the reduction of retained business rates income in the MTFP. To put this into some context the Business Rates baseline to be retained for 2022/23 is £2.5m, yet the growth in rates income since the baseline was created means that income of £4.4m has been included in

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the MTFP. Clearly the loss of this growth would have a major impact and there would be a need to reduce service budgets accordingly.

- 6.8 The Council must actively engage with the local government financial reform process and members will be kept briefed on potential outcomes. As well as the business rates reset the development of a system of transitional support will be of particular relevance with the funding reductions currently anticipated.
- 6.9 The HRA has a savings target of approximately £1 million to cover the cost of the retrofit programme. Retrofitting is a key action of the 2030 Strategy but in order to prevent an adverse impact on the rest of the HRA these savings need to be found in future budget setting rounds
- 6.10 The capital programme is ambitious and includes major projects like canal restoration, Brimscombe Port and Hew Build Housing. The Council must continue to closely monitor the capital programme in a time of significant inflation, and reports will be brought back before members to update on progress which may require decisions on varying funding allocations.
- 6.11 The introduction of new reforms is likely to assist our financial planning with the introduction of certainty in the medium term. Should the financial position be in line with current estimates the next budget process must be focused on finding the savings to deliver services and priorities within the new funding envelope for the next Medium Term.
- 6.12 The use of the General Fund equalisation reserve therefore remains a core part of the Plan as it will protect services in the short term and allow sound strategic savings decisions should they be required. The proposed MTFP estimates a balance of £3.4 million at the end of the period leaving the Council still well protected against funding fluctuations.
- 6.13 This report has been written before publication of the anticipated “Levelling Up” white paper and therefore no consideration of potential impacts has been included. Any changes to the Council’s budget strategy arising from that paper would be the subject of a future member decision.
- 6.14 I am satisfied that the estimates within this plan are robust. The budget setting process has involved officers throughout the authority scrutinising existing budgets and future plans. Members have also been involved throughout with each service committee having the opportunity to scrutinise budgets relating to their work areas. The influence of the Covid 10 pandemic is still being felt but the finance team have demonstrated throughout the last two years their ability to monitor and plan for the impact of Covid upon Council budgets.
- 6.15 The level of reserves included is adequate. There are sufficient sums set aside both for priority projects and also for protecting the Council’s position from short term shocks. It remains the case that long-term financial sustainability is dependent on identifying additional savings or revenue streams.
- 6.16 Overall, this budget represents a significant investment into Council priorities with a stable medium-term position. It represents a balanced budget. Nevertheless, the risks and uncertainties after the 2022/23 year and members and officers must be prepared for the impacts of financial reform.

7. IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Financial Implications

The whole report is of a financial nature.

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7.2 Legal Implications

Any legal implications relating to budget setting are set in the body of the report.

One Legal

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7.3 Equality Implications

An EIA is not required because there are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision

7.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category as no specific service changes are proposed.

The Budget as proposed includes allocations for a number of projects which aim to have beneficial environmental impacts. The most significant projects include;

- The housing retrofit programme
- Home Upgrade Grant – Sustainable Warmth
- Green Homes LADS3
- Funding for a new biodiversity officer
- Extending the funding arrangements for carbon reduction officers
- Additional funding for the CN2030 Action Plan.

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Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 - 2025/26

	2021/22 £000	2022/23 £000	2023/24 £000	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000
<u>Budget</u>					
Opening Budget	14,587	14,815	16,751	15,858	15,665
<u>Recurring Changes</u>					
Pay Increases	134	273	260	260	260
NI Increase		109			
Additional Pay Award		79			
Fees and Charges Growth	(66)	(102)	(100)	(100)	(100)
Pensions Changes	(206)	(206)	0	0	0
Contract Increases	65	313	264	200	200
Revised Budget	14,514	15,281	17,175	16,218	16,025
Proposed Budget Adjustments	301	1,470	(1,317)	(553)	61
Building Control Reserve					
Revised Budget	14,815	16,751	15,858	15,665	16,086
<u>Funding</u>					
Council Tax	9,913	10,334	10,725	11,125	11,535
Collection Fund Deficit (Council Tax)	(40)	(85)	(40)	0	0
Business Rates (incl grants)	3,719	4,393	2,482	2,321	2,089
Business Rates - Renewable Energy	358	358	365	372	380
Collection Fund Deficit (Business Rates)	(4,286)	(711)	(48)	0	0
Use of Collection Fund Smoothing Reserve	4,326	796	88	0	0
Other Grant	143	319	38	38	38
New Homes Bonus	880	1,431	0	0	0
Covid Grant Support	978	0	0	0	0
Total Funding	15,991	16,835	13,610	13,857	14,042
Surplus / (Deficit) before Reserves	1,176	84	(2,248)	(1,808)	(2,044)
Movements					
Reserves Movements					
Business Rates Reserve	500	500	(900)	(800)	(700)
Covid Income Contingency		500			
Waste and Recycling Reserve	(181)	(180)		(159)	
Growth and Recovery Reserve Funding	(579)	(745)	(203)		
Estimated Surplus / (Deficit)	1,436	9	(1,145)	(849)	(1,344)
<u>GF Equalisation Reserve</u>					
Opening	6,846	6,742	6,751	5,606	4,757
Change	1,436	9	(1,145)	(849)	(1,344)
Covid Shortfall	(1,540)				
Closing	6,742	6,751	5,606	4,757	3,413

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MTFP Changes

Appendix B

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Pressures					
Pressure on existing services					
Housing Subsidy		200			
IT Software		50			
Ubico contract changes (including new rounds)		355		180	
Drainage Board Levy increase	7	4	7	7	7
Investment income/borrowing costs	205	4	(23)	47	54
Homelessness Grant	(29)		154		
Purchase of bins		68			
One Legal contract		61			
IT salaries		60			
Planning salaries		33			
Democratic Services and Elections salaries		36			
MRP on capital spend	(82)	31	174	(44)	
2021/22 Budget Items - Growth and Recovery	621	(460)	(141)	(20)	
2022/23 Budget Items - Council Plan					
EC1 – Tackling the Climate and Ecological Emergency		266	(266)		
EC2 – Biodiversity		52			
EC 6.3 – Increase the proportion of the fleet powered by zero carbon vehicles		106	(106)		
CW2.3 – Prioritising the prevention of homelessness		102	(102)		
CW 3.2 – Improve Customer Service for Residents		157	(157)		
CW 4.1 – Leisure Strategy		173	(173)		
CW 4.2 – Play areas		330	(330)		
CW 4.5 – Cultural Strategy		111	(111)		
ER1 – Economic Recovery		193		(193)	
ER 3.2 – Developing a Canal Strategy		75	(75)		
ER3.3 – Levelling Up Fund		50	(50)		
ER 4.4 – Skills and Training for All Ages		54	60	(25)	
Crossplan – Fit for the Future		120	(120)		
Total Pressure	932	2,231	(1,259)	(48)	61
Savings					
Planned Savings					
Modernisation Programme	(200)	(150)	(150)	(500)	
Kingshill House	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	
2022/23 Savings					
Planning Income		(67)			
Garden Waste income		(80)			
Recycling income and credits		(106)	106		
Charges to/from HRA		(298)			
Monitoring Officer (shared arrangement)		(45)			
Temporary Accommodation		(9)	(9)		
Other adjustments (net)	(27)	(1)			
Total Saving	(631)	(761)	(58)	(505)	0
Net Changes	301	1,470	(1,317)	(553)	61

Note: For conciseness individual rows have been omitted where the changes only impact 2021/22 and so the breakdown will not add up to the 2021/22 totals shown.

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Allocations of New Specific Budget to Council Plan

The following tables represent those additional items within the Medium-Term Financial Plan which are specifically new investments linked to the Council Plan. Council Plan objectives are listed but in many cases the investment will benefit multiple individual objectives as part of cross Council working.

For the most part the Council Plan is supported by the work of existing officers. As the Plan progresses over five years additional resource requirements will be identified.

Sums below represent allocations of budget. Individual service committees will take ownership of completion of the projects within their areas of expertise.

To encourage cross Council working projects are funded across the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account. A summary of the allocations across is as follows.

Council Plan Objective	Detail of Investment	Budget Allocation £k	Funding
General Fund			
EC1 – Tackling the Climate and Ecological Emergency	To extend the additional temporary officer capacity to drive implementation of the CN 2030 strategy and associated actions, focused on the Council’s own activities and operations as well as community and partnership orientated work	131	Investment into the climate change reserve
	Creating an additional fund available to support climate change projects through the life of the 2030 Plan	135	
EC2 -Biodiversity	The creation of a dedicated officer post to work with local communities and partners to protect and enhance the district’s green infrastructure and biodiversity	52	Ongoing base budget
EC 6.3 – Increase the proportion of the fleet powered by zero carbon vehicles	Additional funding for the fleet delivering the Ubico contract to replace three diesel vehicles with electric equivalents	106	Income from sale of recyclable materials
CW2.3 – Prioritising the prevention of homelessness	A capital grant to support the purchase of suitable accommodation within the Stroud District for those in need of temporary accommodation to prevent homelessness	102	New Homes Bonus
CW 3.2 – Improve Customer Service for Residents	Additional temporary support to March 2024 for the Customer Services Team to improve Community Access and Engagement as part of the modernisation programme	157	New Community Engagement Fund
CW 4.5 – Cultural Strategy	Provide additional officer and consultancy support to March 2024 to begin the work on a cultural strategy and ensure capacity to begin this priority.	111	Investment into the Culture and Leisure Reserve
CW 4.1 Leisure Strategy CW 4.3 Healthy Lifestyles	Officer Capacity and Consultancy to deliver new leisure management contract and the healthy lifestyles scheme.	173	Temporary increase in base budgets
CW 4.2 - Play areas	Production and delivery of children’s Play Areas Strategy, including community consultation and capital investment	330	COMF Funding (GCC and SDC)

Council Plan Objective	Detail of Investment	Budget Allocation £k	Funding
ER1 – Economic Recovery	Inclusion within the Budget of sums previously earmarked by Strategy and Resources Committee. This will include support for the Economic Development Strategy and a new Tourism Post.	386	Business Rates Pool Reserve
ER 3.2 – Developing a Canal Strategy	Creation of a fund to support the action plan being developed after the adoption of the Canal Strategy	75	Investment into Canal Reserve
ER3.3 – Levelling Up Fund	A pot of funding to support the development of a bid for the levelling up fund. If successful further resource will be considered to support implementation.	50	Recovery reserve
ER 4.4 – Skills and Training for All Ages	The Council's HR team had no in house Organisational Development capacity and has been supported by Consultants throughout the Fit for the Future programme. Investing in an inhouse resource will greater support staff and this Council Plan objective.	114	Investment in base budget. Reduces by £25k after two years
Crossplan – Fit for the Future	Additional investment into the Council's modernisation programme to support the fully costed plan. Includes sufficient resource for Programme Management, Digital Platform and Community Engagement	120	Transformation Reserve
Total General Fund		2,042	
Housing Revenue Account			
EC 3.1 - Housing Retrofit	Retrofit programme for council owned housing bringing stock to an average Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of C by 2030 (cost up to 2025/26 only)	8,888	Largely borrowing
CW 2.4 - Resident Involvement	Resident involvement officer support for tenant capacity building and delivery of Social Housing White Paper response	74	Base budget
Total HRA		8,962	
Total Stroud District Council		10,964	

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Budget Summary

General Fund Budget 2022/23	
	£000s
Committee Budgets	
Community Services and Licensing	3,307
Environment	6,685
Housing	890
Strategy and Resources	6,538
HRA Income	(2,408)
Committee earmarked reserve transfers (net)	(638)
Net Committee Budgets	14,374
Corporate Budgets	
Minimum Revenue Provision	1,041
Interest Payable	128
Interest Receivable	(413)
Renewable Energy Income	(42)
Drainage Board Levy	162
Total Corporate Budgets	876
Council Plan Items (Appendix C)	
Total Council Plan items 2022/23	1,789
Included within Committee budgets	(288)
Net Corporate Council Plan Items	1,501
Net Revenue Budget	16,751

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Service Committee Budgets

1 Strategy and Resources Committee Budgets

1.1 Revenue Budget position

1.2 The original budget for Strategy and Resources Committee revenue budget for 2021/22, approved by Council in February 2021, was £8.031m this has now been revised to £8.184m. This is following the allocation of the Recovery budgets to service committees, the inclusion of the Fit for the Future programme funded from the Transformation reserve, and the transfer of the car park enforcement budget from Environment Committee.

1.3 This is then used as the base budget for the 2021/22 revised estimates and 2022/23 original estimates, incorporating changes arising from unavoidable inflationary cost pressures, budget pressures and efficiency savings.

1.4 Table 1 provides a summary of the changes to the 2021/22 and 2022/23 estimates. A more detailed breakdown of the service committee budget is set out in Section 2.

Table 1 – Summary of changes from the 2021/22 Original Budget

Strategy & Resources Committee	Para	2021/22 Revised Estimate (000's)	2022/23 Original Estimate (000's)
Base Budget		8,031	8,184
Virements/adjustments		153	165
Recurring changes:			
Pay increases			158
Fees and charges growth			(31)
Pensions increases			(206)
Contract increases			103
Proposed budget adjustments			435
Net Service Budget		8,184	8,807
Transfers to/from reserves		(145)	25
Net Service Budget (after Reserve Funding)		8,039	8,782

(Table may contain roundings)

1.5 Adjustments/In year virements

In year virements/adjustments include carry forwards from previous year, re- distribution of Corporate Maintenance budgets according to the proposed schedule of work within each Committee, alignment of budgets to agreed establishment structures and re- allocation of budgets from Community Services & Licensing Committee.

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1.6 Inflation Appendix E

1.7 Pay Inflation £158k

The 2021/22 salary budgets have been increased by an initial 2.5% in line with budget strategy

1.8 Fees and charges growth (£102k)

Fees and charges budgets have been inflated by 3% unless stated otherwise on the fees and charges appendix.

1.9 A full list of fees and charges are included in Appendix I

1.10 Contract Increases £54k

Contract inflation has been updated in line with the Budget Strategy, this includes insurance uplift, software budgets, business rates and the Multi Service Contract applicable to this Committee (Building cleaning).

1.11 Proposed Budget Adjustments

1.12 A breakdown of the proposed budget adjustments of £435k is included in Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Budget Pressures and Efficiency Savings – Strategy & Resources

SERVICE	Reason for Pressure/Saving	2022/23 (£'000)
Pressures		
Policy & Governance	Additional staffing costs for Democratic Services & Elections re-structure	36
ICT	Additional staffing costs for ICT Team	60
ICT	Increase in budget allowance for software charges	50
Legal	Staffing structure, as approved by the Joint Monitoring and Liaison Group	61
Council wide	Annual uplift of Drainage Board Levy	4
Human Resources	Additional organisational development resource (Council Plan)	54
Council wide	Corporate Council Plan Items	893
Corporate	Increase in Minimum Revenue Provision	31
Corporate	Investment income and borrowing costs	4
	Subtotal Pressures	1,193
Savings		
Legal	Salary savings from shared Monitoring Officer arrangement	(45)
Recovery budgets	Planned changes in recovery budgets as approved by Council 2021	(492)
Modernisation programme	Planned savings from Modernisation Programme	(150)
	Subtotal savings	(687)
Covid-19		
Covid-19	Take out Covid-19 grants 2021/22	978
Covid-19	Take out Covid-19 additional expenditure/loss of income 2021/22	(1,540)
Covid-19	Covid-19 impact allowance 2022/23	500
	Subtotal Covid-19	(62)
	Other movements (net)	(9)
	Total Strategy & Resources Committee	435

1.13 Further details on these budget changes, and those for the other service committees, can be found in Section 3 of the main report.

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2 Strategy and Resources Committee Budgets – Detailed Breakdown

Appendix F

Table 3 – Detailed breakdown of Strategy and Resources budgets

	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Committee			
Car Parks (Other)	53	52	55
Car Parks (Stroud)	(740)	(730)	(763)
Car Parks Enforcement	0	43	50
Car Parks	(687)	(635)	(659)
Brunel Mall	(68)	(65)	(66)
Gossington Depot	(57)	(49)	(66)
Industrial Units, Stonehouse	0	0	0
Littlecombe Development, Dursley	(27)	(27)	(4)
Commercial Properties	(152)	(141)	(136)
Communications	163	163	169
Communications	163	163	169
Corporate Expenditure & Income	1,322	795	1,486
Corporate Expenditure & Income	1,322	795	1,486
Democratic Services	104	104	115
Elections	92	92	102
Electoral Registration	94	94	116
Executive Support	82	82	85
Members Expenses	364	364	364
Policy	411	411	380
Procurement	0	0	0
Workforce Plan savings	0	0	0
Corporate Policy & Governance	1,147	1,147	1,162
Legal Services	437	450	512
Corporate Services (Legal)	437	450	512

Appendix E

	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Committee			
Covid-19	562	721	500
Covid-19	562	721	500
Ebley Mill	393	403	411
Emergency Management	22	22	22
Facilities Management	415	425	434
Financial Services	833	833	873
Financial Services	833	833	873
Human Resources	562	562	659
Human Resources	562	562	659
Information & Communication Technology	1,702	2,116	2,234
Information & Communication Technology	1,702	2,116	2,234
Brimscombe Port Business Park	27	27	30
Bus Stations/Shelters	(1)	2	8
May Lane	4	1	0
Miscellaneous Properties and Land	(740)	(748)	(806)
Other Properties	(711)	(718)	(768)
Pension Lump Sum	1,362	1,362	1,156
Pension Lump Sum	1,362	1,362	1,156
Building Maintenance	107	68	118
Head of Property Services	61	61	74
Property Services	275	384	398
Property Services	443	513	590
Chief Executive	164	164	171
Director of Communities	113	113	117
Director of Place	120	120	124
Director of Resources	116	116	121
Director of Transformation	117	75	58
Senior Leadership Team	629	587	591
Youth Councils	3	3	3
Youth Councils	3	3	3
Strategy and Resources TOTAL	8,031	8,184	8,807

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3 Other Service Committee Budgets

Appendix E

3.1 Community Services and Licensing Committee

Table 4 – Community Services and Licensing Committee budgets

	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Community Services Committee			
Community Safety	213	207	171
Cultural Services - Arts and Culture	416	426	410
Cultural Services - Community Health & Wellbeing	160	279	165
Cultural Services - Sports Centres	(119)	(20)	(90)
Customer Services	392	392	475
Grants to Voluntary Organisations	336	336	330
Licensing	(54)	(54)	(44)
Public Spaces	1,408	1,423	1,401
Revenues and Benefits	152	152	380
Youth Services	105	110	109
Community Services and Licensing TOTAL	3,010	3,252	3,307

3.2 Environment Committee

Table 5 – Environment Committee budgets

	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Environment Committee			
Canal	379	(120)	170
Carbon Management	110	173	224
Development Control	197	197	220
Economic Development	101	111	236
Health & Wellbeing	830	941	858
Land Charges & Street Naming	(18)	(18)	(14)
Planning Strategy/Local Plan	370	430	365
Statutory Building Control	(137)	(137)	(131)
Waste & Recycling: Other	12	12	26
Waste and Recycling: MSC	4,329	4,329	4,730
Environment TOTAL	6,172	5,917	6,685

3.3 Housing Committee

Table 6 – Housing Committee budgets

	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Housing Committee			
Housing Advice	479	519	538
Housing Strategy	136	303	166
Private Sector Housing	157	157	163
Housing General Fund Total	773	980	866

4 Strategy & Resources Capital Programme

4.1 Table 3 below outlines the capital schemes that the committee is responsible for.

Table 7 – Capital schemes 2021/22 and 2022/23

	Para Refs	2021/22 Original Budget (£'000)	2021/22 Revised Budget (£'000)	2022/23 Original Budget (£'000)
Strategy & Resources Capital Schemes				
Brimscombe Port Redevelopment	4.2	153	273	174
Electric Vehicle Acquisition	4.3	0	12	0
ICT Investment Plan	4.4	400	0	0
Water Source Heat Pump-Ebley Mill & Brimscombe Port	4.5	0	1,354	0
Strategy and Resources Capital Schemes TOTAL		553	1,638	174

4.2 Brimscombe Port Redevelopment

The budget has been set based upon the current milestones. The demolition of the existing buildings is due to complete in April 2022. Procurement of a developer has commenced, and it is planned that in 2022/23 the Council can prepare its planning application for the redevelopment of the Port, with works commencing in 2023/24.

4.3 Electric Vehicle Acquisition

The remaining capital budget of £12k will be utilised in installing electric vehicle points across the county. The requirements are currently being investigated by the Senior Carbon Neutral Officer in conjunction with the County Council.

4.4 ICT Investment Plan

The remaining funding from the ICT Investment Plan will form part of the Fit for the Future modernisation programme and has consequently moved to over to this project.

4.5 Water Source Heat Pumps

The water source heat pump installation at Brimscombe Port is now generating heat and final commissioning together with pipe lagging and making good of builder's work is in progress (at time of writing). Practical completion will be achieved by the contract end date of 31st December 2021.

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Capital Programme 2021/22 to 2025/26					
Capital Scheme	2021/22 £'000	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Community Services & Licensing					
Community Building Investment	117	-	-	-	-
Stratford Park Lido	30	190	-	-	-
Total Community Services & Licensing	147	190	-	-	-
Environment					
Canal Phase 1B	4,624	7,259	1,347	-	-
Market Town Centres Initiative Fund	40	-	-	-	-
MSC - Vehicles	1,513	466	2,960	502	87
Stroud District Cycling & Walking Plan	404	-	-	-	-
Stratford Park Machinery	14	-	-	-	-
Rural SuDS	30	30	30	30	30
Wallbridge	-	100	-	-	-
Total Environment	6,625	7,855	4,337	532	117
Housing General Fund					
Affordable Housing - Support to Registered Providers	39	-	-	-	-
CCG Health through Warmth Grants	200	200	-	-	-
Disabled Facilities Grants	330	350	350	350	350
Green Homes LADS 3	-	1,030	-	-	-
Green Homes LADS Park Homes	1,604	-	-	-	-
Home Upgrade Grant - Sustainable Warmth	-	4,218	-	-	-
Private Sector Homes Scheme	15	15	15	15	15
Temporary Accommodation	190	-	-	-	-
Warm Homes Fund	343	-	-	-	-
Total Housing General Fund	2,721	5,813	365	365	365
Strategy and Resources					
Brimscombe Port Redevelopment	273	174	3,533	-	-
Electric Vehicles	12	-	-	-	-
Water Source Heat Pump - Ebley Mill & Brimscombe Port	1,514	-	-	-	-
Total Strategy and Resources	1,799	174	3,533	-	-
Total General Fund	11,292	14,032	8,235	897	482
Housing Revenue Account					
Major Works	9,912	8,425	11,128	10,187	11,505
Other HRA Capital	435	-	-	-	-
New Homes	5,799	10,571	2,297	-	-
Acquisitions	5,285	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Independent Living Modernisation	359	648	712	928	931
Total Housing Revenue Account	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436
Total Capital Programme	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012	14,918

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Appendix F

Capital Financing Statement

	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
1. Capital Expenditure					
Community Services	147	190	-	-	-
Environment	6,625	7,855	4,337	532	117
Housing General Fund	2,721	5,813	365	365	365
Housing Revenue Account	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436
Strategy and Resources	1,799	174	3,533	-	-
Estimated Expenditure	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012	14,918
Financed by:					
Borrowing HRA	7,618	10,228	5,668	4,149	4,204
HE Grant	680	309	-	-	-
HRA Usable capital receipts (3)	3,212	2,959	1,324	600	600
Major Repairs Reserve	9,882	6,432	8,433	6,609	6,557
Revenue funded	398	1,716	712	1,757	3,075
HRA Financing Total	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436
Borrowing GF	2,805	805	4,493	502	87
Capital grants (5)	2,507	5,828	380	380	380
Capital reserve (4)	804	260	-	-	-
External funding	4,626	6,806	3,362	15	15
General Fund usable capital receipts (2)	39	-	-	-	-
Revenue funded	273	253	-	-	-
Other reserves	238	80	-	-	-
General Fund Financing Total	11,292	14,032	8,235	897	482
Total Financing	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012	14,918
2. General Fund Usable Capital Receipts					
Brought forward 1 April	504	495	525	560	560
add: received in year	30	30	35	35	35
less: applied as above	(39)	-	-	-	-
Carried forward 31 March	495	525	560	595	595
3. HRA Usable Capital Receipts					
Brought forward 1 April	9,755	7,143	4,784	4,060	4,060
add: received in year	600	600	600	600	600
less: applied as above	(3,212)	(2,959)	(1,324)	(600)	(600)
Carried forward 31 March	7,143	4,784	4,060	4,060	4,060
4. Capital Reserve					
Brought forward 1 April	3,601	2,560	2,298	2,233	2,168
add: received / (transferred) in year	(237)	(2)	(65)	(65)	(65)
less: applied as above	(804)	(260)	-	-	-
Carried forward 31 March	2,560	2,298	2,233	2,168	2,103
5. Capital Grants (General Fund)					
Disabled Facilities Grant due	330	350	350	350	350
Green Homes LADS 3	-	1,030	-	-	-
Park Homes	1,604	-	-	-	-
Health through Warmth	200	200	-	-	-
Home Upgrade Grant - Sustainable Warmth	-	4,218	-	-	-
Rural SuDS	30	30	30	30	30
Warm Homes Fund	343	-	-	-	-
Capital grants	2,507	5,828	380	380	380

Medium Term Reserves Plan

Reserve Name	Outturn Balances	Estimated Usage	Budgeted Usage				Estimated Balance
	2020/21 £000s	2021/22 £000s	2022/23 £000s	2023/24 £000s	2024/25 £000s	2025/26 £000s	2025/26 £000s
Brexit Reserve	(53)	0	0	0	0	0	(53)
Brimscombe Port	(397)	299	151	(53)	0	0	0
Brownfield Regeneration	(100)	67	33	0	0	0	0
Building Control Shared Service Reserve	(75)	52	96	(36)	(37)	0	0
Business Rates Pilot Reserve	(590)	35	100	100	100	100	(155)
Business Rates Pilot Reserve - Ec Dev	(386)	0	193	193	0	0	0
Business Rates Ret- Safety net	(2,492)	(500)	(500)	900	800	700	(1,092)
Capital Reserve	(3,601)	1,041	262	65	65	65	(2,103)
CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) Reserve	(1,001)	0	0	0	0	0	(1,001)
Climate Change	(438)	98	77	208	15	15	(25)
Collection Fund Smoothing Reserve	(5,235)	4,326	796	88	0	0	(25)
Community Building	(50)	20	20	10	0	0	0
Community Engagement Fund		0	(78)	78	0	0	0
Covid- 19 Recovery Reserve	(403)	189	50	0	0	0	(164)
Culture, Arts and Leisure Reserve	(117)	(231)	232	88	28	0	0
Homelessness Prevention Reserve	(98)	88	10	0	0	0	0
Investment Risk Reserve	(310)	0	0	0	0	0	(310)
Legal Counsel Reserve	(50)	0	0	0	0	0	(50)
Local Plan Reserve	(31)	0	31	0	0	0	0
Miscellaneous General Fund Reserve	(975)	975	0	0	0	0	0
MTFP Equalisation Reserve	(6,846)	104	(9)	1,145	849	1,344	(3,413)
Neighbourhood Planning Grant Reserve	(12)	6	6	0	0	0	(0)
Opportunity Land Purchase Reserve	(250)	0	0	0	0	0	(250)
Planning Appeal Costs Reserve	(100)	0	0	0	0	0	(100)
Redundancy Reserve	(250)	0	0	0	0	0	(250)
Repairs & Replacements Reserve	(304)	0	0	0	0	0	(304)
Street cleansing	(17)	0	17	0	0	0	0
Transformation Reserve	(393)	264	129	0	0	0	0
Waste Management	(600)	181	260	0	159	0	0
Welfare Reform Reserve	(30)	0	0	0	0	0	(30)
	(25,203)	7,014	1,876	2,786	1,979	2,224	(9,325)

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Fees and Charges Policy
January 2022

Agenda Item 5d

Appendix H

1. Background

- 1.1 The Council provides a wide range of services to the residents and businesses in Stroud District. Some of these services are statutory and must be provided by the Council, but others are discretionary.
- 1.2 Councils are able to provide additional, non statutory, services and charge for these services under the Local Government Act 2003. This includes any enhancements to statutory services.
- 1.3 Charging is an important function. The level of fees and charges can influence the way in which services are used, for example by promoting access to certain services or to help prevent wasteful use of a service.
- 1.4 It is also a significant source of income that supports the delivery of the services. If the Council were to reduce or stop charges for services it would not have the resources to continue providing all of the services it currently offers.
- 1.5 A policy gives a framework under which fees and charges are set. It ensures that all services adhere to the same procedures when setting charges to have a consistent approach to charges across all council services.
- 1.6 Fees and charges do not include the following areas. These charges will be set and approved outside the Fees and Charges policy.
 - Council Tax
 - Business Rates
 - Housing rents and service charges
 - Property rents and service charges

2. Fees and Charges Policy

- 2.1 Fees and charges will be put in place to provide the best overall value for residents, businesses and the community. This will mean that some services will be charged at a commercial rate, whereas others will be subsidised to encourage their use. Where statutory charges are in place, these will be included at the statutory rate.
- 2.2 Where possible income will be maximised to contribute towards service delivery. This does not, however, mean that the cost of all services will be fully charged as this may not be appropriate in all service areas.
- 2.3 It is the responsibility of the Service Manager to set the fees and charges for their services, ensuring that they are fixed at the correct level and approved appropriately. Where relevant benchmarking against other councils or providers will be undertaken.
- 2.4 Fees and charges will be put forward for approval by Council, or by the relevant Committee under delegated authority.

3. Charging Policy

3.1 Fees and charges will be set using the following charge types:

Charge Type	Detail
Statutory	Fees are set by Government and are to be charged at the statutory rate
Commercial	Fees set in line with other providers, influenced by market forces
Full Cost Recovery	Fees set based on recovering the full cost of providing the service
Subsidised	Fees set at below the cost of providing the service, meaning part of the service is funded by other council income such as Council Tax and Business Rates
Nominal	Fees set at a nominal fee, meaning most of the service is funded by other council income such as Council Tax and Business Rates.
Free	Fees not charged. All of the service is funded by other council income such as Council Tax and Business Rates

4. Discount and Concessions

- 4.1 Sometimes discounts or concessions are made available on services. This could be to ensure that everybody has access to a service, or to provide some services at a reduced cost to certain groups to encourage the use of the service.
- 4.2 The fees and charges papers will include where discounts or concessions are in place.

5. Review

- 5.1 Unless otherwise stated, fees and charges will be reviewed annually, with the default assumption that all fees and charges be increased by the rate of inflation as determined by the Section 151 Officer.
- 5.2 Service Managers are expected to review all fees and charges and have discretion to deviate from this base position of inflationary uplifts. The review should take into consideration the cost of providing the service, inflationary uplifts, as well as service information and knowledge on market conditions or the impact of fee charges on service users. This will also include a review of any discounts and concessions.
- 5.3 Fees and Charges are to be reported to Committees and Council in line with the Budget Setting process. Where necessary consultation periods should also be adhered to.
- 5.4 New fees will generally be implemented from 1 April each year.

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Appendix H

- 5.5 This review does not mean that all fees and charges will change annually, as some may remain the same as the previous year.
- 5.6 Where appropriate benchmarking and an Equalities Impact Assessment will be also undertaken by the service manager.
- 5.7 There may be instances where fees and charges need to be amended outside the annual process, for example a significant change in the cost of providing the service, or changes beyond the control of the Council eg a change in the VAT rate. Where possible any additional changes will follow the same process as the annual review.



Fees and Charges

2022/23

Stroud District Council

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

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Community Services and Licensing Committee
Community Health and Wellbeing
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Cardiac Rehab Pay As You Go Class	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.0%
Respiratory Rehab Pay As You Go Class	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.0%
Better Balance Pay As You Go Class	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.0%
Cancer Rehab Pay As You Go Class	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.0%
Mummy & Me Pay As You Go Class	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	0.0%
Cardiac Rehab Pay As You Go Zoom Class	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	0.0%
Respiratory Rehab Pay As You Go Zoom Class	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	0.0%
Better Balance Pay As You Go Zoom Class	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	0.0%
Cancer Rehab Pay As You Go Zoom Class	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	0.0%
Mummy & Me Pay As You Go Zoom Class	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	0.0%
Cardiac Rehab 10 Class Pass	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Respiratory Rehab 10 Class Pass	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Better Balance 10 Class Pass	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Cancer Rehab 10 Class Pass	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Mummy & Me 10 Class Pass	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Couples - 10 class pass	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.0%
Cardiac Rehab 10 Zoom Class Pass	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	0.0%
Respiratory Rehab 10 Zoom Class Pass	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	0.0%
Better Balance 10 Zoom Class Pass	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	0.0%
Cancer Rehab 10 Zoom Class Pass	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	0.0%
Mummy & Me 10 Zoom Class Pass	22.50	22.50	22.50	22.50	0.0%
GP Referral Induction	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.0%
GP Referral sessional attendance	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	5.0%
Better Balance Booklets (per book)	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.0%
Resistance Bands for Better Balance Clients	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.0%
Wrist/Ankle Weight - .5kg	5.00	5.00	9.95	9.95	99.0%
Wrist/Ankle Weight - 1.0kg	7.50	7.50	11.95	11.95	59.3%
Wrist/Ankle Weight -1 .5kg	10.00	10.00	13.95	13.95	39.5%
Pilates Mat	4.80	4.80	8.00	8.00	66.7%
Hand Weights - 1.0kg	3.10	3.10	6.00	6.00	93.5%
Hand Weights - 2.0kg	7.30	7.30	9.99	9.99	36.8%
Hand Weights - 3.0kg	9.80	9.80	12.99	12.99	32.6%
Partner attending Healthy Lifestyles Class	2.00	2.00	2.50	2.50	25.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Community Health and Wellbeing

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

There is no rise in fees for Classes or GP Referral Inductions for 2022-23, as they were increased substantially in 2021-22. The increase in equipment costs is due to the increase in costs from the suppliers for us to purchase the equipment. The increase in the GP Referral sessional attendance cost is to bring the fee in line with The Pulse.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Cost Recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

These classes are cheaper than anywhere else across the county and cover costs for instructor and venue hire etc.

Equality Impact Assessment

None

Budget Impact

Costs covered

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Community Services - Careline Services
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Careline monitoring only (VAT Exempt)	91.33	91.33	94.07	94.07	3.0%
Careline monitoring only (not VAT Exempt)	91.33	109.60	94.07	112.88	3.0%
Careline rental (VAT Exempt)	189.74	189.74	195.43	195.43	3.0%
Careline rental (not VAT Exempt)	189.74	227.69	195.43	234.52	3.0%
Pendant purchase (VAT Exempt)	52.28	52.28	53.85	53.85	3.0%
Pendant purchase (not VAT Exempt)	52.28	62.74	53.85	64.62	3.0%
ADSL Fliter	2.09	2.51	2.15	2.58	2.9%
Extension lead	6.27	7.52	6.46	7.75	3.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Community Services - Careline Services

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

Increase in line with S&R recommendation

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

Yes, with other similar services operating within Gloucestershire

Equality Impact Assessment

Completed previously. The increase in cost is low and the overall cost is in line with other local authorities offering a similar service.

Budget Impact

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Community Services - Cemeteries
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

In grave for which no “Exclusive Rights of Burial” has been granted

Single or Meadow plot – not exceeding 1.5m (5ft) in depth:

Person 18 years and over (Rights)	384.00	384.00	396.00	396.00	3.1%
Cremated remains (Rights)	274.00	274.00	282.00	282.00	2.9%

Double – exceeding 1.5m (5ft) in depth but not exceeding 2.1m (7ft):

Any interment (Rights)	384.00	384.00	396.00	396.00	3.1%
------------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	------

Single or Meadow plot – not exceeding 1.5m (5ft) in depth:

Person 18 years and over (Burial)	452.00	452.00	466.00	466.00	3.1%
Cremated remains (Burial)	131.00	131.00	135.00	135.00	3.1%

Double – exceeding 1.5m (5ft) in depth but not exceeding 2.1m (7ft):

Any interment (Burial)	629.00	629.00	648.00	648.00	3.0%
------------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	------

In grave for which an “Exclusive Rights of Burial” has been granted

Opening of previously purchased plot – single or meadow	452.00	452.00	466.00	466.00	3.1%
Opening of previously purchased plot – double	629.00	629.00	648.00	648.00	3.0%
Re-opening of previously purchased double plot	452.00	452.00	466.00	466.00	3.1%
Cremated remains in casket	131.00	131.00	135.00	135.00	3.1%

Miscellaneous Charges

Surcharge for Saturday burials	252.00	252.00	260.00	260.00	3.2%
Purchase of “Exclusive Rights of Burial” purchased prior to burial	446.00	446.00	459.00	459.00	2.9%
Purchase of “Exclusive Rights of Burial” for cremated remains	318.00	318.00	328.00	328.00	3.1%
Search fees (records only)	41.00	41.00	42.00	42.00	2.4%
Cremated remains scattered by Cemetery Staff	41.00	41.00	42.00	42.00	2.4%
Transfer of Grave Rights	41.00	41.00	42.00	42.00	2.4%

**Double fees will be charged for non residents*

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Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Monuments, Gravestones and Monument Inscriptions

Memorial stone with or without plinth not exceeding 1m in height, 60cm width and 30cm depth	213.00	213.00	219.00	219.00	2.8%
A memorial vase only, preferably square or rectangular in shape, to an overall dimension not exceeding 30cm in height and 25cm x 25cm	51.00	51.00	53.00	53.00	3.9%
Additional inscription to a monument	56.00	56.00	58.00	58.00	3.6%
Simple hardwood not exceeding 75cm x 45cm	32.00	32.00	33.00	33.00	3.1%

Cremated Remains Section

Any memorial maximum height 60cm	105.00	105.00	108.00	108.00	2.9%
Plaque in Garden of Remembrance	31.00	31.00	32.00	32.00	3.2%
Purchase and Installation of Post Plaque for Meadow Burial Area	135.00	135.00	139.00	139.00	3.0%

Charges for Green Burials

All burials – single plots only	1,213.00	1,455.60	1,213.00	1,455.60	0.0%
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Cremated Remains Interment

Cremated remains interment	845.00	1,014.00	845.00	1,014.00	0.0%
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Community Services and Licensing Committee
Community Services - Cemeteries
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

Standard 3% with exception of green burial.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

**Note VAT is charged on the provision of tree and maintenance works only

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

N/A

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

Negligible

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Appendix I

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Gambling Act 2005

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Premise Licence; New Application

Small Casino	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	0.0%
Large Casino	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	2,450.00	2,450.00	2,450.00	2,450.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.0%
Tracks	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,750.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.0%

Premises Licence; Annual Fee

Small Casino	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.0%
Large Casino	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	420.00	420.00	420.00	420.00	0.0%
Tracks	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	525.00	525.00	525.00	525.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	0.0%

Premises Licence; Application to Vary

Small Casino	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	2,800.00	0.0%
Large Casino	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	5,250.00	5,250.00	5,250.00	5,250.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	1,225.00	1,225.00	1,225.00	1,225.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	1,050.00	0.0%
Tracks	875.00	875.00	875.00	875.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	700.00	700.00	700.00	700.00	0.0%

Premise Licence; Application to Transfer

Small Casino	1,260.00	1,260.00	1,260.00	1,260.00	0.0%
Large Casino	1,505.00	1,505.00	1,505.00	1,505.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	4,550.00	4,550.00	4,550.00	4,550.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Tracks	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%

Premises Licence; Application for Re-instatement

Small Casino	1,260.00	1,260.00	1,260.00	1,260.00	0.0%
Large Casino	1,505.00	1,505.00	1,505.00	1,505.00	0.0%

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
	Regional Casino	4,550.00	4,550.00	4,550.00	
Bingo Club	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Tracks	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%

Premises Licence; Application for Provisional Statement

Small Casino	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	0.0%
Large Casino	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	10,500.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	2,450.00	2,450.00	2,450.00	2,450.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.0%
Tracks	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,750.00	1,750.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	0.0%

Premises Licence; New licence application for Provisional Statement Holders

Small Casino	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	2,100.00	0.0%
Large Casino	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	3,500.00	0.0%
Regional Casino	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	5,600.00	0.0%
Bingo Club	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Betting Premises (excluding Tracks)	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%
Tracks	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Family Entertainment Centres	665.00	665.00	665.00	665.00	0.0%
Adult Gaming Centre	840.00	840.00	840.00	840.00	0.0%

All Premises Types

Copy of Licence	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Notification of Change	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%

Permits; New Applications

FEC Gaming Machine Permit	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.0%
Prize Gaming Permit	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.0%
Club Gaming Permit	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.0%
Club Machine Permit	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.0%
Licensed Premise Gaming Machine Permit	150.00	150.00	150.00	150.00	0.0%

Permits; Fast Track Application Fee

Club Gaming Permit	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%
Club Machine Permit	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%

Permits; Renewal Fee – 10 years

FEC Gaming Machine Permit	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.0%
Prize Gaming Permit	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	0.0%
Club Gaming Permit	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.0%
Club Machine Permit	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.0%

Permits; Annual Fee

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Club Gaming Permit	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%
Club Machine Permit	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%
Licensed Premises Gaming Machine Permit	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%

Permits; Transfer

Licensed Premise Gaming Machine Permit	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
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Permits; Variation

Club Gaming Permit	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%
Club Machine Permit	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%
Licensed Premise Gaming Machine Permit	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%

Permits; Notification of Change of Name

FEC Gaming Machine Permit	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Prize Gaming Permit	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Licensed Premise Gaming Machine Permit	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%

Permits; All

Copy of Permit	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.0%
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Small Society Lottery Registration

New Application	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.0%
Annual Fee	20.00	20.00	20.00	20.00	0.0%

Notifications and Notices

Licensed Premises Paming Machine Notification	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%
Temporary Use Notice	500.00	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.0%
Occasional Use Notice	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Gambling Act 2005
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

No Change since Gambling Act came into force in 2006

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Statutory cap on fees relating to Premises Licences under the Gambling Act. Stroud District Council fees were set in 2006 on a cost recovery basis. They have not been increased since. The fees were set below the Statutory Cap. Fees for permits, notifications and registrations under the Gambling Act are fixed fees set in statute.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Budget Impact

Stroud District Council only has 7 licensed premises under the Gambling Act 2005 so any changes to the fees for Premises Licences would have little budget impact

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Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Licensing Act 2003

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificates - New Application and Major Variation

Band A No rateable value to £4,300	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	0.0%
Band B £4,301 - £33,000	£190.00	£190.00	£190.00	£190.00	0.0%
Band C £33,001 – £87,000	£315.00	£315.00	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%
Band D £87,001 – £125,000	£450.00	£450.00	£450.00	£450.00	0.0%
Band E £125,001 and above	£635.00	£635.00	£635.00	£635.00	0.0%
Band D where premises primarily sell alcohol (Premises Licences only)	£900.00	£900.00	£900.00	£900.00	0.0%
Band E where premises primarily sell alcohol (Premises Licences only)	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	£1,905.00	0.0%

Premises Licence/Club - Premises Certificates Annual Fee

Band A No rateable value to £4,300	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	£70.00	0.0%
Band B £4,301 - £33,000	£180.00	£180.00	£180.00	£180.00	0.0%
Band C £33,001 – £87,000	£295.00	£295.00	£295.00	£295.00	0.0%
Band D £87,001 – £125,000	£320.00	£320.00	£320.00	£320.00	0.0%
Band E £125,001 and above	£350.00	£350.00	£350.00	£350.00	0.0%
Band D where premises primarily sell alcohol (Premises Licences only)	£640.00	£640.00	£640.00	£640.00	0.0%
Band E where premises primarily sell alcohol (Premises Licences only)	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	£1,050.00	0.0%

Premises Licence - New Applications and Major Variations - Extra Fee for Large Events

5,000 – 9,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
10,000 – 14,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%
15,000 - 19,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%
20,000 - 29,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%
30,000 - 39,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%
40,000 - 49,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%
50,000 - 59,999	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%
60,000 - 69,999	£40,000.00	£40,000.00	£40,000.00	£40,000.00	0.0%
70,000 - 79,999	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	£48,000.00	0.0%
80,000 - 89,999	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	£56,000.00	0.0%
90,000 and over	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	£64,000.00	0.0%

Premises Licence - Annual Fee - Extra Fee for Large Events

5,000 – 9,999	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00	0.0%
10,000 – 14,999	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	0.0%
15,000 - 19,999	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	0.0%
20,000 - 29,999	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	0.0%
30,000 - 39,999	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	0.0%
40,000 - 49,999	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	£12,000.00	0.0%
50,000 - 59,999	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	£16,000.00	0.0%
60,000 - 69,999	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	0.0%
70,000 - 79,999	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	£24,000.00	0.0%
80,000 - 89,999	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	£28,000.00	0.0%
90,000 and over	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	£32,000.00	0.0%

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Premises Licence/Club Premises Certificates - Other Fees

Minor variation application	£89.00	£89.00	£89.00	£89.00	0.0%
Application by Community premises to display designated premises supervisor	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Theft, loss, etc of premises licence or summary	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Application for provisional statement where premises being built, etc	£315.00	£315.00	£315.00	£315.00	0.0%
Notification of change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Application to vary licence to specify individual as premises supervisor	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Application for transfer of premises licence	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Interim authority notice following death etc of licence holder	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	£23.00	0.0%
Notification of change of name or alteration of rules of club	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Change of relevant registered address of club	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Right of freeholder etc to be notified of licensing matters	£21.00	£21.00	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%

Personal Licence

Application for a grant or renewal of personal licence	£37.00	£37.00	£37.00	£37.00	0.0%
Notification of change of name or address	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%
Theft, loss etc. of personal licence	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%

Temporary Event Notice

Temporary event notice	£21.00	£21.00	£21.00	£21.00	0.0%
Theft, loss etc. of temporary event notice	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	£10.50	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Licensing Act 2003

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

No changes since Licensing Act 2003 came into force in 2005

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Statutory Charge

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Budget Impact

None

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Scrap Metal Dealers
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
New Application Site Licence - 3 years	398.00	398.00	410.00	410.00	3.0%
Renewal Application Site Licence - 3 years	228.00	228.00	235.00	235.00	3.1%
New Application Collectors Licence - 3 years	263.00	263.00	271.00	271.00	3.0%
Renewal Application Collectors licence - 3 years	165.00	165.00	170.00	170.00	3.0%
Variation Collector to Site	69.00	69.00	71.00	71.00	2.9%
Variation Site to Collector	37.00	37.00	38.00	38.00	2.7%
Change of Name on Licence	16.00	16.00	16.00	16.00	0.0%
Replacement or Additional Licences	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Scrap Metal Dealers

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3% increase except Change of Name on Licenses and Replacement of/Additional Licenses which remain unchanged.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Budget Impact

The number of scrap metal dealer licences issued by Stroud District Council. 3% is the rate of inflation and the annual increase in costs but will have minimal impact on the budget

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Sex Establishments
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
	New/Variation Application	5,583.00	5,583.00	5,750.00	
Renewal/Transfer	2,731.00	2,731.00	2,813.00	2,813.00	3.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Sex Establishments

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Budget Impact

None – no licences issued under Sex Establishment Licensing

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Street Trading

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Consultation New/Variation Application – Mobile Consent	43.00	43.00	44.00	44.00	2.3%
Consultation New/Variation Application – Static Consent	161.00	161.00	166.00	166.00	3.1%
Mobile Trader - Per Quarter	155.00	155.00	160.00	160.00	3.2%
Mobile Trader - Per Annum	568.00	568.00	585.00	585.00	3.0%
Static Traders Band 1 - Per Quarter	568.00	568.00	585.00	585.00	3.0%
Static Traders Band 1 - Per Annum	1,885.00	1,885.00	1,941.00	1,941.00	3.0%
Static Traders Band 2 - Per Quarter	345.00	345.00	355.00	355.00	2.9%
Static Traders Band 2 - Per Annum	1,135.00	1,135.00	1,169.00	1,169.00	3.0%
Short Term Consent - Granted for a period of up to 7 days	34.00	34.00	35.00	35.00	2.9%
Short Term Consent - Additional Days	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.0%
Market Consent Per Annum for 1 day per week.	1,020	1,020	1,050.00	1,050.00	2.9%
Short Term Consent - Community Event	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Street Trading

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Budget Impact

The number of street trading consents issued by Stroud District Council is low. A 3% increase reflects the annual increase in costs but will have minimal impact on the budget

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Taxis and Private Hire
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Driver licence - New Application 1 year	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	0.0%
Driver licence - New Application 3 year	265.00	265.00	265.00	265.00	0.0%
Driver licence - Renewal 1 year	80.00	80.00	80.00	80.00	0.0%
Driver licence - Renewal 3 year	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.0%
Written Knowledge Test - Taxi Driver only	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	0.0%
DVLA check - required on new app and then on every renewal	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	0.0%
DBS check - required on new app and then every 3 years	56.00	56.00	56.00	56.00	0.0%
Replacement badge	10.50	10.50	10.50	10.50	0.0%
Vehicle Licence - New Application 1 Year (inc plate)	160.00	160.00	160.00	160.00	0.0%
Vehicle Licence - Renewal 1 year	125.00	125.00	125.00	125.00	0.0%
Transfer (ownership or HCV to PHV) of vehicle licence	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0%
Change of Vehicle	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	0.0%
Change of Registration of Vehicle	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Replacement plate	13.00	13.00	13.00	13.00	0.0%
Bracket	11.00	11.00	11.00	11.00	0.0%
Plate Deposit	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Private Hire Plate Exemption	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%
Private Hire Plate Exemption Renewal	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Operator New App 1 year	140.00	140.00	140.00	140.00	0.0%
Operator New App 5 year	430.00	430.00	430.00	430.00	0.0%
Operator Renewal 1 year	110.00	110.00	110.00	110.00	0.0%
Operator Renewal 5 year	380.00	380.00	380.00	380.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Taxis and Private Hire
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
No increase 2022-23

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
In the current financial year (2021/2022) it is anticipated there will be a deficit of approximately £13,000 between taxi licensing costs and taxi fee income. This is largely due to a reduction in the number of taxi licences being issued. A costing exercise based on predicted costs for 2022/2023 show that taxi and private fees will continue to not cover costs and there will continue to be a deficit. During the Covid Pandemic most taxi businesses were unable to work for long periods of time and business has been slow to pick up. Many have struggled financially and a number have surrendered or deferred licences or not renewed. Between April 2020 and April 2021 the number of active licences in Stroud District had dropped by 18%. As of 1 November 2021 there is still a 14% reduction in the number of licences compared to pre-covid numbers. This reflects a national trend of a shortage of taxi drivers and authorities are being encourage to do all they can to help existing businesses to get back on their feet and to encourage new applications. It is therefore considered appropriate to not increase the taxi fees for 2022/2023 but to review them again for 2023/2024 at which point there will hopefully have been a recovery in numbers and costings and incomes will have levelled out to enable a more accurate costing exercise.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Yes - Stroud District Council's current fees are fairly comparable with current fees within Gloucestershire although our driver licence fees are slightly higher and our vehicle licence fees are slightly lower. Both Cheltenham Borough Council and Gloucester City Council are freezing there taxi and private hire fees for 2022/2023. The other Gloucestershire authorities have not yet made a decision whether to increase fees.

Equality Impact Assessment
No

Budget Impact
Predicted deficit of £10,000 due to continued reduction in numbers of licences issued following the Covid pandemic

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Licensing - Pavement Licences
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
New Application	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

Licensing - Pavement Licences

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

This a temporary Licensing Regime introduced as part of the Governments Covid 19 recovery plans. There is a statutory cap of £100. it will end September 2022. Government are considering making it permanent

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

All Gloucestershire Authorities charged £100 cap

Equality Impact Assessment

None

Budget Impact

None - Very small number of pavement licences

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Museum in the Park
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Museum Admission (donations welcome)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N/A
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Venue Hire

Walled Garden & Pavilion Hire for Evening Functions & Parties (prices start at)	416.67	500.00	416.67	500.00	0.0%
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Learning Pavilion Venue Hire

- per half day	125.00	150.00	125.00	150.00	0.0%
- per day	250.00	300.00	250.00	300.00	0.0%

Gallery 2 Venue Hire

- per half day	79.17	95.00	79.17	95.00	0.0%
- per day	104.17	125.00	104.17	125.00	0.0%
- Evenings per hour (Monday-outside Museum opening hours)	50.00	60.00	50.00	60.00	0.0%
- Educational Course bookings	45.83	55.00	45.83	55.00	0.0%

Refreshments

- Tea & Coffee per person	2.08	2.50	2.08	2.50	0.0%
- Tea, Coffee & Biscuits per person	2.50	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.0%
Use of Flipchart stand, paper & pens	4.17	5.00	4.17	5.00	0.0%

Museum Venue Hire-Evening events-per hour

- Hire of Gallery 2	50.00	60.00	50.00	60.00	0.0%
- Hire of Garden Pavilion	50.00	60.00	50.00	60.00	0.0%
- Hire of above plus access to Mansion House	100.00	120.00	100.00	120.00	0.0%

Collection Charges

Deposition of archaeological archives-per unit (only for sites notified pre-2014)	30.00	36.00	30.00	36.00	0.0%
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Charges vary for collections study group visits, photographic & research services and use of Museum for location filming/photo shoots

Agenda Item 5d

Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Learning - Onsite & Outreach

- Learning visits and outreach-per pupil (minimum of £50)	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	0.0%
- Hire of Time Boxes - per fortnight	15.00	15.00	15.00	15.00	0.0%

Group Visits, Tours & Community Outreach Talks

Self-guided group visit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Self-guided group visit with tea,coffee, biscuits (per person)	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	0.0%
Self-guided group visit with tea,coffee, biscuits, welcome talk/local history slideshow (per person)	6.00	6.00	6.00	6.00	0.0%
Evening group visit & museum tour/talk (per person)	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	0.0%

Community Outreach talks and object handling

- per session between 9am and 5pm	45.00	45.00	45.00	45.00	0.0%
- per session outside hours above	55.00	55.00	55.00	55.00	0.0%
Plus travel at 45p per mile (per HMRC rate)					

Gallery Hire for Art Exhibitions

Exclusive hire of Gallery one for Art Exhibitions (per week)	745.83	895.00	745.83	895.00	0.0%
Shared use of Gallery one for Art Exhibitions (per exhibition)	291.67	350.00	291.67	350.00	0.0%
Museum Freelance Technician/ Curator (per hour)	25.00	30.00	25.00	30.00	0.0%
Printing exhibition lables & A2 Introduction panel (per exhibition)	29.17	35.00	29.17	35.00	0.0%
Gallery hire for evening private view (per hour)	50.00	60.00	50.00	60.00	0.0%
Use of Gallery Two for 2D Art/ Local History Exhibitions	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%

Photocopying - per copy

- A4 B&W	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.10	0.0%
- A3 B&W	0.21	0.25	0.21	0.25	0.0%
- A4 Colour	0.42	0.50	0.42	0.50	0.0%
- A3 Colour	0.83	1.00	0.83	1.00	0.0%

Laminating - per sheet

- A4	0.83	1.00	0.83	1.00	0.0%
- A3	1.67	2.00	1.67	2.00	0.0%

Community Services and Licensing Committee
Museum in the Park
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

No increase 2022-23

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Charges are variable across the service, some set in consultation with other museums, some local, some in response to customer demand. Often they form the basis of discussion with customers (e.g. hire of gallery for exhibition). Corporate price increases are reflected in budget setting even if the fees and charges are not increased (i.e. 'sell' more to meet the target).

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

Art Fund Members get 10% off as part of National Art Pass

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

For some charges e.g. Archaeological deposits, price per head for pupils.

Equality Impact Assessment

Yes - none of the protected characteristics are affected negatively by our charges.

Budget Impact

Agenda Item 5d

Appendix I

Community Services and Licensing Committee

The Pulse

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
School Swim-School swimming lessons per child	1.30	1.30	1.40	1.40	7.7%
School Swim-Price per school if they bring less than 22 children	28.05	28.05	29.45	29.45	5.0%
School fitness classes	2.05	2.05	2.10	2.10	2.4%
School instructor fee per 30 minutes	15.40	15.40	16.00	16.00	3.9%
Lifeguard hire for 30 minutes	13.10	13.10	14.00	14.00	6.9%
Standard swim price	3.42	4.10	3.58	4.30	4.8%
concessions swim price	2.04	2.45	2.13	2.55	4.1%
Monthly swim membership	23.79	28.55	24.50	29.40	3.0%
12 session swim card Adult	34.00	40.80	35.83	43.00	5.4%
12 session swim card Concessions	20.42	24.50	21.67	26.00	6.1%
Annual swim card Adult	229.50	275.40	234.17	281.00	2.0%
Adult per lesson	5.80	5.80	6.25	6.25	7.8%
Child Swimming lesson	5.70	5.70	6.25	6.25	9.6%
Direct Debit fee for lessons	23.75	23.75	26.00	26.00	9.5%
Hire of instructor other	25.50	30.60	26.00	31.20	2.0%
Crèche	2.13	2.55	2.17	2.60	2.1%
Parent & Toddler	4.21	5.05	4.33	5.20	2.9%
Pool Hire (per hour)	50.17	60.20	51.17	61.40	2.0%
Party Pack (45 mins) standard	84.17	101.00	85.83	103.00	2.0%
Party menu/ crissy croc,submarine,	30.58	36.70	31.25	37.50	2.2%
Slippery slide and Aqua Glide	38.25	45.90	39.17	47.00	2.4%
Splat	21.25	25.50	21.67	26.00	2.0%
Rafts,shapes,stepping stones	17.00	20.40	17.42	20.90	2.5%
Exterminator	59.50	71.40	60.83	73.00	2.2%
Private Tuition (1:1 ratio)	16.20	16.20	16.80	16.80	3.7%
Private Tuition (1:2 ratio)	19.10	19.10	19.80	19.80	3.7%
Private Tuition (1:3 ratio)	22.10	22.10	22.90	22.90	3.6%
Water fitness classes	6.00	6.00	6.15	6.15	2.5%
Fitness class concessions	3.60	3.60	3.70	3.70	2.8%
Shower	4.42	5.30	4.42	5.30	0.1%
Inflatable Session	3.83	4.60	4.17	5.00	8.8%
Inflatable Session-concessions	2.29	2.75	2.50	3.00	9.1%
Prescribed exercise plan	15.30	15.30	20.00	20.00	30.7%
Exercise referral class	2.05	2.05	2.10	2.10	2.4%
Specialist class - cardiac and respiratory	3.35	3.35	3.50	3.50	4.5%
Monthly Leisure Pass (rolling DD)	34.00	40.80	35.00	42.00	2.9%
Student Leisure Pass	23.38	28.05	23.75	28.50	1.6%
Student rolling	22.08	26.50	22.50	27.00	1.9%
Annual membership students	233.75	280.50	238.33	286.00	2.0%
Adult Annual Membership	346.79	416.15	354.17	425.00	2.1%
Direct Debit joining fee	25.50	30.60	26.25	31.50	2.9%
Off Peak Membership monthly	31.04	37.25	31.66	38.00	2.0%
Off Peak annual new member	306.00	367.20	312.50	375.00	2.1%
One off monthly	39.96	47.95	40.75	48.90	2.0%
Fitness classes at Pulse	6.85	6.85	6.95	6.95	1.5%
Fitness class concessions in Pulse	4.10	4.10	4.15	4.15	1.2%
Spin classes	6.70	6.70	6.80	6.80	1.5%
Spin express	5.10	5.10	5.15	5.15	1.0%

Agenda Item 5d
Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
	Yoga/Pilates/Tai chi	8.65	8.65	8.75	
Yoga/Pilates/Tai chi - concessions	5.20	5.20	5.25	5.25	1.0%
30 minute classes	4.50	4.50	4.60	4.60	2.2%
concessions	2.65	2.65	2.75	2.75	3.8%
Induction	7.15	7.15	7.20	7.20	0.7%
Body trax consultation	21.95	21.95	22.50	22.50	2.5%
Body trax use of scales with results not analysed	5.60	5.60	5.75	5.75	2.7%
Studio Parties	56.54	67.85	58.33	70.00	3.2%

Community Services and Licensing Committee

The Pulse

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

A variable increase is proposed for fees this year in order to both counter rising operational costs and bring us in line with other leisure centres in the wider Gloucestershire area. As an example of rising costs - Pool and cleaning chemicals have risen >12% as a result of both Brexit and the COVID pandemic and utility bills (for which we are a high use centre) are due to escalate later this year and next due to the wholesale price increase expected. Price sampling has also taken place to include 7 local leisure centres to provide a comparison and increases suggested to bring us much closer the average of these other centres.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

We are a subsidised service however each year we aim to be operationally self sufficient.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

The concessions for swimming and classes is based upon Stroud District Councils district wide concessions scheme.

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

The prices were benchmarked against 7 other leisure centres including Stratford Park Leisure Centres current prices.

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

The biggest impact will be seen with the increase to Junior swimming lesson. The proposed increase will translate to additional income of £35,000 in the next financial year above the base budget, if accepted.

Environment Committee

Building Control

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Building Control Fee Earning

1.1 Erection of 1 dwelling	591.67	710.00	608.33	730.00	2.8%
1.2 Erection of 2 dwellings	788.33	946.00	812.50	975.00	3.1%
1.3 Erection of 3 dwellings	985.00	1,182.00	1,014.17	1,217.00	3.0%
1.4 Erection of 4 dwellings	1,182.50	1,419.00	1,216.67	1,460.00	2.9%
1.5 Erection of 5 dwellings	1,411.67	1,694.00	1,454.17	1,745.00	3.0%
1.6 Erection of 6 dwellings	1,576.67	1,892.00	1,623.33	1,948.00	3.0%

1.7 For more than 6 houses please contact Building Control for a quote

Schedule 2 Domestic and Commercial Extensions

2.1 The erection or extension of a detached garage or carport or both having a floor area not exceeding 60m2 in total and is intended to be used in common with an existing building, and which is not an exempt building	333.33	400.00	343.33	412.00	3.0%
2.2 The conversion in total or part of an attached or integral garage to provide additional habitable accommodation	258.33	310.00	266.67	320.00	3.2%
2.3 The conversion in total or part of a loft where the total floor area of which does not exceed 20m2	426.67	512.00	439.17	527.00	2.9%
2.4 The conversion in total or part of a loft where the total floor area of which exceeds 20m2 but does not exceed 80m2	541.67	650.00	558.33	670.00	3.1%
2.5 Any extension where the total floor area of which does not exceed 20m2 including means of access and works in connection with that extension	426.67	512.00	439.17	527.00	2.9%
2.6 Any extension where the total floor area of which exceeds 20m2 but does not exceed 60m2, including means of access and works in connection with that extension	591.67	710.00	608.33	730.00	2.8%
2.7 Any extension where the total floor area of which exceeds 60m2 but does not exceed 100m2, including means of access and works in connection with that extension	716.67	860.00	737.50	885.00	2.9%

Schedule 3 Other Works

3.1 does not exceed £2,000	158.33	190.00	162.50	195.00	2.6%
3.2 exceeds £2,000 but does not exceed £5,000	225.00	270.00	233.33	280.00	3.7%
3.3 exceeds £5,000 but does not exceed £20,000	275.00	330.00	283.33	340.00	3.0%
Together with for every £1,000 (or part thereof) over £5,000	11.22	13.46	11.67	14.00	4.0%
3.4 exceeds £20,000 but does not exceed £80,000	450.00	540.00	458.33	550.00	1.9%
Together with for every £1,000 (or part thereof) over £20,000	5.61	6.73	5.83	7.00	4.0%
4.1 Replacement of up to 15 No. windows and doors	116.67	140.00	120.83	145.00	3.6%
4.2 Minor alterations carried out at the same time as a domestic extension to another part of the same building (with a cost of work not exceeding £2,000)	70.83	85.00	73.33	88.00	3.5%

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Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
4.3 Domestic thermal insulation upgrade to an individual element (external walls, floor or roof)	158.33	190.00	162.50	195.00	2.6%
4.4 Inspections outside the scope of the notification framework (per inspection)	70.83	85.00	73.33	88.00	3.5%
4.5 Inspection of dormant projects over 3 years old	92.50	111.00	95.83	115.00	3.6%
4.6 Copy documents on IDOX upto 2006	29.17	35.00	30.00	36.00	2.9%
4.7 Copy documents prior to 2006 (reproduced for conveyance from microfiche) inline with 20 year GDPR retention policy	54.17	65.00	55.83	67.00	3.1%

Building Control Regularisations

1.1 Erection of 1 dwelling	887.50	887.50	913.00	913.00	2.9%
1.2 Erection of 2 dwellings	1,182.50	1,182.50	1,218.00	1,218.00	3.0%
1.3 Erection of 3 dwellings	1,477.50	1,477.50	1,521.00	1,521.00	2.9%
1.4 Erection of 4 dwellings	1,773.75	1,773.75	1,825.00	1,825.00	2.9%
1.5 Erection of 5 dwellings	2,117.50	2,117.50	2,181.00	2,181.00	3.0%
1.6 Erection of 6 dwellings	2,365.00	2,365.00	2,435.00	2,435.00	3.0%

1.7 For more than 6 houses please contact Building Control for a quote

Schedule 2 Domestic and Commercial Extensions

2.1 The erection or extension of a detached garage or carport or both having a floor area not exceeding 60m2 in total and is intended to be used in common with an existing building, and which is not an exempt building	500.00	500.00	515.00	515.00	3.0%
2.2 The conversion in total or part of an attached or integral garage to provide additional habitable accommodation	387.50	387.50	400.00	400.00	3.2%
2.3 The conversion in total or part of a loft where the total floor area of which does not exceed 20m2	640.00	640.00	659.00	659.00	3.0%
2.4 The conversion in total or part of a loft where the total floor area of which exceeds 20m2 but does not exceed 80m2	820.00	820.00	838.00	838.00	2.2%
2.5 Any extension where the total floor area of which does not exceed 20m2 including means of access and works in connection with that extension	640.00	640.00	659.00	659.00	3.0%
2.6 Any extension where the total floor area of which exceeds 20m2 but does not exceed 60m2, including means of access and works in connection with that extension	887.50	887.50	912.50	912.50	2.8%
2.7 Any extension where the total floor area of which exceeds 60m2 but does not exceed 100m2, including means of access and works in connection with that extension	1,075.00	1,075.00	1,107.00	1,107.00	3.0%

Schedule 3 Other Works

3.1 does not exceed £2,000	158.33	190.00	162.50	195.00	2.6%
3.2 exceeds £2,000 but does not exceed £5,000	225.00	270.00	233.33	280.00	3.7%
3.3 exceeds £5,000 but does not exceed £20,000	275.00	330.00	283.33	340.00	3.0%
together with for every £1,000 (or part thereof) over £5,000	11.22	13.46	11.67	14.00	4.0%
3.4 exceeds £20,000 but does not exceed £80,000	450.00	540.00	458.33	550.00	1.9%
together with for every £1,000 (or part thereof) over £20,000	5.61	6.73	5.83	7.00	4.0%
4.1 Replacement of upto 15 No. windows and doors	116.67	140.00	120.83	145.00	3.6%

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
	4.2 Minor alterations carried out at the same time as a domestic extension to another part of the same building (with a cost of work not exceeding £2,000)	70.83	85.00	73.33	
4.3 Domestic thermal insulation upgrade to an individual element (external walls, floor or roof)	158.33	190.00	162.50	195.00	2.6%
4.4 Inspections outside the scope of the notification framework (per inspection)	70.83	85.00	73.33	88.00	3.5%
4.5 Inspection of dormant projects over 3 years old	92.50	111.00	95.83	115.00	3.6%
4.6 Copy documents on IDOX upto 2006	29.17	35.00	30.00	36.00	2.9%
4.7 Copy documents prior to 2006 (reproduced conveyancy only copies from microfiche) inline with 20 year GDPR retention policy	54.17	65.00	55.83	67.00	3.1%

Environment Committee

Building Control

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

A 3% increase in charges is proposed against the previous year's charges. For building control a bi-annual increase has been discussed by the shared service board. The fee charging element of building control is a competitive service.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery of the building control budget (4010) which is ring fenced and required to be cost neutral over a 3-5 year period.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

A charge is not applicable to building work that benefits a person with disabilities; this could be alterations to increase door widths, a through floor lift or an extension to add a bathroom/bedroom at ground level.

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

A review of neighbouring local authority charges has been undertaken which indicates that the charges will be toward the upper end assuming our neighbours do not increase their charges.

Equality Impact Assessment

The charges were increased in May 2020 which was the first increase since August 2015. Building Regulations apply to certain building work; the cost of the service is associated with the type of work being carried out. Where work is for the benefit of a disabled person a fee is not charged. This will continue and is set out in our scheme of charges.

Budget Impact

Building Control income is ring-fenced with the aim of achieving full cost recovery. The proposed increase in income is required to offset increased service costs. Some charges are negotiated with customers. Being a competitive service customers have a choice, to appoint the Council or a private approved inspector.

Environment Committee
Community Services - Garden and Bulky Waste
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Garden Waste – annual charge	41.67	50.00	41.67	50.00	0.0%
Bulky Waste – per collection	20.83	25.00	20.83	25.00	0.0%
RADAR Key – per key	2.08	2.50	2.08	2.50	0.0%

Environment Committee
Community Services - Garden and Bulky Waste
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

<p>No increase recommended for both garden waste and bulky waste. Garden waste was increased in 2020 above the inflationary rate and the £50 fee currently represents a ceiling charge when benchmarked locally. The bulky waste fee staying at £25 will continue to encourage residents to use this service. We have experienced high levels of flytipping following lockdown 1.0 and any disincentive to use the bulky service should be avoided. The bulky waste service is being very well used and will generate a surplus in 21/22.</p>

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
--

Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
--

N/A

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
--

Yes, other local authority scheme prices monitored – see below
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Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

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Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Dog Warden Service
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Dangerous Wild Animals

First application	180.83	217.00	186.25	223.50	3.0%
Renewal	136.67	164.00	140.83	169.00	3.0%

Zoo Licence (no dispensation)

*(Plus additional necessary Veterinary or other Inspection Fees) Original Licence 4 years, renewed for 6 years

Application for grant of new licence	549.17	659.00	565.83	679.00	3.0%
Renewal	499.17	599.00	514.17	617.00	3.0%

Zoo Licence (s.14 (2) dispensation)

*(Plus additional necessary Veterinary or other Inspection Fees) Original Licence 4 years, renewed for 6 years

Application for grant of new licence	289.17	347.00	297.92	357.50	3.0%
Renewal	193.33	232.00	199.17	239.00	3.0%

Environment Committee

Health and Wellbeing - Dog Warden Service

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3% increase

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

None

Equality Impact Assessment

Not this year

Budget Impact

Not significant

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Environmental Services
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Private Water Sampling	58.67	70.40	60.43	72.50	3.0%
Private Water Supply Risk Assessment	39.96	47.95	41.25	49.50	3.2%

Environment Committee

Health and Wellbeing - Environmental Services

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3% increase

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

No

Equality Impact Assessment

No

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

None

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Food Safety
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Food Export Health Certificates

Food Export Certificates (less that 120 a year)	41.67	50.00	42.92	51.50	3.0%
Where more than 120 certificates are issued per year	33.33	40.00	34.17	41.00	2.5%
For the issue of a Health Certificate where the inspection of a consignment is required	88.33	106.00	90.83	109.00	2.8%
Verification of Organic Shipments	41.67	50.00	42.92	51.50	3.0%

Registration of skin piercing establishments and practitioners: Accupuncture / Cosmetic-Piercing (inc Ear Piercing) Semi-Permanent Skin Colouring, Electrolysis / Tattooing

Premises	100.00	120.00	102.92	123.50	2.9%
Each person practicing	48.33	58.00	50.00	60.00	3.5%

Food Hygiene and Health & Safety Advice

General advisory visits (including advice on gaining or retaining a rating of 5 for food hygiene) (£70 an hour, minimum one hour and then £35 for each half an hour there after)	71.67	86.00	73.75	88.50	2.9%
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme re-score request (per request)	164.17	197.00	169.17	203.00	3.0%
Safer Food Better Business Packs (inc 3 month diary refill)	17.50	21.00	18.00	21.50	2.9%
Safer Food Better Business Diary Refill (12 months)	13.33	16.00	13.75	16.50	3.1%
Food Health and Safety: Primary Authority Partnership – establishing a long term single point of contact for your business to receive UK wide assured advice. The suggested cost is for; setting up, assessment of initial needs and the provision of 12 hours of officer time - Set up	683.33	820.00	704.17	845.00	3.0%
Annual Renewal Fee	179.17	215.00	184.58	221.50	3.0%
Hourly Rate	60.00	72.00	61.67	74.00	2.8%

Food Hygiene and Health & Safety Training Courses

Full day courses (approx 6 hours)	50.00	60.00	51.67	62.00	3.3%
Half Day Courses (approx 3 hours)	30.83	37.00	31.67	38.00	2.7%
On-site training courses: Rate per day (Charged pro-rata for shorter courses) plus the cost of materials and examination fees.	313.33	376.00	322.50	387.00	2.9%

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Food Safety
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
3.0%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Fees agreed with County group

Equality Impact Assessment
Not this year

Budget Impact
Not significant

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Pest Control
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Pest Control - DOMESTIC

Rats & Mice

Standard	75.00	90.00	77.50	93.00	3.3%
(extra visit £32)	26.67	32.00	27.50	33.00	3.1%
Benefits – Standard	37.50	45.00	38.75	46.50	3.3%
(extra visit £16)	13.33	16.00	13.75	16.50	3.2%

Wasps

Standard	57.50	69.00	59.23	71.00	3.0%
Standard – additional	18.33	22.00	19.17	23.00	4.6%
Benefits - Single space	28.33	34.00	29.17	35.00	3.0%
Benefit – additional	9.17	11.00	9.58	11.50	4.5%

Fleas / Carpet Moth / Beetle / Cluster Flies / Ants

All Jobs	71.67	86.00	73.75	88.50	2.9%
Benefits	35.83	43.00	37.08	44.50	3.5%
Bedbugs / Cockroaches	28.33	34.00	29.17	35.00	3.0%
Survey - (Quote after visit)	28.33	34.00	29.17	35.00	3.0%

Pest Control - COMMERCIAL

Rats & Mice

Standard	125.83	151.00	129.58	155.50	3.0%
(extra visit £50)	41.67	50.00	42.92	51.50	3.0%
Fleas / Carpet Moth / Beetle / Cluster Flies / Ants	105.00	126.00	108.33	130.00	3.2%

Wasps

Standard	83.33	100.00	85.83	103.00	3.0%
Standard – additional	31.67	38.00	32.50	39.00	2.6%

Bed Bugs

Survey - (Quote after visit)	33.33	40.00	34.17	41.00	2.5%
Call out	33.33	40.00	34.17	41.00	2.5%

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Pest Control
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
3% increase as recommended

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Subsidised

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
Half price for customers on certain benefits

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
South West Pest Liaison Group Members

Equality Impact Assessment
Not this year

Budget Impact
Not significant

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Port Health
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Water Sampling PORT (cost per sample)

Bacteriological examination	101.67	122.00	104.58	125.50	2.9%
Legionella examination	113.33	136.00	116.67	140.00	2.9%
Chemical analysis	224.17	269.00	230.83	277.00	3.0%
Organic	40.00	48.00	41.25	49.50	3.1%

Ship Sanitation Inspection Charges

Gross Tonnage of Vessel

up to 1000	£105.00	£105.00	£110.00	£110.00	4.8%
1001 - 3000	£140.00	£140.00	£150.00	£150.00	7.1%
3001 - 10000	£210.00	£210.00	£220.00	£220.00	4.8%
10001- 20000	£270.00	£270.00	£285.00	£285.00	5.6%
20001 - 30000	£345.00	£345.00	£365.00	£365.00	5.8%
over 30000	£405.00	£405.00	£425.00	£425.00	4.9%
Vessels with 50 - 1000 persons	£405.00	£405.00	£425.00	£425.00	4.9%
Vessels with over 1000 persons	£690.00	£690.00	£725.00	£725.00	5.1%
Extensions	£75.00	£75.00	£80.00	£80.00	6.7%

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Port Health
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
Increase of 3%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
No

Equality Impact Assessment
No

Budget Impact
None

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge		Charge		Change %
	April 2021 - March 2022		April 2022 - March 2023		
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

From January 2022

Residential properties per m ²	96.52	96.52	96.52	96.52	0.0%
Supermarkets and Retail Warehouses per m ²	90.49	90.49	90.49	90.49	0.0%

Environment Committee
Health and Wellbeing - Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
Charges for 2022-23 will remain unchanged until late 2021

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Charge was set according to government guidance and subject to viability assessment through the Local Plan process.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
There are a range of CIL exemptions relating to different types of development

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Yes – as part of CIL adoption in 2017

Equality Impact Assessment
Yes, as part of Local Plan process

Budget Impact
5% of CIL income is retained by the Council to cover administrative costs.

Environment Committee
Land and Property
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Standard Search (LLC1 + CON29R)	148.00	172.60*	148.00	172.60*	0.0%
LLC1 Only	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
CON29R	123.00	147.60	123.00	147.60	0.0%
CON29O Enquiries Questions 4-21 each	11.00	13.20	11.00	13.20	0.0%
CON29O Enquiry 22 (Commons Registration)	22.00	26.40	22.00	26.40	0.0%
Property name change	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Official address for a new or existing property (each) - 1-5 properties	40.00	40.00	40.00	40.00	0.0%
Official address for a new or existing property (each) - 6-25 properties	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%
Official address for a new or existing property (each) - 26-75 properties	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0%
Official address for a new or existing property (each) - 76+ properties	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.0%
Naming a new street (charge to the developer)	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.0%
Naming an existing unnamed street (charge to Parish or Town Council)	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	0.0%
Naming an existing unnamed street (charge to Parish or Town Council) - plus £30.00 for each affected property thereon	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0%
Renaming an existing named street (charge to Parish or Town Council)	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	0.0%
Renaming an existing named street (charge to Parish or Town Council) - plus £30.00 for each affected property thereon	30.00	30.00	30.00	30.00	0.0%
Address amendments (e.g. revised street and postcode)	35.00	35.00	35.00	35.00	0.0%

Environment Committee

Land and Property

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

No increase for 2022-23

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

N/A

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

Fees are set to be broadly in-line with and not to exceed our neighbouring authorities in the County.

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

N/A

Environment Committee
Planning - Application Fees
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Outline Applications

£462 per 0.1 hectare for sites up to and including 2.5 hectares	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
£11432 + £138 for each 0.1 in excess of 2.5 hectares to a maximum of £150,000	9,526.67	11,432.00	9,526.67	11,432.00	0.0%

Householder Applications

Alterations/extensions to single dwellinghouse, including works within boundary	171.67	206.00	171.67	206.00	0.0%
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Full Applications

Alterations/extensions to two or more dwellinghouses, including works within boundaries	339.17	407.00	339.17	407.00	0.0%
New dwellinghouses (up to 50 and including 50)	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
New dwellinghouses (for more than 50) £22,859 + £138 per additional dwellinghouse in excess of 50 up to a maximum fee of £300,000	19,049.17	22,859.00	19,049.17	22,859.00	0.0%

Erection of Buildings (not dwellinghouses, agricultural, glasshouses, plant nor machinery)

Gross floor space to be created by development - No increase in floor space or no more than 40 sq m	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 40 sq m but no more than 75 sq m	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 75 sq m but no more than 3,750 sq m	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 3,750 sq m	19,049.17	22,859.00	19,049.17	22,859.00	0.0%

Erection of Buildings (on land used for agricultural for agricultural purposes)

Gross floor space to be created by development - Not more than 465 sq m	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 465 sq m not more than 540 sq m	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 540 sq m not more than 4,215 sq m	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 4,215 sq m	19,049.17	22,859.00	19,049.17	22,859.00	0.0%

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Erection of Glasshouses (on land used for the purposes of agriculture)

Gross floor space to be created by development - Not more than 465 sq m	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Gross floor space to be created by development - More than 465 sq m	2,150.00	2,580.00	2,150.00	2,580.00	0.0%

Erection/Alterations/replacement of Plant & Machinery

Site area - Not more than 5 hectares (£462 for each 0.1 hectare, or part of thereof)	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Site area - More than 5 hectares (£22,859 + additional £138 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, in excess of 5 hectares to a maximum of £300,000)	19,049.17	22,859.00	19,049.17	22,859.00	0.0%

Environment Committee
Planning - Application Fees
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

N/A

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Environment Committee
Planning - Applications other than Building Work
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Car parks, service roads or other access - for existing uses	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
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Waste (use of land for disposal of refuse or waste materials or deposit of material remaining after extraction or storage of minerals)

Site area - Not more than 15 hectares (£234 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof)	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
Site area - More than 15 hectares (£34,934 + £138 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, in excess of 15 hectares up to a maximum of £78,000)	29,111.67	34,934.00	29,111.67	34,934.00	0.0%

Operations connected with exploratory drilling for oil or natural gas

Site area - Not more than 75 hectares	423.33	508.00	423.33	508.00	0.0%
Site area - More than 7.5 hectares (£38,070 + additional £151 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, in excess of 7.5 hectares up to a maximum of £300,000)	31,725.00	38,070.00	31,725.00	38,070.00	0.0%

Operations (other than exploratory drilling) for the winning and working of oil or natural gas

Site area - Not more than 15 hectares (£257 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof)	214.17	257.00	214.17	257.00	0.0%
Site area - More than 15 hectares (£38,520 + £151 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, in excess of 15 hectares up to a maximum of £78,000)	3,208.33	3,850.00	3,208.33	3,850.00	0.0%

Other Operations (winning and working of minerals) excluding natural oil and gas

Site area - Not more than 15 hectares (£234 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof)	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
Site area - More than 15 hectares (£34,934 + £138 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, in excess of 15 hectares up to a maximum of £78,000)	29,111.67	34,934.00	29,111.67	34,934.00	0.0%

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Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Other Operations (not coming with any of the above categories)

Site area - Any site area (£234 for each 0.1 hectare, or part thereof, up to a maximum of £2,028)	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
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Lawful Development Certificate

Existing use or operation	Same as full				
Existing use or operation - lawful not to comply with any condition or limitation	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
Proposed use or operation	Half the normal planning fee				

Environment Committee
Planning - Applications other than Building Work
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
N/A

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Equality Impact Assessment
N/A

Budget Impact
These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Environment Committee
Planning - Pre-Application Fees
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Pre-application Advice, Enquiries & Documents Online

Planning permission for dropped kerb	21.67	26.00	22.50	27.00	3.8%
Scheme support indication	53.33	64.00	55.00	66.00	3.1%
Householder proposal enquiry	53.33	64.00	55.00	66.00	3.1%
Non-Householder proposal enquiry	70.00	84.00	72.08	86.50	3.0%
30 Minutes with planner (via a virtual meeting)	63.33	76.00	65.42	78.50	3.3%
60 Minutes with planner (via a virtual meeting)	125.83	151.00	129.58	155.50	3.0%
30 Minutes with planner at applicants property where social distancing can be achieved (not a listed building)	105.00	126.00	108.33	130.00	3.2%
60 Minutes with planner at applicants property (not a listed building)	157.50	189.00	162.08	194.50	2.9%
30 Minutes with a conservation specialist at applicants property where social distancing can be achieved (listed building)	153.33	184.00	157.92	189.50	3.0%
Major housing or commercial projects. First hour of each meeting (additional research £60 per hour)	271.67	326.00	280.00	336.00	3.1%
Planning research	57.50	69.00	59.17	71.00	2.9%
Works to protected trees (history of a site and constraints) per hour and part of thereof	87.50	105.00	90.00	108.00	2.9%
Works to protected trees (TPO and Conservation Areas)	26.67	32.00	27.50	33.00	3.1%
Ecological response on proposed action	41.67	50.00	42.92	51.50	3.0%
Planning Administration Charges (e.g. copy documents) (£20 per half hour plus additional if printed)	18.33	22.00	18.75	22.50	2.3%

Environment Committee
Planning - Pre-Application Fees
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
3%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
Social registered landlords/housing associations for affordable housing developments

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Not in the last 12 months

Equality Impact Assessment
N/A

Budget Impact

Environment Committee
Planning - Prior Approval
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Prior Approval

Agricultural and Forestry buildings & operations or demolition of buildings	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Communications (previously referred to as 'Telecommunications Code Systems Operators')	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use to State Funded School or Registered Nursery	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a State-Funded School or Registered Nursery	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a flexible use within Shop, Financial and Professional Services, Restaurants and Cafes, Business, Storage or Distribution, Hotels, or Assembly or Leisure	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural building from Office (Use Class B1) Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwellinghouses)	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3), where there are no Associated Building Operations	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Building to a Dwellinghouses (Use Class C3), and Associated Building Operations	171.67	206.00	171.67	206.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of a building from a Retail (Use Class A1 or A2) Use or a Mixed Retail and Residential Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwellinghouses), where there are no Associated Building Operations	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Proposed Change of Use of a building from a Retail (Use Class A1 or A2) Use or a Mixed Retail and Residential Use to a use falling within Use Class C3 (Dwellinghouses), and Associated Building Operations	171.67	206.00	171.67	206.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change Of Use from Storage or Distribution Buildings (Class B8) and any land within its curtilage to Dwellinghouses (Class C3)	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change Of Use from Amusement Arcades/Centres and Casinos, (Sui Generis Uses) and any land within its curtilage to Dwellinghouses (Class C3)	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for a Change Of Use from Amusement Arcades/Centres and Casinos, (Sui Generis Uses) and any land within its curtilage to Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and Associated Building Operations	171.67	206.00	171.67	206.00	0.0%

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Appendix I

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Notification for Prior Approval for Change Of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Generis Uses) to Restaurants and Cafes (Class A3)	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for Change Of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Generis Uses) to Restaurants and Cafes (Class A3), and Associated Building Operations	171.67	206.00	171.67	206.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for Change Of Use from Shops (Class A1), Financial and Professional Services (Class A2), Betting Offices, Pay Day Loan Shops and Casinos (Sui Generis Uses) to Assembly and Leisure Uses (Class D2)	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for Development Consisting of the Erection or Construction of a Collection Facility within the Curtilage of a Shop	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for the 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	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%
Notification for Prior Approval for the Installation, Alteration or Replacement of other Solar Photovoltaic (PV) equipment on the Roofs of Non-domestic Buildings, up to a Capacity of 1 Megawatt	80.00	96.00	80.00	96.00	0.0%

Reserved Matters

Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
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Approval/Variation/discharge of condition

Application for removal or variation of a condition following grant of planning permission	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%
Request for confirmation that one or more planning conditions have been complied with (£34 per request for householder otherwise £116 per request)	28.33	34.00	28.33	34.00	0.0%

Change of Use

Number of dwellinghouses - Not more than 50 dwellinghouses (£462 for each)	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
Number of dwellinghouses - More than 50 dwellinghouses (£22,859 + £138 for each in excess of 50 up to a maximum of £300,00)	19,049.17	22,859.00	19,049.17	22,859.00	0.0%
Other Changes Of Use of a building or land	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%

Advertising

Relating to the business on the premises	110.00	132.00	110.00	132.00	0.0%
Advance signs which are not situated on or visible from the site, directing the public to a business	110.00	132.00	110.00	132.00	0.0%

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Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Other advertisements	385.00	462.00	385.00	462.00	0.0%
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Application for a Non-material Amendment Following a Grant of Planning Permission

Applications in respect of householder developments	28.33	34.00	28.33	34.00	0.0%
Applications in respect of other developments	195.00	234.00	195.00	234.00	0.0%

Application for Permission in Principle

Site area - £402 for each 0.1 hectare (or part thereof)	335.00	402.00	335.00	402.00	0.0%
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Environment Committee

Planning - Prior Approval

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

N/A

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A

Budget Impact

These fees are set by central government and cannot be influenced by the Council

Environment Committee
Planning Strategy
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Local Plan

Stroud District Local Plan	£16.67	£20.00	£16.67	20.00	0.0%
Stroud District Local Plan Review: Draft Local Plan for Public Consultation	£10.00	£12.00	£20.00	24.00	100.0%

Environmental Information (EIR)

Charge per hour (staff time) to provide copies of TPOs, Section 106 Agreements, drawings, reports, and other documents considered environmental information, that do not form part of the planning register or pre-date 2005. No charge if officer time spent is less than 30 minutes.	£21.25	25.50	£21.67	26.00	2.0%
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Disbursement Costs (EIR)

A4 Black & White	£0.09	0.10	£0.09	0.11	3.0%
A3 Black & White	£0.21	0.26	£0.22	0.26	3.0%
A4 Colour	£0.43	0.51	£0.44	0.53	3.0%
A3 Colour	£0.85	1.02	£0.88	1.05	3.0%

SATURN Highway Model - Stroud Local Plan forecasts

Access fee	£2,000.00	£2,400.00	£2,000.00	2,400.00	0.0%
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Environment Committee

Planning Strategy

Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

3%. Draft Local Plan Review increased substantially due to a much larger draft report document. Stroud District Local Plan and Saturn Highway model no change.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery for Local Plan and disbursements.
Subsidised service for environmental information and access to highway model.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

Benchmarking carried out on environmental information charges and access to highway model.

Equality Impact Assessment

No equality issues identified.

Budget Impact

No significant budget impact. Charge for access to highway model will partly offset overspend on building the highway model.

Environment Committee
Private Housing - Land Drainage Consenting
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Land Drainage Consenting Fee	50.00	50.00	50.00	50.00	0.0%

Environment Committee
Private Housing - Land Drainage Consenting
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
Not Applicable

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Statutory Charge

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
None

Equality Impact Assessment
N/A

Budget Impact
None

Housing Committee
Private Housing - Caravan Site Licensing
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Caravan Site Licensing Fee (VAT exempt) hourly rate charge	49.60	49.60	49.60	49.60	0.0%

Housing Committee
Private Housing - Caravan Site Licensing
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
Worked out on fixed matrix.No change 2022-23

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Full Cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
No

Equality Impact Assessment
None

Budget Impact
None

Housing Committee
Private Housing - HMO Licensing
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
	Application for Licence Fee for HMO	262.00	262.00	262.00	
Management & Enforcement Fee for HMO - (only applicable once licence approved and due to be paid before licence issued)	614.00	614.00	614.00	614.00	0.0%

Housing Committee
Private Housing - HMO Licensing
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
Fixed matrix. No change 2022-23

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Charge is based on cost recovery. The fees for HMO's are required to be set according to a government matrix and are based on costs in the previous year. If the outturn costs are less than the fees charged, the fees must be reduced in the following year.

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Costing Matrix used was developed in consultation with other Local Authorities in Gloucestershire and based on the regulations issued by Government

Equality Impact Assessment
None

Budget Impact
Licenses last for 5 years and the number issued is small, so budget impact will be minimal

Housing Committee
Private Housing - Immigration Accommodation Certificate
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Immigration Certificate	119.17	143.00	122.92	147.50	3.1%

Housing Committee
Private Housing - Immigration Accommodation Certificate
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year
3.0%

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
Cost Recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
None

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
Yes

Equality Impact Assessment
None

Budget Impact
None

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Car Parking
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

London Road MSCP

1hr	0.67	0.80	0.75	0.90	12.5%
2hrs	1.25	1.50	1.25	1.50	0.0%
3hrs	1.50	1.80	1.67	2.00	11.1%
4hrs	1.83	2.20	1.83	2.20	0.0%
4hrs +	2.50	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.0%

London Road Surface

1hr	0.67	0.80	0.75	0.90	12.5%
2hrs	1.25	1.50	1.25	1.50	0.0%
3hrs	1.50	1.80	1.67	2.00	11.1%
4hrs	1.83	2.20	1.83	2.20	0.0%
4hrs +	2.50	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.0%

Cheapside

1hr	0.67	0.80	0.75	0.90	12.5%
2hrs	1.25	1.50	1.25	1.50	0.0%
3hrs	1.50	1.80	1.67	2.00	11.1%
4hrs	1.83	2.20	1.83	2.20	0.0%
24hrs	2.50	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.0%
48hrs	5.00	6.00	5.00	6.00	0.0%
72hrs	7.50	9.00	7.50	9.00	0.0%

Church Street

1hr	1.08	1.30	1.08	1.30	0.0%
2hrs	1.67	2.00	1.67	2.00	0.0%

Rowcroft

1hr	1.08	1.30	1.08	1.30	0.0%
2hrs	1.67	2.00	1.67	2.00	0.0%
3hrs	2.08	2.50	2.08	2.50	0.0%

Parliament Street

1hr	0.67	0.80	0.75	0.90	12.5%
2hrs	1.25	1.50	1.25	1.50	0.0%
3hrs	1.50	1.80	1.67	2.00	11.1%
4hrs	1.83	2.20	1.83	2.20	0.0%
4hrs +	2.50	3.00	2.50	3.00	0.0%

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Car Parking
 Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

<p>Using the overall tariff structure, the increase is just over 3%. Given the impact on income and skewed use of particular tariff points it's hard to assess the budgetary impact but broadly we would expect the proposal to achieve a 3% revenue increase. Permit fees have been increased by 3% too.</p>

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)
--

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions
--

Concessions to Blue Badge Holders - Free of charge parking
--

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?
--

A comprehensive benchmarking exercise was undertaken for the last increase in 2017
--

Equality Impact Assessment

As above (at last increase)

Budget Impact

--

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Old Town Hall
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	

Commercial Rates

8hrs	91.50	109.80	94.17	113.00	2.9%
Hourly rate	19.17	23.00	19.58	23.50	2.2%
Monday – Friday (no evening use)	413.85	496.62	429.17	515.00	3.7%
Monday – Friday (evening use)	590.71	708.85	604.17	725.00	2.3%
7 days (no evening use)	531.47	637.76	550.00	660.00	3.5%
7 days (evening use)	727.50	873.00	750.00	900.00	3.1%

Non Commercial Rates

8hrs	62.73	75.28	65.00	78.00	3.6%
Hourly rate	13.08	15.69	13.33	16.00	2.0%
Monday – Friday (no evening use)	311.91	374.29	320.83	385.00	2.9%
Monday – Friday (evening use)	461.77	554.12	475.00	570.00	2.9%
7 days (no evening use)	387.71	465.25	400.00	480.00	3.2%
7 days (evening use)	564.57	677.48	583.33	700.00	3.3%

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Old Town Hall
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

In line with 3%, although some minor alterations to account for rounding.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Partial cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

Concessions for charity organisations.

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A.

Budget Impact

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Shambles Market
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Description of Charge	Charge April 2021 - March 2022		Charge April 2022 - March 2023		Change %
	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	£ Exc VAT	£ Inc VAT	
Small Stall	7.08	8.50	7.50	9.00	5.9%
Large Stall	12.92	15.50	13.33	16.00	3.2%

Strategy and Resources Committee
Community Services - Shambles Market
Schedule of Fees and Charges from 1 April 2022

Proposed increase in fee/charge from previous year

Additional 50pence charge for both small and large stalls.

Basis of charge (eg full cost recovery, statutory charge, subsidised service)

Full cost recovery

Details of any discretionary discounts or concessions

No concessions or discounts.

Has any benchmarking or consultation been undertaken?

N/A.

Equality Impact Assessment

N/A.

Budget Impact

Appendix J – Details of Council Tax Charges for the District

Gloucestershire County Council set its budget on 16 February 2022 and has issued a precept on this Council for 2022/23 of £67,403,253, which equates to a Band D rate of £1,451.36. This is an increase of 2.99% on the 2021/22 Band D rate, consisting of a 1.00% Adult Social Care levy and 1.99% council tax increase.

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire set its budget on 4 February 2022 and has issued a precept on this Council for 2022/23 of £13,007,347, which equates to a Band D rate of £280.08. This is an increase of 3.70% on the Band D rate for 2021/22.

Stroud District Council's precept on the Collection Fund for 2022/23 is £10,334,171, which equates to a Band D rate of £222.52. This is an increase of 2.30% from the 2021/22 Band D rate.

The parish and town councils have issued precepts for 2022/23 totalling £4,635,495 including special expenses, which equates to an average Band D of £99.81. This represents an increase of 3.85% on the average 2021/22 Band D of £96.11.

Further details of Council Tax charges are shown in the text and tables below.

1. It should be noted that the Council has calculated:

(a) the Council Tax Base 2022/23 for the whole Council area as 46,441.54 [Item T in the formula in Section 31B(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the "Act")] and,

(b) for dwellings in those parts of its area to which a Parish precept relates as in the attached Table 1 column 2.

2. Calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the for the Council's own purposes for 2022/23 (excluding Parish precepts) is £10,334,171.

3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 30 to 36 of the Act:

(a) £86,418,567 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act taking into account all precepts issued to it by Parish Councils.

(b) £71,448,900 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act.

(c) £14,969,667 being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year. (Item R in the formula in Section 31B of the Act).

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Appendix J

- (d) £322.33 being the amount at 3(c) above (Item R), all divided by Item T (1(a)) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year (Basic Band 'D' including Parish precepts).
- (e) £4,635,495 being the aggregate amount of all special items (Parish precepts) referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act (as per Table 1).
- (f) £222.52 being the amount at 3(d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3(e) above by Item T (1 (a) above), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no Parish precept relates. (Basic Band 'D' excluding Parish/Town Councils).
4. That it be noted that for the year 2022/23 Gloucestershire County Council and The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Valuation Bands	Gloucestershire County Council			Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire
	(£)			(£)
	ASC	General	Total	
DisrA**	94.34	711.97	806.31	155.60
A	113.21	854.36	967.57	186.72
B	132.08	996.75	1,128.84	217.84
C	150.95	1,139.15	1,290.10	248.96
D	169.82	1,281.54	1,451.36	280.08
E	207.56	1,566.32	1,773.88	342.32
F	245.30	1,851.11	2,096.41	404.56
G	283.03	2,135.90	2,418.93	466.80
H	339.64	2,563.08	2,902.72	560.16

*Band DisrA provides for a discount for disabled people living in a band A property

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(d) and 4 above, the Council in accordance with Section 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in Table 2.
6. The Council has determined that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 is not excessive in accordance with principles approved under Section 52ZB Local Government Finance Act 1992. As the billing authority, the Council has not been notified by a major precepting authority that its relevant basic amount of Council Tax for 2022/23 is excessive and that the billing authority is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Table 1: Calculation of Council Tax Rate – 2022/23 Appendix J

Area Name	Parish Precept (£)	Tax Base	Parish Band D (£)	Change in Band D Charge
Alderley	0	47.69	0.00	0.00%
Alkington	8,500	309.42	27.47	1.29%
Arlingham	3,776	224.53	16.82	2.63%
Berkeley	136,222	838.02	162.55	2.11%
Bisley-with-Lypiatt	67,928	1,080.61	62.86	-0.73%
Brimscombe and Thrupp	52,500	728.62	72.05	4.98%
Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon	18,300	159.95	114.41	3.30%
Cainscross	260,857	2,124.59	122.78	1.49%
Cam	291,085	3,242.25	89.78	2.08%
Chalford	192,005	2,480.13	77.42	10.87%
Coaley	13,600	369.02	36.85	2.35%
Cranham	8,863	244.22	36.29	0.52%
Dursley	519,900	2,447.76	212.40	2.50%
Eastington	97,080	1,183.17	82.05	-18.46%
Elmore	2,472	88.35	27.98	4.41%
Frampton-on-Severn	18,000	546.24	32.95	-0.35%
Fretherne-with-Saul	16,500	286.38	57.62	-49.92%
Frocester	1,100	74.28	14.81	-2.64%
Ham and Stone	9,966	358.24	27.82	1.01%
Hamfallow	22,170	403.59	54.93	17.82%
Hardwicke	54,315	1,482.74	36.63	2.81%
Harescombe	5,080	104.21	48.75	-2.60%
Haresfield	10,985	160.73	68.34	13.04%
Hillesley & Tresham	6,630	302.28	21.93	45.51%
Hinton	38,672	415.55	93.06	-0.06%
Horsley	34,058	364.90	93.34	3.87%
Hunts Grove	53,000	934.53	56.71	92.77%
Kings Stanley	26,366	995.71	26.48	-10.00%
Kingswood	115,062	580.83	198.10	4.83%
Leonard Stanley	35,687	673.72	52.97	0.84%
Longney & Epney	3,950	144.19	27.39	-2.44%
Minchinhampton	110,000	2,575.82	42.70	-0.30%
Miserden	10,710	196.73	54.44	5.01%
Moreton Valence	7,000	80.04	87.46	-1.42%
Nailsworth	320,927	2,144.51	149.65	-8.28%
North Nibley	18,400	397.35	46.31	-0.39%
Nymphsfield	10,000	170.93	58.50	-2.25%
Owlpen	0	21.56	0.00	0.00%
Painswick	118,580	1,819.26	65.18	6.99%
Pitchcombe	3,640	139.74	26.05	12.92%
Randwick & Westrip	18,791	561.69	33.45	-1.08%
Rodborough	101,311	2,007.99	50.45	-0.93%
Slimbridge	66,165	478.23	138.35	6.82%
Standish	12,612	183.88	68.59	3.00%
Stinchcombe	5,650	215.66	26.20	1.41%
Stonehouse	357,130	2,406.19	148.42	4.18%
Stroud	793,629	4,361.30	181.97	4.88%
Uley	21,470	536.82	39.99	12.36%
Upton St Leonards	41,360	1,214.08	34.07	2.46%
Whiteshill & Ruscombe	40,240	478.30	84.13	-0.00%
Whitminster	18,200	373.24	48.76	-0.03%
Woodchester	13,300	561.37	23.69	4.21%
Wotton-under-Edge	421,348	2,120.40	198.71	26.41%
Total parishes	4,635,092	46,441.54		
Special Expenses				
Ham and Stone Burial Area	403.04	100.95	3.99	0.54%
Total including special expense	4,635,495			

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Appendix J

Table 2: Council Tax Rates 2022/23

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Alderley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Alderley Parish	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,085.53	1,302.64	1,519.75	1,736.86	1,953.96	2,388.17	2,822.39	3,256.60	3,907.92
Alkington									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Alkington Parish	15.26	18.31	21.37	24.42	27.47	33.58	39.68	45.78	54.94
Total	1,100.79	1,320.95	1,541.12	1,761.28	1,981.43	2,421.75	2,862.07	3,302.38	3,962.86
Arlingham									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Arlingham Parish	9.34	11.21	13.08	14.95	16.82	20.55	24.29	28.03	33.63
Total	1,094.87	1,313.85	1,532.83	1,751.81	1,970.78	2,408.72	2,846.68	3,284.63	3,941.55
Berkeley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Berkeley Town	90.31	108.37	126.43	144.49	162.55	198.67	234.80	270.92	325.10
Total	1,175.84	1,411.01	1,646.18	1,881.35	2,116.51	2,586.84	3,057.19	3,527.52	4,233.02
Bisley-with-Lypiatt									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Bisley-with-Lypiatt Parish	34.92	41.91	48.89	55.88	62.86	76.83	90.80	104.77	125.72
Total	1,120.45	1,344.55	1,568.64	1,792.74	2,016.82	2,465.00	2,913.19	3,361.37	4,033.64
Brimscombe & Thrupp									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Brimscombe & Thrupp Parish	40.03	48.04	56.04	64.05	72.05	88.07	104.08	120.09	144.11
Total	1,125.56	1,350.68	1,575.79	1,800.91	2,026.01	2,476.24	2,926.47	3,376.69	4,052.03
Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Brookthorpe-with-Whaddon	63.56	76.27	88.99	101.70	114.41	139.84	165.26	190.68	228.82
Total	1,149.09	1,378.91	1,608.74	1,838.56	2,068.37	2,528.01	2,987.65	3,447.28	4,136.74
Cainscross									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Cainscross Parish	68.21	81.85	95.50	109.14	122.78	150.06	177.35	204.63	245.56
Total	1,153.74	1,384.49	1,615.25	1,846.00	2,076.74	2,538.23	2,999.74	3,461.23	4,153.48
Cam									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Cam Parish	49.88	59.85	69.83	79.80	89.78	109.73	129.68	149.63	179.56
Total	1,135.41	1,362.49	1,589.58	1,816.66	2,043.74	2,497.90	2,952.07	3,406.23	4,087.48
Chalford									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Chalford Parish	43.01	51.61	60.21	68.82	77.42	94.62	111.83	129.03	154.83
Total	1,128.54	1,354.25	1,579.96	1,805.68	2,031.38	2,482.79	2,934.22	3,385.63	4,062.75

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Appendix J

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Coaley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Coaley Parish	20.47	24.57	28.66	32.76	36.85	45.04	53.23	61.42	73.71
Total	1,106.00	1,327.21	1,548.41	1,769.62	1,990.81	2,433.21	2,875.62	3,318.02	3,981.63
Cranham									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Cranham Parish	20.16	24.19	28.23	32.26	36.29	44.36	52.42	60.49	72.58
Total	1,105.69	1,326.83	1,547.98	1,769.12	1,990.25	2,432.53	2,874.81	3,317.09	3,980.50
Dursley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Dursley Town	118.00	141.60	165.20	188.80	212.40	259.60	306.80	354.00	424.80
Total	1,203.53	1,444.24	1,684.95	1,925.66	2,166.36	2,647.77	3,129.19	3,610.60	4,332.72
Eastington									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Eastington Parish	45.58	54.70	63.82	72.93	82.05	100.28	118.52	136.75	164.10
Total	1,131.11	1,357.34	1,583.57	1,809.79	2,036.01	2,488.45	2,940.91	3,393.35	4,072.02
Elmore									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Elmore Parish	15.54	18.65	21.76	24.87	27.98	34.20	40.42	46.63	55.96
Total	1,101.07	1,321.29	1,541.51	1,761.73	1,981.94	2,422.37	2,862.81	3,303.23	3,963.88
Frampton-on-Severn									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Frampton-on-Severn Parish	18.31	21.97	25.63	29.29	32.95	40.28	47.60	54.92	65.91
Total	1,103.84	1,324.61	1,545.38	1,766.15	1,986.91	2,428.45	2,869.99	3,311.52	3,973.83
Fretherne-with-Saul									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Fretherne-with-Saul	32.01	38.41	44.81	51.21	57.62	70.42	83.22	96.03	115.23
Total	1,117.54	1,341.05	1,564.56	1,788.07	2,011.58	2,458.59	2,905.61	3,352.63	4,023.15
Frocester									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Frocester Parish	8.23	9.87	11.52	13.16	14.81	18.10	21.39	24.68	29.62
Total	1,093.76	1,312.51	1,531.27	1,750.02	1,968.77	2,406.27	2,843.78	3,281.28	3,937.54
Ham & Stone									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Ham & Stone Parish	15.46	18.55	21.64	24.73	27.82	34.00	40.18	46.37	55.64
Total	1,100.99	1,321.19	1,541.39	1,761.59	1,981.78	2,422.17	2,862.57	3,302.97	3,963.56
Ham & Stone Burial Area									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Ham & Stone Parish	15.46	18.55	21.64	24.73	27.82	34.00	40.18	46.37	55.64
Ham & Stone Parish Burial Area	2.22	2.66	3.11	3.55	3.99	4.88	5.77	6.65	7.98
Total	1,103.21	1,323.85	1,544.50	1,765.14	1,985.77	2,427.05	2,868.34	3,309.62	3,971.54

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Appendix J

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Hamfallow									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Hamfallow Parish	30.52	36.62	42.72	48.83	54.93	67.14	79.35	91.55	109.86
Total	1,116.05	1,339.26	1,562.47	1,785.69	2,008.89	2,455.31	2,901.74	3,348.15	4,017.78
Hardwicke									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Hardwicke Parish	20.35	24.42	28.49	32.56	36.63	44.77	52.91	61.05	73.26
Total	1,105.88	1,327.06	1,548.24	1,769.42	1,990.59	2,432.94	2,875.30	3,317.65	3,981.18
Harescombe									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Harescombe Parish	27.08	32.50	37.91	43.33	48.75	59.58	70.41	81.25	97.50
Total	1,112.61	1,335.14	1,557.66	1,780.19	2,002.71	2,447.75	2,892.80	3,337.85	4,005.42
Haresfield									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Haresfield Parish	37.97	45.56	53.16	60.75	68.34	83.53	98.72	113.91	136.69
Total	1,123.50	1,348.20	1,572.91	1,797.61	2,022.30	2,471.70	2,921.11	3,370.51	4,044.61
Hillesley & Tresham									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Hillesley & Tresham Parish	12.19	14.62	17.06	19.50	21.93	26.81	31.68	36.56	43.87
Total	1,097.72	1,317.26	1,536.81	1,756.36	1,975.89	2,414.98	2,854.07	3,293.16	3,951.79
Hinton									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Hinton Parish	51.70	62.04	72.38	82.72	93.06	113.74	134.42	155.10	186.12
Total	1,137.23	1,364.68	1,592.13	1,819.58	2,047.02	2,501.91	2,956.81	3,411.70	4,094.04
Horsley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Horsley Parish	51.85	62.22	72.59	82.96	93.34	114.08	134.82	155.56	186.67
Total	1,137.38	1,364.86	1,592.34	1,819.82	2,047.30	2,502.25	2,957.21	3,412.16	4,094.59
Hunts Grove									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Hunts Grove Parish	31.51	37.81	44.11	50.41	56.71	69.32	81.92	94.52	113.43
Total	1,117.04	1,340.45	1,563.86	1,787.27	2,010.67	2,457.49	2,904.31	3,351.12	4,021.35
Kings Stanley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Kings Stanley Parish	14.71	17.65	20.60	23.54	26.48	32.36	38.25	44.13	52.96
Total	1,100.24	1,320.29	1,540.35	1,760.40	1,980.44	2,420.53	2,860.64	3,300.73	3,960.88
Kingswood									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Kingswood Parish	110.06	132.07	154.08	176.09	198.10	242.12	286.14	330.17	396.20
Total	1,195.59	1,434.71	1,673.83	1,912.95	2,152.06	2,630.29	3,108.53	3,586.77	4,304.12

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Appendix J

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Leonard Stanley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Leonard Stanley Parish	29.43	35.31	41.20	47.08	52.97	64.74	76.51	88.28	105.94
Total	1,114.96	1,337.95	1,560.95	1,783.94	2,006.93	2,452.91	2,898.90	3,344.88	4,013.86
Longney & Epney									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Longney & Epney Parish	15.22	18.26	21.31	24.35	27.39	33.48	39.57	45.66	54.79
Total	1,100.75	1,320.90	1,541.06	1,761.21	1,981.35	2,421.65	2,861.96	3,302.26	3,962.71
Minchinhampton									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Minchinhampton Parish	23.72	28.47	33.21	37.96	42.70	52.19	61.68	71.17	85.41
Total	1,109.25	1,331.11	1,552.96	1,774.82	1,996.66	2,440.36	2,884.07	3,327.77	3,993.33
Miserden									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Miserden Parish	30.24	36.29	42.34	48.39	54.44	66.54	78.64	90.73	108.88
Total	1,115.77	1,338.93	1,562.09	1,785.25	2,008.40	2,454.71	2,901.03	3,347.33	4,016.80
Moreton Valence									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Moreton Valence Parish	48.59	58.30	68.02	77.74	87.46	106.89	126.33	145.76	174.91
Total	1,134.12	1,360.94	1,587.77	1,814.60	2,041.42	2,495.06	2,948.72	3,402.36	4,082.83
Nailsworth									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Nailsworth Parish	83.14	99.77	116.39	133.02	149.65	182.91	216.16	249.42	299.30
Total	1,168.67	1,402.41	1,636.14	1,869.88	2,103.61	2,571.08	3,038.55	3,506.02	4,207.22
North Nibley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
North Nibley Parish	25.73	30.87	36.02	41.16	46.31	56.60	66.89	77.18	92.61
Total	1,111.26	1,333.51	1,555.77	1,778.02	2,000.27	2,444.77	2,889.28	3,333.78	4,000.53
Nympsfield									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Nympsfield Parish	32.50	39.00	45.50	52.00	58.50	71.50	84.51	97.51	117.01
Total	1,118.03	1,341.64	1,565.25	1,788.86	2,012.46	2,459.67	2,906.90	3,354.11	4,024.93
Owlpen									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Owlpen Parish	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1,085.53	1,302.64	1,519.75	1,736.86	1,953.96	2,388.17	2,822.39	3,256.60	3,907.92
Painswick									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Painswick Parish	36.21	43.45	50.70	57.94	65.18	79.66	94.15	108.63	130.36
Total	1,121.74	1,346.09	1,570.45	1,794.80	2,019.14	2,467.83	2,916.54	3,365.23	4,038.28

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Appendix J

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Pitchcombe									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Pitchcombe Parish	14.47	17.37	20.26	23.15	26.05	31.84	37.63	43.41	52.10
Total	1,100.00	1,320.01	1,540.01	1,760.01	1,980.01	2,420.01	2,860.02	3,300.01	3,960.02
Randwick & Westrip									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Randwick and Westrip Parish	18.59	22.30	26.02	29.74	33.45	40.89	48.32	55.76	66.91
Total	1,104.12	1,324.94	1,545.77	1,766.60	1,987.41	2,429.06	2,870.71	3,312.36	3,974.83
Rodborough									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Rodborough Parish	28.03	33.64	39.24	44.85	50.45	61.67	72.88	84.09	100.91
Total	1,113.56	1,336.28	1,558.99	1,781.71	2,004.41	2,449.84	2,895.27	3,340.69	4,008.83
Slimbridge									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Slimbridge Parish	76.86	92.24	107.61	122.98	138.35	169.10	199.84	230.59	276.71
Total	1,162.39	1,394.88	1,627.36	1,859.84	2,092.31	2,557.27	3,022.23	3,487.19	4,184.63
Standish									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Standish Parish	38.10	45.73	53.35	60.97	68.59	83.83	99.07	114.31	137.18
Total	1,123.63	1,348.37	1,573.10	1,797.83	2,022.55	2,472.00	2,921.46	3,370.91	4,045.10
Stinchcombe									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Stinchcombe Parish	14.55	17.47	20.38	23.29	26.20	32.02	37.84	43.66	52.40
Total	1,100.08	1,320.11	1,540.13	1,760.15	1,980.16	2,420.19	2,860.23	3,300.26	3,960.32
Stonehouse									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Stonehouse Town	82.46	98.95	115.44	131.93	148.42	181.40	214.39	247.37	296.84
Total	1,167.99	1,401.59	1,635.19	1,868.79	2,102.38	2,569.57	3,036.78	3,503.97	4,204.76
Stroud									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Stroud Town	101.09	121.31	141.53	161.75	181.97	222.41	262.85	303.28	363.94
Total	1,186.62	1,423.95	1,661.28	1,898.61	2,135.93	2,610.58	3,085.24	3,559.88	4,271.86
Uley									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Uley Parish	22.22	26.66	31.11	35.55	39.99	48.88	57.77	66.66	79.99
Total	1,107.75	1,329.30	1,550.86	1,772.41	1,993.95	2,437.05	2,880.16	3,323.26	3,987.91
Upton St. Leonards									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Upton St. Leonards Parish	18.93	22.71	26.50	30.28	34.07	41.64	49.21	56.78	68.13
Total	1,104.46	1,325.35	1,546.25	1,767.14	1,988.03	2,429.81	2,871.60	3,313.38	3,976.05

Agenda Item 5d
Appendix J

Part of the Council's area	Disr A (£)	Band A (£)	Band B (£)	Band C (£)	Band D (£)	Band E (£)	Band F (£)	Band G (£)	Band H (£)
Whiteshill & Ruscombe									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Whiteshill & Ruscombe Parish	46.74	56.09	65.44	74.78	84.13	102.83	121.52	140.22	168.26
Total	1,132.27	1,358.73	1,585.19	1,811.64	2,038.09	2,491.00	2,943.91	3,396.82	4,076.18
Whitminster									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Whitminster Parish	27.09	32.51	37.93	43.34	48.76	59.60	70.43	81.27	97.52
Total	1,112.62	1,335.15	1,557.68	1,780.20	2,002.72	2,447.77	2,892.82	3,337.87	4,005.44
Woodchester									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Woodchester Parish	13.16	15.79	18.43	21.06	23.69	28.96	34.22	39.49	47.38
Total	1,098.69	1,318.43	1,538.18	1,757.92	1,977.65	2,417.13	2,856.61	3,296.09	3,955.30
Wotton-under-Edge									
Stroud District	123.62	148.35	173.07	197.80	222.52	271.97	321.42	370.87	445.04
Gloucestershire County	806.31	967.57	1,128.84	1,290.10	1,451.36	1,773.88	2,096.41	2,418.93	2,902.72
Gloucestershire Police	155.60	186.72	217.84	248.96	280.08	342.32	404.56	466.80	560.16
Wotton-under-Edge Parish	110.40	132.47	154.55	176.63	198.71	242.87	287.03	331.19	397.42
Total	1,195.93	1,435.11	1,674.30	1,913.49	2,152.67	2,631.04	3,109.42	3,587.79	4,305.34

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	Housing Revenue Account Estimates – Revised 2021/22 and Original 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 – 2025/26			
Purpose of Report	To present to the committee the revised budget estimates for 2021/22 and the original estimates for 2022/23.			
Decision(s)	<p>Council RESOLVES that:</p> <p>a) The revised HRA revenue budget for 2021/22 and original budget 2022/23 are approved;</p> <p>b) The movement to and from HRA balances and capital reserves as detailed in Appendix B and section 9 are approved;</p> <p>c) That from 1 April 2022:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">i. Social rents and affordable rents are increased by 4.1% (CPI +1%), in line with national rent guidance</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">ii. Garage rents are increased by 4.1%</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">iii. Landlord service charges are increased by 4.1%</p> <p>d) That the HRA Capital Programme for 2021/22 to 2025/26, as detailed in Appendix C, be included in the Council’s Capital Programme;</p> <p>e) To delegate authority to the Strategic Director of Resources to appropriate land and buildings at 11/11A May Lane (as shown on the plan at Appendix D) into the HRA and the New Build Programme from the General Fund, once a market valuation has been received and;</p> <p>f) To delegate authority to the Head of Property Services to continue work on progressing this site with land to the rear of Parsonage Street, Dursley, including opening negotiations to acquire land from 3rd party private owners as recommended by Strategy and Resources Committee.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Budget holders and Senior Managers			
Report Author	Lucy Clothier, Accountancy Manager Tel: 01453 754343 Email: lucy.clothier@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	<p>a) Reduce or increase capital and revenue expenditure</p> <p>b) Reduce or increase dwelling rents</p> <p>c) Reduce or increase landlord service charges and garage rents</p> <p>d) Not appropriate the land at May Lane to the HRA</p>			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	<p>A – HRA rents and service charges</p> <p>B – HRA MTFP</p> <p>C – HRA Capital Programme and funding</p> <p>D – Plan of land at May Lane and Prospect Place, Dursley</p>			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

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1. Background

- 1.1 The Budget Strategy reported to Strategy and Resources Committee in October 2021 set out the way in which the Council would approach setting budgets for the forthcoming financial year.
- 1.2 The Committee's service revenue budgets have been prepared in accordance with the budget framework set out in the Budget Strategy report. They are presented in draft format and are subject to further change as the budget setting process progresses. Any subsequent changes will be included in the MTFP report to Strategy and Resources and Council.
- 1.3 **It would be helpful where members have questions on matters of detail if they could be referred to the report author or the appropriate service manager before the meeting.**

2. Summary

- 2.1 This report sets out the revised budgets for 2021/22 and the proposed base budgets for 2022/23 for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).
- 2.2 A transfer from general reserves of £1.008m will be needed to fund the proposed budget for 2022/23.
- 2.3 This is a change of £36k from the report that was presented to Housing Committee, which relates to the inclusion of a Resident Involvement Officer for two years (paragraph 6.12).
- 2.4 It is proposed that weekly rents and services charges increase by 4.1%, in line with national rent guidance and the SDC Budget Strategy, as approved by Council.
- 2.5 The HRA capital programme has been reprofiled across financial years, and the retrofit option chosen by Housing Committee in September 2021 has been included in the ongoing programme.
- 2.6 It is proposed that the council owned site at May Lane in Dursley be appropriated from the General Fund to the HRA, subject to a market valuation.
- 2.7 It is forecast that savings of £1m pa will be needed across the HRA in order to have a balanced financial position over the long term.
- 2.8 The long term position has not been significantly affected by the changes to the budget following Housing Committee.

3. Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- 3.1 The HRA budget for 2021/22 has a transfer to general reserves of £281k. The proposed budget for 2022/23 has expenditure of £26,224k funded by income of £24,058k and a transfer from earmarked reserves of £1,158k, leaving a transfer from general reserves required of £1,008k.
- 3.2 Table 1 shows a summary of all budget changes from 2021/22 to 2022/23. It should be noted that a number of these changes were previously planned, or are only for a fixed period of time and so do not represent a significant change from the long term position. Section 9 looks at the medium and 30 year impact of the changes identified in this budget round.
- 3.3 Further detail on the changes is included in the sections after the table.

Table 1 – Summary of HRA Budget Changes

	Para	Budget Changes 2022/23	Comments
Transfer to reserves 2021/22		(281)	
Rents and service charges	4	(836)	4.1% uplift across rents and charges
Pay and Price inflation:			
National Insurance Adjustments	5.1	44	1.25% uplift on employers NI contribution
Pay Award Adjustments	5.1	33	Assumed pay award adjustment for 2021/22
Pay Inflation	5.1	111	Assumed pay award for 2022/23
Contract Inflation	5.2	115	3% inflation across major contracts
Insurance Adjustments	5.3	64	Insurance premium increase
Gas and Electric	5.4	53	Utilities inflation
Service changes:			
Asset and Investment team	6.2	108	Staffing including retrofit contract officers
Property services/new build team	6.3	47	Additional support for two years
Property Care	6.4	265	Additional costs, mostly fixed term
Compliance	6.6	574	Additional radon and asbestos testing and works, and Fire Risk Assessment works
Cyclical maintenance programme	6.7	(249)	Planned change in cyclical maintenance programme
Disrepair claims	6.8	60	Disrepair compensation claims underway
EPCs	6.9	40	Additional EPCs required prior to retrofit programme
Decoration vouchers	6.10	20	Vouchers issued to tenants on moving in for paint etc
Grounds maintenance contract	6.10	17	Uplift in Ubico contract cost
Resident Involvement Officer	6.12	36	Additional Officer for two years
Central changes:			
Support Service Charges	7.1	350	Increase in charges from General Fund for shared services
less Housing Advice	7.2	(48)	Reduced charge from General Fund for allocations service
Pension lump sum	7.3	(72)	Planned reduction in pension costs
Interest receivable	7.4	25	Reduction in interest received on HRA balances
Ind Living cont towards service changes	7.5	148	Planned change to Independent Living Modernisation
Provision for repaying debt	7.6	45	Planned uplift in contribution for repayment of debt
Depreciation/Transfer to MRR	7.7	320	Uplift in depreciation charge (which is used to fund capital works)
Other minor changes (net)		17	
Transfer from reserves 2022/23		1,008	

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4. Proposed Rents and Service Charges 2022/23

- 4.1 It is proposed that all rents, fees and charges are increased by September Consumer Price Index (CPI) +1%, which totals 4.1% (with the exception of shared ownership rents which are set separately).
- 4.2 Appendix A set out the proposed increases in fees and charges for the HRA.
- 4.3 Dwelling rents
- 4.4 2022/23 is the third year of rents being regulated by the Regulator of Social Housing, following a period of four year rent reductions. The regulator is permitting registered providers to increase rents by CPI +1%.
- 4.5 It is therefore proposed that all social and affordable rents are increased by 4.1% - CPI of 3.1% plus 1%. This increases the average weekly rent from £85.14pw to £88.63pw, an increase of £3.49pw.
- 4.6 On becoming vacant, dwellings at social rent are being relet at the Target Rent, a national rent calculation for social housing which is designed to give fair and consistent rents across all local authority and housing association stock. Currently 68% of tenants have rents below the Target Rent (a decrease from 74% last year), with an average difference of £1.40pw. This figure will reduce as dwellings become void and are relet, but as existing tenancies will be unaffected it will be a very gradual change. Members could choose to implement Social Rents at above Target Rent on relet (up to 5% on General Needs and 10% on Sheltered properties), but this is not being proposed at this time.
- 4.7 Shared ownership rents
- 4.8 Shared ownership rents will increase by the inflationary uplifts set out in each lease.
- 4.9 Garage rents and service charges
- 4.10 It is proposed that garage rents and all service charges, including Independent Living charges, increase by 4.1% in line with rents.
- 4.11 As set out in Pay and Price Inflation it is currently expected that many of the costs faced by the council will increase by an amount higher than this. For example, the total cost of the Independent Living service is expected to rise by 9.6%, however as much of this increase is based on estimated future cost, particularly for salary costs and gas and electricity, it is proposed that this isn't passed on to tenants in 2022/23 and is reviewed in full for 2023/24. This may mean service charges increase by more than inflation for 2023/24.

5. Pay and Price Inflation

- 5.1 In line with the Budget Strategy, future years pay inflation has been provided for in the MTFP at a rate of 2.5%. There has also been an adjustment to the pay inflation for 2021/22. The additional employers National Insurance contribution of 1.25%, which will be replaced by a new Health and Social Care Levy from 2023/24, has also been included.
- 5.2 Non pay contract inflation, particularly across repairs and maintenance contracts, has been included at 3%.
- 5.3 The cost of insurance premiums has risen significantly. This is in part due to inflationary uplifts across the insurance sector, but has also been affected by an increase in claims made against the policy, in particular there have been a number of high cost claims, including for fires, in HRA properties.
- 5.4 The cost of gas and electricity is also expected to rise considerably, with an uplift of 50% on gas and 40% on electricity expected from the current rates when the existing fixed rate contract ends in 2022. As there is only a part year increase included in 2022/23, a similar uplift can be expected in 2023/24.

6. Service Changes

- 6.1 There are a number of changes to the service budgets for 2022/23.
- 6.2 The Asset and Investment Team is proposed to increase by £108k. This relates to additional staffing, predominantly two additional contract officers to cover the retrofit programme of works as approved by Housing Committee in September 2021. These new posts are expected to remain in place for the duration of the programme.
- 6.3 Additional fixed term (2 year) support is also proposed for the Property Services/New Build and Development Teams which would allow new opportunities to be investigated, including for brownfield sites.
- 6.4 The in-house repairs and maintenance provider Property Care is experiencing pressures in a number of areas, particularly in the use of subcontractors for works that are not able to be delivered by the employed operatives. The use of subcontractors is currently higher than was expected in the business case and also the cost of contractors has risen significantly due to market conditions. An additional allowance has been included within the budget to allow for this on a short term basis, but it is expected that this additional cost will reduce back down over the medium term as skillsets are further widened across the workforce.
- 6.5 There are also opportunities to internalise additional workstreams. It was reported last year the electric servicing contract could be brought in house, and there is a potential to bring the disabled adaptations and minor external works in house. This would not have a financial impact on the budget as the cost of the operatives and materials would be covered from the existing budget for the contract.
- 6.6 A significant increase in budget allocation for compliance testing and works is proposed for 2022/23. This includes a bigger radon testing and remedials works programme, increased asbestos testing (which is put in place due to the additional capital works for retrofit), and additional fire safety works that have been identified in the fire risk assessments. This additional budget request is predominantly only needed for one year, but it is envisaged that some additional funding will be required over the medium and long term.
- 6.7 Following a big increase in the cyclical planned maintenance programme (which includes external painting and rendering) for 2021/22, there is a planned reduction for 2022/23. The programme will continue to fluctuate between years in line with the homes that are planned to have works each year.
- 6.8 There have been a number of disrepair claims made by tenants. In some cases these have been difficult to dispute due to the high level of evidence needed. An allocation of £60k is being made to pay claims for the 2022/23 budget, but it is planned to put in place robust evidence recording to ensure that false claims cannot be awarded in the future.
- 6.9 A higher number of EPCs will be required to be undertaken in 2022/23 to allow for new EPCs to be in place before retrofit works are undertaken. It is hoped that this could be delivered in house by Property Care in future years.
- 6.10 There is also an expected increase in decoration vouchers issued to tenants moving into a property, in order for them to decorate the home as they wish, and an increase in the cost of the grounds maintenance contract, as Ubico are expected to experience the same cost pressures on staffing and inflation as the council.
- 6.11 The Independent Living Modernisation Project has been reprofiled, as set out in para 15.14. This has increased the cost in 2022/23, but as the project is fully funded over the MTFP this has not affected the bottom line of the HRA and a corresponding transfer from the Independent Living earmarked reserve is also included in the budget.
- 6.12 In addition to the changes included in the report to Housing Committee, further Resident Involvement Officer support is being included. The resident involvement officer will help ensure that all Stroud District Council tenants have a voice which is heard and respected.

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They will promote proactive engagement so homes and neighbourhood issues are shared and properly discussed. This will include encouraging new and existing residents' networks and coordinating capacity building for individuals and groups.

6.13 This new post has been included for two years at a total cost of £73k and is included within the Council Plan Items in Appendix C of the General Fund Budget Setting Report.

7. Central Changes

- 7.1 There is an increase of £350k in the support service charges from the General Fund to the HRA. These charges cover all of the central services provided by the wider council, such as the HRAs share of HR, IT, finance etc, as well as a contribution towards the running of Ebley Mill. This increase is in part due to the pay and non pay uplifts included across all council services, as well as contributions towards IT equipment and pension costs. The HRA's share of the Fit For The Future project is also included within this cost. This will be funded from the earmarked reserve set aside, although an additional contribution will also be put into the reserve in 2022/23 to offset future costs of the project.
- 7.2 The additional support charges cost has been in part offset by a reduction in the HRA's share of the Housing Advice Team for the allocations role they provide for the HRA.
- 7.3 The pension lump sum cost has reduced by £72k in line with the agreement with Gloucestershire County Council. This is the third year of a three year agreement and the costs after 2022/23 are not yet known.
- 7.4 The interest receivable is expected to reduce by £25k against the 2021/22 budget, in part due to a continuing low base rate, but also due to the expected lower level of HRA balances.
- 7.5 A planned contribution from the Independent Living Modernisation programme to offset lost service charges is in its final year. This was an amount that was included in the original business case for the project and so does not affect the medium/long term position.
- 7.6 The provision for repayment of debt is due to increase by £45k. This is in line with the proposal agreed by Housing Committee to repay the existing borrowing (predominantly the self financing debt) over 60 years.
- 7.7 The depreciation charge is due to increase by an estimated £320k. The amount set aside for depreciation gets transferred to the Major Repairs Reserve and is used to fund capital works.

8. Earmarked Reserves

- 8.1 The following table sets out the budgeted transfers to and from earmarked reserves in 2021/22 and 2022/23.
- 8.2 Although not budgeted, it is expected that the Retrofit and Transformation reserves will be used in part in both 2021/22 and 2022/23, although as the amounts are not known this has not been included in the base budget but will be reported to Housing Committee in budget monitoring and financial outturn reports.

Table 2 – Summary of HRA Earmarked Reserve Transfers

	2021/22				2022/23			
	Opening Balance (£'000)	Transfers in (£'000)	Transfers out (£'000)	Closing Balance (£'000)	Opening Balance (£'000)	Transfers in (£'000)	Transfers out (£'000)	Closing Balance (£'000)
Independent Living Modernisation	2,836	1,000	(885)	2,951	2,951	1,000	(2,158)	1,793
Estate Redevelopment	1,170	0	0	1,170	1,170	0	0	1,170
Transformation	484	0	0	484	484	39	(39)	484
HRA General Contingency	100	0	0	100	100	0	0	100
Provision for repayment of debt	918	967	0	1,885	1,885	1,012	0	2,897
Retrofit	139	0	0	139	139	0	0	139
Carry forwards	21	0	(21)	0	0	0	0	0
Total Earmarked Reserves	5,668	1,967	(906)	6,729	6,729	2,051	(2,197)	6,583

9. HRA Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) and 30 Year Position

- 9.1 The Medium Term Financial Plan based on the details of budget setting for 2022/23 is shown in Table 3 below. This also includes the forecast position of the HRA for 2021/22, as reported at this committee meeting.

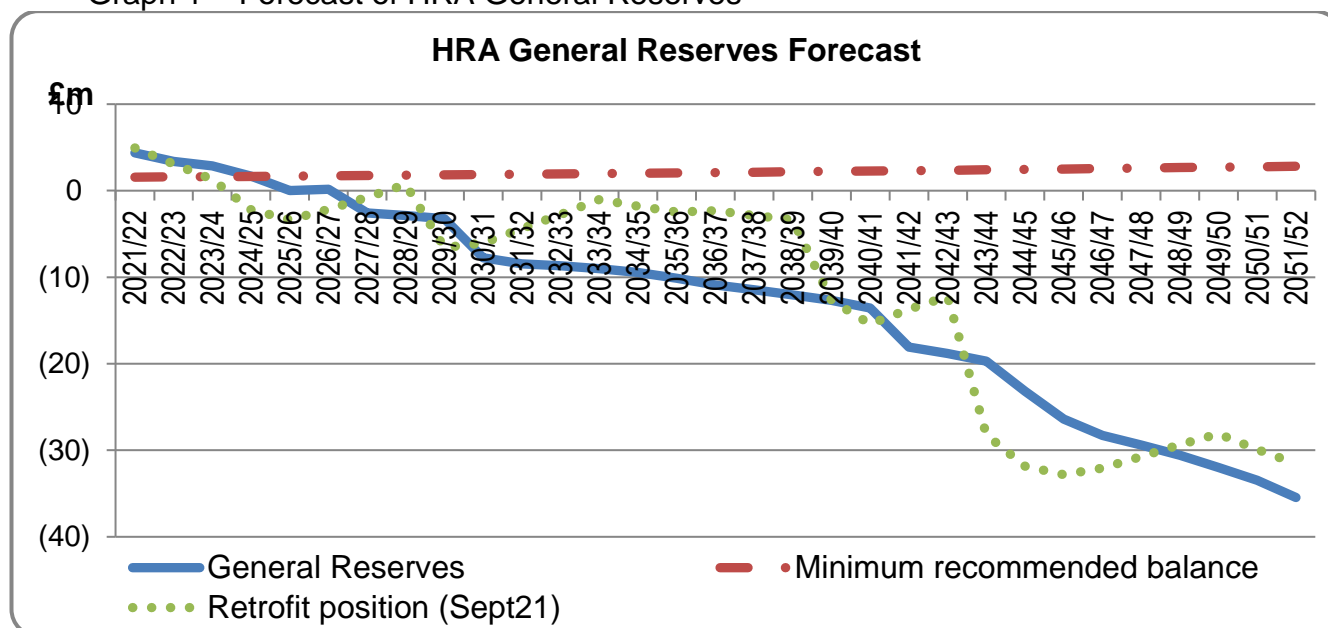
Table 3 – HRA Medium Term Financial Plan Summary

	2021/22 Base £000s	2022/23 Forecast £000s	2023/24 Forecast £000s	2024/25 Forecast £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Income	(23,208)	(24,058)	(24,912)	(25,585)	(25,937)
Expenditure	10,257	11,551	10,935	10,661	10,891
Support service charges from the GF	2,058	2,408	2,466	2,529	2,591
Other income and expenditure	10,518	12,265	12,305	13,789	15,433
Total Housing Revenue Account	(375)	2,166	795	1,395	2,979
Transfers to/(from) earmarked reserves	94	(1,158)	(206)	(319)	(1,291)
Transfers to/(from) general reserves	281	(1,008)	(589)	(1,076)	(1,688)
Total Housing Revenue Account	0	0	0	0	0
General Reserves					
Opening balance	4,611	4,373	3,364	2,776	1,700
Transfers to/(from)	281	(1,008)	(589)	(1,076)	(1,688)
Forecast HRA overspend 2021/22	(519)				
Closing Balance	4,373	3,364	2,776	1,700	12

- 9.2 This shows that the general reserves position is now expected to be lower than the recommended minimum reserves balance of £1,689k in 2025/26.
- 9.3 This is further reflected over the longer term, as shown in the below chart showing a forecast of the general reserves position over 30 years.

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Graph 1 – Forecast of HRA General Reserves



- 9.4 The graph also includes a comparison to the position reported with the Retrofit options (for the chosen option), which shows that the current forecast has reduced slightly.
- 9.5 The HRA is now expecting higher rental income over the long term due to the higher than previously forecast inflationary uplift in 2022/23. There have also been fewer Right to Buys, which is expected to be a temporary change due to the Covid-19 pandemic and also officer capacity.
- 9.6 The higher levels of inflation have also increased costs by more than was expected which has offset the additional income. It is now forecast that the long term position (after taking back out the short term changes included in the budget for 2022/23) is an additional cost of approximately £100k per year.
- 9.7 This has increased the savings target needed in order to balance the long term position of the HRA from £0.9m pa as included in the retrofit paper, to £1.0m pa.
- 9.8 Some of the options that could be considered to support the budget gap are:
- Reduction in revenue expenditure
 - Reduce capital spend (reduce capital replacements eg kitchens/bathrooms)
 - Extending component life cycle (consideration would need to be given to Decent Homes 2)
 - Charge higher rents on new build/relet
 - Charge full service charges to all general needs tenants eg grounds maintenance charges
 - Secure additional grant income to reduce borrowing
- 9.9 It is not proposed that any changes be made to the budget for 2022/23, but that a savings target of £1.0m is acknowledged, and a commitment is made to balance the long term position over the period of the MTFP.
- 9.10 This long term position has not been significantly affected by the changes to the budget since Housing Committee.

10. Borrowing

- 10.1 The HRA currently has borrowing of £103.765m, of which £97.717m is externally borrowed (from the Public Works Loans Board) and £6.048m is internally borrowed (ie reducing the reserves held by the HRA).
- 10.2 Additional borrowing of £21.616m is planned for the existing New Build and Development Programme. This is £421k lower than previously reported due to a successful bid for Government grant funding for infrastructure works on four schemes (Glebelands, Orchard Road, Gloucester Street and Bradley Street, and Cambridge House).
- 10.3 Further borrowing of £17.106m is planned for the retrofit programme. This is £624k lower than had been previously set out. A provision of £624k has been held since 2018 (reported to Housing Committee in June 2018 as part of the 2017/18 Outturn report), for a sum held for works completed in 2014. It is no longer expected that this provision will be needed and so it is proposed that this sum be returned to general HRA balances and used to fund retrofit works. By reducing the borrowing by this amount, the ongoing revenue saving to the HRA (over the length of the proposed borrowing) is £31k per year.

11. Material Assumptions Made in the HRA MTFP

- 11.1 The MTFP forecast is made under a number of assumptions. The key assumptions of note are summarised below:
- Rents will rise by CPI +1% for two further years, and then reduce to CPI only
 - Void levels of 2% in general needs and 5% in Independent Living
 - Inflation of 2% per year
 - 30 Right to Buy sales a year have been assumed in terms of rent loss
 - Major works have been included on a standard replacement basis, plus the retrofit programme approved by Housing Committee in September 2021.
 - The existing borrowing held (primarily self financing debt) is to be repaid (through an annual provision made) over 60 years, with the new retrofit borrowing and new build and development borrowing to be repaid over 30 years.

12. Risks and Uncertainties

- 12.1 The HRA still faces a number of risks and uncertainties over the medium to long term. These include:
- 12.2 Inflation – if inflation rates are lower than the 2% expected going forward, the rental income will be lower than currently assumed. This could significantly affect the funding available to run the service and deliver works on the properties.
- 12.3 Cost Inflation – The cost of materials and labour is currently increasing at a rate well in excess of the rental income increases. This is having a real impact on the delivery of some programmes, in particularly the new build and development programme and the major works on existing dwellings. Should this continue programmes may need to be revised based on affordability.
- 12.4 Right to Buy Receipts – there is a risk that the development programme could slip, or some schemes may not be possible to deliver. Therefore, because of changes to timing, receipts could need to be repaid. This risk has reduced following a change in the retention agreement, allowing a longer period to use Right to Buy receipts.

There is also a potential risk that the receipts may not be sufficient to fund the capital programme over the longer term. If this were to happen, alternative funding would need to be found. This could include Homes England grant funding.

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12.5 Interest Rates - the HRA is largely sheltered from increases in interest rates in the short term as all of the current borrowing is at fixed interest rates. As loans become repayable, advice will be sought from our treasury advisors on the most advantageous approach to refinancing.

As new borrowing is taken out for the new homes programme and for retrofit, the HRA will be subject to the market rates at the time of borrowing.

Investment income is directly linked to interest rates on balances held. Lower interest rates would reduce the investment income, higher interest rates would increase the amount the HRA receives on reserve balances. A small increase is already assumed over the medium term.

12.6 Stock Condition – the information held on the condition of the stock continues to grow, with data being collected regularly. As more data is collected, the longer term forecasts are revised and could mean that more, or less, spend is required compared to the current forecast.

12.7 Staffing – the ability to attract and retain staff, especially in specialist areas such as development, repairs and maintenance and tenancy management, is extremely important. Any significant gaps could result in a reduced service to tenants, and/or a financial pressure in recruiting agency staff.

12.8 Internal Council Changes – any major changes to the Council could impact on the HRA medium/long term position. This could include benefits in reduced HRA contributions as well as pressures from higher costs.

12.9 Pension contributions – 2022/23 is the final year of a three year pension agreement with Gloucestershire County Council. The cost of the next three year scheme is not yet known, and if higher than the current contributions would have an adverse affect on the long term position of the HRA.

13. HRA Capital Programme

13.1 The proposed capital programme includes a revised budget for 2021/22 is £21,790k, and a budget for 2022/23 of £21,644k.

13.2 A full breakdown of the capital programme and capital financing is included in Appendix C

13.3 Major Works

13.4 The Major works programme has been reprofiled in line with current programmes, which includes bringing forward the budget for the works at Park Road and Park Parade in Stonehouse (Special Projects).

13.5 The ongoing programme includes the retrofit works approved by Housing Committee in September 2021.

13.6 New Homes and Regeneration Programme

13.7 The development programme has been reprofiled in line with the information paper published in September 2021.

13.8 There has been a small (£39k) increase in cost across the programme as a whole and it is proposed that the 2021/22 contingency budget be used to fund this shortfall.

13.9 A budget of £50k has been included for the site at May Lane in Dursley for surveys and design work. Further detail on this site and a proposal to appropriate it to the HRA can be found in Section 14.

13.10 Acquisitions of Land and Housing

- 13.11 The budget allocation for acquisition of land and housing continues in line with the previous agreed programme. There is a one off budget of £3m for the acquisition of land which can be used if any opportunities arise. Any unused allocation will carry forward to the following year.
- 13.12 There is an annual £2m budget for the purchase of housing. This funding pot is also opportunistic, and it is not necessarily expected that this will be spent in full in each and every year. As this is an annual recurring budget any unallocated underspends each year would not carry forward to the next year, unless a specific case is made.
- 13.13 The budget for the acquisition of housing in 2021/22 includes an allocation for the Next Steps Accommodation Programme, for which the council received grant funding towards the purchase of accommodation for rough sleepers. The budget has been amended in line with the final claim.
- 13.14 **Independent Living Modernisation**
- 13.15 The Independent Living Modernisation programme has been reprofiled across financial years, but the overall project remains within the allocated funding. This revision increases the schemes delivered in 2022/23 from two to three. A paper will be taken to Housing Committee in February 2022 for approval on the schemes to be delivered in year.

14. Land (and Buildings) May Lane and Prospect Place, Dursley

- 14.1 In 2019 Strategy and Resources committee resolved that the Head of Property Services investigate the viability, procurement approach and the extent of property to be acquired at May Lane/ Prospect Place Dursley to bring forward these derelict town centre sites and to consider a delivery strategy for a residential lead scheme here. The background and detail to this site is set out in that report.
- 14.2 Work has been undertaken to establish the numerous land holdings and property interests in this area and an initial scheme layout has been drawn up by architects ready for pre-app advice on the site and to undertake initial high level financial appraisals for a new build scheme. Where land has to be bought to deliver more homes, the land value has to be included in any appraisals, which inevitably means that they will require more subsidy than sites which are already in the council's ownership. However, as these sites are built out, more land has to be acquired if the council wants to continue its new build programme with all the social and economic benefits that this brings.
- 14.3 A meeting has been held with ward councillors and the Town Council to consider the extent of any scheme and what town centre uses could be included as the site is already allocated in the Local Plan and expected to deliver this as part of any residential led scheme. The proposal to progress the scheme as a new build development was supported and the site is in a sustainable location right next to the town centre.
- 14.4 In order to firm up a scheme, survey work and further design work needs to be undertaken. Advice on the use of Compulsory Purchase powers will also be needed in order to assess the costs and process for assembling the site. It is therefore recommended that the part of the site already owned by the council is appropriated from the General Fund into the HRA at market value and this and the wider site is included in the new build programme. Redeveloping these sites will regenerate the area, replace derelict properties already owned by the council and deliver more affordable homes. Further updates including the financial appraisal for the scheme will be brought to future committee meetings.

15. IMPLICATIONS

15.1 Financial Implications

This report is financial in nature.

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15.2 Legal Implications

None directly arising in respect of the budget estimates and revisions other than to note that this report forms part of the budget setting process for 2022/23 which involves the Council calculating capital and revenue estimates for its General Fund.

The relevant legislation in respect of the appropriation of land and buildings is section 19 of the Housing Act 1985 which permits local authorities to appropriate land for the provision of housing accommodation from other purposes for which it might be held by the Council. The Council must record in the HRA the appropriate adjustments in respect of such land (s74 and Schedule 4, paragraph 5, Local Government and Housing Act 1989).

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272017 Email: legal.services@onelegal.org.uk

15.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

The change in HRA rents and service charges is universal across all housing charges. HRA rents and service charges are eligible for Housing Benefit and Universal Credit for households on low incomes.

15.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category. A programme of retrofit works, as approved by Housing Committee in September 2021, has been included within the HRA capital programme. The General Fund capital programme also includes a number of schemes designed to increase thermal efficiency of homes.

Proposed HRA Rents and Service Charges 2022/23

Draft Proposed level of rents and service charges (on a weekly basis over 52 weeks)	Current 2021/22 £	Proposed 2022/23 £	Increase/ Decrease £	Increase/ Decrease %
Rents				
Dwelling rents (average)	85.14	88.63	3.49	4.1%
Garage rents (excl VAT which is chargeable to non tenants only)	13.29	13.83	0.54	4.1%
Landlord service charges (charged where applicable)				
TV relay (communal aerials-basic IRS)	0.38	0.40	0.02	4.1%
TV relay (communal aerials-comprehensive IRS)	0.94	0.98	0.04	4.1%
Cleaning charges (average)	2.28	2.37	0.09	4.1%
District heating (average)	7.09	7.38	0.29	4.1%
Water charges (average)	2.76	2.87	0.11	4.1%
Scooter store	1.85	1.92	0.07	4.1%
Sheltered Housing service charges				
Archway Gardens	21.23	22.10	0.87	4.1%
Ashcroft House	37.64	39.18	1.54	4.1%
Ashwell House	21.63	22.52	0.89	4.1%
Broadfield Road	12.14	12.64	0.50	4.1%
Burdett House	26.98	28.09	1.11	4.1%
Chapel Lane	30.62	31.88	1.26	4.1%
Concord	26.54	27.63	1.09	4.1%
Draycott	24.39	25.39	1.00	4.1%
Dryleaze Court/Dryleaze House	22.98	23.92	0.94	4.1%
George Pearce House	16.49	17.17	0.68	4.1%
Glebelands	13.00	13.53	0.53	4.1%
Grange View	27.78	28.92	1.14	4.1%
Grove Park Road	25.03	26.06	1.03	4.1%
Hamfallow Court	31.56	32.85	1.29	4.1%
Hazelwood	33.11	34.47	1.36	4.1%
Jenner Court	22.49	23.41	0.92	4.1%
Malvern Gardens	24.94	25.96	1.02	4.1%
Sherborne House	25.65	26.70	1.05	4.1%
Springfields Court	20.77	21.62	0.85	4.1%
St Nicholas Court	25.61	26.66	1.05	4.1%
Tanners Piece (1 bedroom)	15.07	15.69	0.62	4.1%
Tanners Piece (2 bedroom)	19.61	20.41	0.80	4.1%
The Beeches	28.33	29.49	1.16	4.1%
The Corriett	21.97	22.87	0.90	4.1%
Vizard Close	32.56	33.89	1.33	4.1%
Walter Preston Court	28.92	30.11	1.19	4.1%
Willow Road	22.20	23.11	0.91	4.1%
Tenants in all schemes on protected rate	26.36	27.44	1.08	4.1%

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HRA Medium Term Financial Plan 2021/22 to 2025/26

Appendix B

	2021/22 Base	2022/23 Forecast	2023/24 Forecast	2024/25 Forecast	2025/26 Forecast
Income					
Dwelling rents and service charges	(22,779)	(23,615)	(24,500)	(25,124)	(25,478)
Other charges and income	(629)	(644)	(616)	(589)	(591)
Provision for bad debt	200	200	204	128	133
Total Income	(23,208)	(24,058)	(24,912)	(25,585)	(25,937)
Expenditure					
Supervision and management	4,196	4,538	4,570	4,426	4,630
Repairs and maintenance	4,503	5,294	4,582	4,468	4,556
Independent living service	637	692	707	723	739
Other expenditure	540	575	587	598	610
Independent living modernisation programme	381	452	490	447	356
Total Expenditure	10,257	11,551	10,935	10,661	10,891
Other income and expenditure					
Support service charges from GF	2,058	2,408	2,466	2,529	2,591
Revenue Funding of Capital Programme (Depreciation and RCCO)	6,217	7,894	7,014	8,185	9,632
Provision for repayment of debt	967	1,012	1,400	1,549	1,671
Interest payable/receivable	3,334	3,359	3,892	4,055	4,130
Total other income and expenditure	12,576	14,673	14,772	16,319	18,024
Net HRA Expenditure and Income	(375)	2,166	795	1,395	2,979
Transfers to/(from) earmarked reserves	94	(1,158)	(206)	(319)	(1,291)
Transfers to/(from) general reserves	281	(1,008)	(589)	(1,076)	(1,688)
Total Housing Revenue Account	0	0	0	0	0

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HRA Capital Programme 2021/22 - 2025/26

	2021/22 Original Budget £000s	2021/22 Revised Budget £000s	2022/23O Original Budget £000s	2023/24 Forecast £000s	2024/25 Forecast £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Capital Programme						
Central Heating	855	416	1,181			
Disabled Adaptations	150	150	155			
Kitchens and Bathrooms	1,318	425	1,446			
Major Works	450	450	464			
Compliance	422	422	434			
Doors and Windows	1,288	1,396	509			
Electrical Works	150	150	499			
Environmental Works	500	450	515			
Door Entry	180	180	217			
External Works	3,274	3,419	2,515			
Lifts	80	0	0			
Special Projects	500	1,200	0			
Fire Risk Assessments	150	150	490			
Decarbonisation Project	0	1,104	0			
Major Works				11,128	10,187	11,505
Total Major Works	9,317	9,912	8,425	11,128	10,187	11,505
IT Systems	435	435	0	0	0	0
Total Other Capital Works	435	435	0	0	0	0
New Homes Contingency	50	11	50	50	0	0
Canal side: Corner of A419/Downton Rd (Former Ship Inn site)	51	27	284	1,519	0	0
Glebelands	2,544	48	4,508	0	0	0
Cambridge House	1,395	32	2,764	0	0	0
Broadfield Road, Eastington	1,494	1,455	0	0	0	0
Orchard Road, Ebley	840	108	762	0	0	0
Queens Drive, Cashes Green	494	10	488	728	0	0
Ringfield Close, Nailsworth	3,302	3,004	0	0	0	0
Summersfield Road, Minchinhampton	1,024	955	0	0	0	0
Gloucester St and Bradley St, WuE	55	149	1,665	0	0	0
May Lane, Dursley	0	0	50	0	0	0
Completed Schemes	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total New Build and Development	11,249	5,799	10,571	2,297	0	0
Independent Living Modernisation	358	359	648	712	928	931
Total Independent Living Modernisation	358	359	648	712	928	931
Acquisitions	2,000	2,285	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Opportunity Land Acquisition Pot	0	3,000	0	0	0	0
Total Acquisitions	2,000	5,285	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Total Capital Expenditure	23,359	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436

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Appendix C

	2021/22 Original Budget £000s	2021/22 Revised Budget £000s	2022/23 Original Budget £000s	2023/24 Forecast £000s	2024/25 Forecast £000s	2025/26 Forecast £000s
Capital Financing						
Revenue Funding (including earmarked reserves)	1,089	398	1,716	712	1,757	3,075
Major Repairs Reserve	9,752	9,882	6,432	8,433	6,609	6,557
Capital Receipts (including Right to Buy receipts)	2,692	3,212	2,959	1,324	600	600
Grant Funding	75	680	309	0	0	0
Borrowing	9,751	7,618	10,228	5,668	4,149	4,204
Total Funding	23,359	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115	14,436

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STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL**COUNCIL****17 FEBRUARY 2022**

Report Title	Members Code of Conduct - Gifts and Hospitality			
Purpose of Report	Council is asked to consider the recommendations from Audit and Standards Committee and the Constitution Working Group for the addition of a reference to 'Gifts and Hospitality' in the Members Code of Conduct.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES that the Code of Conduct be amended to include the reference to Gifts and Hospitality as set out in this report and recommended by the Audit and Standards Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	The Constitution Working Group and Audit and Standards Committee has considered this issue and agreed the recommended addition to the Code of Conduct for submission to Council.			
Report Author	Stephen Taylor, Interim Monitoring Officer Tel: 07866 142209 Email: Stephen.Taylor@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	Council can agree the recommendation or amend the recommendation. It can also ask the Constitution Working Group to re-consider this issue.			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	None			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 On the 21st October 2021, Council considered a report from the interim Monitoring Officer relating to a review of the Constitution. For background, the report can be accessed [here](#).
- 1.2 One of the matters referred to in the report related to the addition of a reference to 'Gifts and Hospitality' in the Members Code of Conduct and Council noted that the Audit and Standards Committee will be asked to consider this at its next meeting.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 When the Code of Conduct was last reviewed, specific provision for gifts and hospitality were not included. Therefore, the Constitution Working Group has recommended that the Code of Conduct should be amended with the addition of the following text at new Paragraph:

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3.11 *Members will not accept gifts or hospitality, irrespective of estimated value, which could give rise to real or substantive personal gain or a reasonable suspicion of influence on their part to show favour from persons seeking to acquire, develop or do business with the local authority or from persons who may apply to the local authority for any permission, licence or other significant advantage.*

3.11.1 *Members will register with the Monitoring Officer any gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £50 within 28 days of its receipt.*

3.11.2 *Members will register with the Monitoring Officer any significant gift or hospitality that they have been offered but have refused to accept.*

2.2 The reason why this matter has come before this Council is that under the Constitution, the Audit and Standards Committee are:

- To be responsible, in consultation with the Monitoring Officer, for all matters relating to the Members Code of Conduct,
- To advise the Council on any amendment or revision of the Code.

2.3 On that basis, Council is asked to consider this addition to the Members Code of Conduct as recommended by the Audit and Standards Committee at their meeting on the [30th November 2021](#).

3. IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this decision.

Andrew Cummings Strategic Director of Resources

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3.2 Legal Implications

The council has a duty under section 27 of the Localism Act 2011 to promote and maintain high standards of conduct by its members and to adopt a Code of Conduct that is consistent with the Nolan Principles. The insertion of this additional provision will provide further guidance to members on dealing with gifts and hospitality.

One Legal

Tel: 01684 272102 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

3.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

3.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	External Audit Procurement			
Purpose of Report	To agree the arrangements for the provision of external auditors to review the Council's Statement of Accounts and Value for Money Arrangements.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES that: a) The Council again becomes a member of the PSAA scheme for the appointment of external auditors for the five years from April 1st 2023 b) Authority is delegated to the Strategic Director of Resources to accept the PSAA invitation and to complete the appointment process as necessary as recommended by Audit and Standards Committee.			
Consultation and Feedback	Chair of Audit and Standards Committee, and the Chief Executive			
Report Author	Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	Council could choose not to join the PSAA scheme and carry out an individual procurement process			
Background Papers	None			
Appendices	Appendix A – PSAA Prospectus			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Council must appoint a local auditor to audit its accounts for a financial year not later than 31 December in the preceding financial year.
- 1.2 These regulations cover the audit of the Statement of Accounts and of the Council's value for money arrangements. It does not relate to internal audit provision which are covered under separate regulations.
- 1.3 The Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 make provision for the Secretary of State to nominate a "Specified Person" to appoint auditors on behalf of Local Authorities and to set scale fees for the cost of External Audits.
- 1.4 Since the inception of these arrangements the role of the "Specific Person" has been taken on by "Public Sector Audit Appointments" (PSAA). PSAA are a not-for-profit, independent company limited by guarantee, incorporated by the Local Government Association in 2014. Stroud District Council has been an opted in authority for the purposes of the PSAA

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arrangements and participated in the National Scheme. Over 98% of eligible bodies opted into the new arrangements when they were first introduced.

- 1.5 The appointed auditor for SDC under these arrangements has been Deloitte LLP. Deloitte have carried out the audits since the 2018/19 financial year and report regularly to the Audit and Standards Committee.
- 1.6 These arrangements are now coming to end with the final year covered being 2022/23, and the Council must now decide as to how to proceed with future auditor appointments to cover the period from April 1st 2023.

2. FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 An invitation has been received from the PSAA, inviting SDC to again become an opted in authority for the next five-year period. In order to be considered as an opted in Authority for the new arrangements, SDC would have to make an application by 11th March 2022.
- 2.2 The last few years have undoubtedly been difficult for the Local Authority audit market. The combination of increasing requirements on Auditors, resourcing issues and the Covid market have led to a significant increase in numbers of audits which are not signed by the deadline in the regulations. This has been the case at SDC for the audits of both the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years.
- 2.3 In spite of these challenges, it has been of benefit for us to be part of the existing National Scheme. The procurement was carried out on our behalf, and PSAA work to agree “scale fees” which are the base fee for each year’s audit. Where auditors request additional fees as a result of work carried out these have to be approved by the PSAA as procuring body.
- 2.4 As a small authority there are clear benefits to SDC again joining the national led scheme through the PSAA. The relatively small scale of the audit requirements at this Council are unlikely to generate any savings through a single authority procurement process, rather than joining a sector led scheme which will have considerable economies of scale. There are also advantages in making use of the oversight and expertise which the PSAA would bring to the process.
- 2.5 Correspondence has been received from the LGA expressing their view that the National Framework scheme remains the best option for Councils, and indeed that the reasons for Council’s to act collaboratively are more compelling than when Councils were last asked to make the choice.
- 2.6 Regulations require that the decision on whether to be an opted-in authority or not is made by full Council. As the body responsible for overseeing the External Audit process the Audit and Standards Committee is asked to make a recommendation on to Council.
- 2.7 The PSAA have out together a full prospectus for the national scheme and this is included for information at Appendix A.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 It is recommended that Stroud District Council again opt-in to the national procurement arrangements for external audit. There are clear benefits of joining a sector-led collaborative

scheme. This in terms of the resourcing required for the procurement and management of the contract, as well as the expertise and opportunity that is offered by being part of an independent oversight process.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

It is not possible at that stage to determine the cost of external audit under the new arrangements as the PSAA procurement process is not expected to start until February 2022.

The PSAA scale fee is highly likely to be lower than any fee secured through an individual procurement process.

When known, the new cost of External Audit will be included in the budget setting process for 2023/24 in the usual way.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources
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4.2 Legal Implications

Section 7 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 requires a relevant Council to appoint a local auditor to audit its accounts for a financial year not later than 31 December in the preceding year. Section 17 gives the Secretary of State the power to make regulations in relation to an 'appointing person' specified by the Secretary of State. This power has been exercised in the Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015 and this gives the Secretary of State the ability to enable a sector - led body to become the appointing person. In July 2016 the Secretary of State specified PSAA as the appointing person. As set out in the report, the current arrangements with the PSAA come to an end at the end of this financial year and the Council has received an invitation to join the scheme for the next five years.

One Legal
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4.3 Equality Implications

An EIA is not required because there are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category.

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PROSPECTUS

The national scheme for local auditor appointments

All eligible bodies

September 2021

www.psaa.co.uk

About PSAA

Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) is an independent company limited by guarantee incorporated by the Local Government Association in August 2014.

In July 2016, the Secretary of State specified PSAA as an appointing person for principal local government and police bodies for audits from 2018/19, under the provisions of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Local Audit (Appointing Person) Regulations 2015. Acting in accordance with this role PSAA is responsible for appointing auditors and setting scales of fees for relevant principal authorities that have chosen to opt into its national scheme, overseeing issues of auditor independence and monitoring compliance by the auditor with the contracts we enter into with the audit firms.

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Introduction

PSAA has issued its formal invitation to all eligible bodies to opt into the national scheme for local auditor appointments for the second appointing period, which will provide external audit arrangements for the period commencing from the financial year 2023/24.

This prospectus is published to provide details of the national scheme and to assist eligible bodies in deciding whether or not to accept PSAA's invitation. The scheme has been shaped by [your feedback to the June 2021 consultation](#) on our draft prospectus. The key areas of our approach that have been refined in response to consultation feedback are set out later in this prospectus.

In relation to appointing auditors, eligible bodies have options to arrange their own procurement and make the appointment themselves or in conjunction with other bodies, or they can join and take advantage of the national collective scheme administered by PSAA.

A decision to become an opted-in authority must be taken in accordance with the Regulations, that is by the members of an authority meeting as a whole, i.e. in Full Council, except where the authority is a corporation sole, such as a police and crime commissioner, in which case this decision must be taken by the holder of that office.

An eligible body that has decided to join the scheme must inform PSAA by returning the Form of Acceptance Notice (issued with the opt-in invitation) **no later than midnight on Friday 11 March 2022**.

An eligible body that does not accept the opt-in invitation but subsequently wishes to join the scheme may apply to opt in only after the appointing period has commenced, that is on or after 1 April 2023. In accordance with the regulations, as the appointing person, PSAA must: consider a request to join its scheme; agree to the request unless it has reasonable grounds for refusing it; and notify the eligible body within four weeks of its decision with an explanation if the request is refused. Where the request is accepted, PSAA may recover its reasonable costs for making arrangements to appoint a local auditor from the opted-in body.

Audit does matter

The purpose of audit is to provide an independent opinion on the truth and fairness of the financial statements, whether they have been properly prepared and to report on certain other requirements. In relation to local audit the auditor has a number of distinctive duties including assessing the arrangements in place to deliver value for money, and dealing with electors' objections and issuing public interest reports.

Good quality independent audit is one of the cornerstones of public accountability. It gives assurance that taxpayers' money has been well managed and properly expended. It helps to inspire trust and confidence in the organisations and people responsible for managing public money.

“The LGA set up PSAA to provide a way for councils to meet the legislative requirements of audit procurement without unnecessary bureaucracy and to provide leverage for councils by collaborating in a difficult market. It is now more important than ever that councils work together to ensure we get what we need from the audit market.”

James Jamieson. Chairman of the Local Government Association

Context: changes in the audit market

In 2014 when the Local Audit and Accountability Act received Royal Assent the audit market was relatively stable. In 2017 PSAA benefitted from that continuing stability. Our initial procurement on behalf of more than 480 bodies (98% of those eligible to join the national scheme) was very successful, attracting very competitive bids from firms. As a result, we were able to enter into long term contracts with five experienced and respected firms and to make auditor appointments to all bodies. However, although we did not know it at the time, this was the calm before the storm.

2018 proved to be a very significant turning point for the audit industry. A series of financial crises and failures in the private sector gave rise to questioning about the role of auditors and the focus and value of their work. In rapid succession the Government commissioned four independent reviews, all of which have subsequently reported:

- Sir John Kingman's review of the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), the audit regulator;
- the Competition and Markets Authority review of the audit market;
- Sir Donald Brydon's review of the quality and effectiveness of audit; and
- Sir Tony Redmond's review of local authority financial reporting and external audit.

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In total the four reviews set out more than 170 recommendations which are now at various stages of consideration by Government with the clear implication that a series of significant reforms could follow. Indeed, in some cases where new legislation is not required, significant change is already underway. A particular case in point concerns the FRC, where the Kingman Review has inspired an urgent drive to deliver rapid, measurable improvements in audit quality. This has already created a major pressure for firms and an imperative to ensure full compliance with regulatory requirements and expectations in every audit they undertake.

By the time firms were conducting 2018/19 local audits, the measures which they were putting in place were clearly visible in response to a more focused regulator that was determined to achieve change. In order to deliver the necessary improvements in audit quality, firms were requiring their audit teams to undertake additional work to gain higher levels of assurance. However, additional work requires more time, posing a threat to firms' ability to complete all of their audits by the target date for publication of audited accounts (then 31 July) - a threat accentuated by growing recruitment and retention challenges, the complexity of local government financial statements, and increasing levels of technical challenges as bodies explored innovative ways of developing new or enhanced income streams to help fund services for local people.

This risk to the delivery of timely audit opinions first emerged in April 2019 when one of PSAA's contracted firms flagged the possible delayed completion of approximately 20 audits. Less than four months later, all firms were reporting similar difficulties, resulting in more than 200 delayed audit opinions.

2019/20 audits have presented even greater challenges. With Covid-19 in the mix both finance and audit teams have found themselves in uncharted waters. Even with the benefit of an extended timetable targeting publication of audited accounts by 30 November, more than 260 opinions remained outstanding. The timeliness problem is extremely troubling. It creates disruption and reputational damage for affected parties. There are no easy solutions, and so it is vital that co-ordinated action is taken across the system by all involved in the accounts and audit process to address the current position and achieve sustainable improvement without compromising audit quality. PSAA is fully committed to do all it can to contribute to achieving that goal.

Delayed opinions are not the only consequence of the regulatory drive to improve audit quality. Additional audit work must also be paid for. As a result, many more fee variation claims have been received than in prior years and audit costs have increased.

None of these problems are unique to local government audit. Similar challenges have played out throughout other sectors where, for example, increased fees and disappointing responses to tender invitations have been experienced during the past two years.

All of this paints a picture of an audit industry under enormous pressure, and of a local audit system which is experiencing its share of the strain and instability as impacts cascade down to the frontline of individual audits. We highlight some of the initiatives which we have taken to try to manage through this troubled post-2018 audit era in this prospectus.

We look forward to the challenge of getting beyond managing serial problems within a fragile system and working with other local audit stakeholders to help design and implement a system which is more stable, more resilient, and more sustainable.

Responding to the post-2018 pressures

MHCLG's¹ Spring statement proposes changes to the current arrangements. At the time of writing, a formal consultation on the proposals in the Spring statement is underway and is due to close on 22 September 2021. The significant work to reform audit in the wake of the four independent reviews is underway. Further wide-ranging change is almost certain to occur during the next few years, and is very likely to have an impact during the appointing period that will commence in April 2023. Organisations attempting to procure audit services of an appropriate quality during this period are likely to experience markedly greater challenges than pre-2018.

Local government audit will not be immune from these difficulties. However, we do believe that PSAA's national scheme will be the best option to enable local bodies to secure audit services in a very challenging market. Firms are more likely to make positive decisions to bid for larger, long term contracts, offering secure income streams, than they are to invest in bidding for a multitude of individual opportunities.

We believe that the national scheme already offers a range of benefits for its members:

- transparent and independent auditor appointment via a third party;
- the best opportunity to secure the appointment of a qualified, registered auditor;
- appointment, if possible, of the same auditors to bodies involved in significant collaboration/joint working initiatives, if the parties believe that it will enhance efficiency and value for money;
- on-going management of any independence issues which may arise;
- access to a dedicated team with significant experience of working within the context of the relevant regulations to appoint auditors, managing contracts with audit firms, and setting and determining audit fees;
- a value for money offer based on minimising PSAA costs and distribution of any surpluses to scheme members;
- collective savings for the sector through undertaking one major procurement as opposed to a multiplicity of smaller procurements;
- a sector-led collaborative scheme supported by an established advisory panel of sector representatives to help inform the design and operation of the scheme;

¹ Immediately prior to the publication of this document it was announced that MHCLG has been renamed to Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC). The document refers to the department as MHCLG.

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- avoiding the necessity for local bodies to establish an auditor panel and undertake an auditor procurement, enabling time and resources to be deployed on other pressing priorities;
- providing regular updates to Section 151 officers on a range of local audit related matters and our work, to inform and support effective auditor-audited body relationships; and
- concerted efforts to develop a more sustainable local audit market.

The national scheme from 2023/24 will build on the current scheme having listened to the feedback from scheme members, suppliers and other stakeholders and learning from the collective post-2018 experience.

Since 2018 we have taken a number of initiatives to improve the operation of the scheme for the benefit of all parties including:

- commissioning an independent review undertaken by Cardiff Business School of the design of the scheme and implementation of our appointing person role to help shape our thinking about future arrangements;
- commissioning an independent review by consultancy firm Touchstone Renard of the sustainability of the local government audit market, which identified a number of distinctive challenges in the current local audit market. We published the report to inform debate and support ongoing work to strengthen the system and help to deliver long term sustainability;
- proactively and constructively engaging with the various independent reviews, including the significant Redmond Review into Local Authority Financial Reporting and External Audit;
- working with MHCLG to identify ways to address concerns about fees by developing a new approach to fee variations which would seek wherever possible to determine additional fees at a national level where changes in audit work apply to all or most opted-in bodies;
- establishing the Local Audit Quality Forum, which has to date held five well attended events on relevant topics, to strengthen engagement with Audit Committee Chairs and Chief Finance Officers;
- using our advisory panel and attending meetings of the various Treasurers' Societies and S151 officer meetings to share updates on our work, discuss audit-related developments, and listen to feedback;
- maintaining contact with those registered audit firms that are not currently contracted with us, to build relationships and understand their thinking on working within the local audit market;
- undertaking research to enable a better understanding of the outcomes of electors' objections and statements of reasons issued since our establishment in April 2015; and
- sharing our experiences with and learning from other organisations that commission local audit services such as Audit Scotland, the NAO, and Crown Commercial Services.

As a member of the newly formed Local Audit Liaison Committee (established by MHCLG as outlined in its Spring statement), we are working closely with a range of local audit stakeholders including MHCLG, FRC, NAO, ICAEW, CIPFA and the LGA to help identify and develop further initiatives to strengthen local audit. In many cases desirable improvements are not within PSAA's sole gift and, accordingly, it is essential that this work is undertaken collaboratively with a common aim to ensure that local bodies continue to be served by an audit market which is able to meet the sector's needs and which is attractive to a range of well-equipped suppliers.

One of PSAA's most important obligations is to make an appropriate auditor appointment to each and every opted-in body. Prior to making appointments for the second appointing period, commencing on 1 April 2023, we plan to undertake a major procurement enabling suppliers to enter into new long term contracts with PSAA.

In the event that the procurement fails to attract sufficient capacity to enable auditor appointments to every opted-in body or realistic market prices, we have fallback options to extend one or more existing contracts for 2023/24 and also 2024/25.

We are very conscious of the value represented by these contract extension options, particularly given the current challenging market conditions. However, rather than simply extending existing contracts for two years (with significant uncertainty attaching to the likely success of a further procurement to take effect from 1 April 2025), we believe that it is preferable, if possible, to enter into new long term contracts with suppliers at realistic market prices to coincide with the commencement of the next appointing period.

MHCLG has recently undertaken a consultation proposing amendments to the Appointing Person Regulations. We have set the length of the next compulsory appointing period to cover the audits of the five consecutive financial years commencing 1 April 2023.

PSAA is well placed to lead the national scheme

As outlined earlier, the past few years have posed unprecedented challenges for the UK audit market. Alongside other stakeholders PSAA has learned a great deal as we have tried to address the difficulties and problems arising and mitigate risks. It has been a steep learning curve but nevertheless one which places us in a strong position to continue to lead the national scheme going forward. MHCLG's Spring statement confirmed Government's confidence in us to continue as appointing person, citing our strong technical expertise and the proactive work we have done to help to identify improvements that can be made to the process.

The company is staffed by a team with significant experience of working within the context of the regulations to appoint auditors, managing contracts with audit firms, and setting and determining audit fees. All of these roles are undertaken with a detailed, ongoing, and up-to-date understanding of the distinctive context and challenges facing

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both the sector and a highly regulated service and profession which is subject to dynamic pressures for change. Where appropriate we have worked with MHCLG to change our regulations where they are preventing efficiency.

We believe that the national collective, sector-led scheme stands out as the best option for all eligible bodies - especially in the current challenging market conditions. It offers excellent value for money and assures the independence of the auditor appointment.

Membership of the scheme will save time and resources for local bodies - time and resources which can be deployed to address other pressing priorities. Bodies can avoid the necessity to establish an auditor panel (required by the Local Audit & Accountability Act, 2014) and the need to manage their own auditor procurement. Assuming a high level of participation, the scheme can make a significant contribution to supporting market sustainability and encouraging realistic prices in a challenging market.

The scope of a local audit is fixed. It is determined by the Code of Audit Practice (currently published by the NAO²), the format of the financial statements (specified by CIPFA/LASAAC) and the application of auditing standards regulated by the FRC. These factors apply to all local audits irrespective of whether an eligible body decides to opt into PSAA's national scheme or chooses to make its own separate arrangements.

The scope of public audit is wider than for private sector organisations. For example, for 2020/21 onwards it involves providing a new commentary on the body's arrangements for securing value for money, as well as dealing with electors' enquiries and objections, and in some circumstances issuing public interest reports.

Auditors must be independent of the bodies they audit to enable them to carry out their work with objectivity and credibility, and to do so in a way that commands public confidence. We will continue to make every effort to ensure that auditors meet the relevant independence criteria at the point at which they are appointed, and to address any identified threats to independence which arise from time to time. We will also monitor any significant proposals for auditors to carry out consultancy or other non-audit work with the aim of ensuring that these do not undermine independence and public confidence.

The scheme will also endeavour to appoint the same auditor to bodies involved in formal collaboration/joint working initiatives, if the parties consider that a common auditor will enhance efficiency and value for money.

² MHCLG's Spring statement proposes that overarching responsibility for the Code will in due course transfer to the system leader, namely ARGA, the new regulator being established to replace the FRC.

PSAA's commitments

PSAA will contract with appropriately qualified suppliers

In accordance with the 2014 Act, audit firms must be registered with one of the chartered accountancy institutes - currently the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) - acting in the capacity of a Recognised Supervisory Body (RSB). The quality of their work will then be subject to inspection by either or potentially both the RSB and the FRC. Currently there are fewer than ten firms registered to carry out local audit work.

We will take a close interest in the results of RSB and FRC inspections and the subsequent plans that firms develop to address any areas in which inspectors highlight the need for improvement. We will also focus on the rigour and effectiveness of firms' own internal quality assurance arrangements, recognising that these represent some of the earliest and most important safety nets for identifying and remedying any problems arising. To help inform our scrutiny of both external inspections and internal quality assurance processes, we will invite regular feedback from both audit committee chairs and chief finance officers of audited bodies.

PSAA will support market sustainability

We are very conscious that our next procurement will take place at a very difficult time given all of the fragility and uncertainties within the external audit market.

Throughout our work we will be alert to new and relevant developments that may emerge from the Government's response to the Kingman, CMA and Brydon Reviews, as well as its response to the issues relating specifically to local audit highlighted by the Redmond Review. We will adjust or tailor our approach as necessary to maximise the achievement of our procurement objectives.

A top priority must be to encourage market sustainability. Firms will be able to bid for a variety of differently sized contracts so that they can match their available resources and risk appetite to the contract for which they bid. They will be required to meet appropriate quality standards and to reflect realistic market prices in their tenders, informed by the scale fees and the supporting information provided about each audit. Where regulatory changes are in train which affect the amount of audit work which suppliers must undertake, firms will be informed as to which developments should be priced into their bids. Other regulatory changes will be addressed through the fee variation process, where appropriate in the form of national variations.

PSAA will offer value for money

Audit fees must ultimately be met by individual audited bodies. The prices submitted by bidders through the procurement will be the key determinant of the value of audit fees paid by opted-in bodies.

We believe that the most likely way to secure competitive arrangements in a suppliers' market is to work collectively together as a sector.

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We will seek to encourage realistic fee levels and to benefit from the economies of scale associated with procuring on behalf of a significant number of bodies. We will also continue to seek to minimise our own costs (which represent approximately 4% of overall scheme costs). We are a not-for-profit company and any surplus funds will be returned to scheme members. For example, in 2019 we returned a total £3.5million to relevant bodies and, more recently, we announced a further distribution of £5.6m in August 2021.

We will continue to pool scheme costs and charge fees to opted-in bodies in accordance with our published fee scale as amended from time to time following consultations with scheme members and other interested parties. Pooling is a key tenet of the national collective scheme.

Additional fees (fee variations) are part of the statutory framework. They only occur if auditors are required to do substantially more work than anticipated, for example, if local circumstances or the Code of Audit Practice change or the regulator (the FRC) increases its requirement on auditors.

Audit developments since 2018 have focused considerable attention on audit fees. The drive to improve audit quality has created significant fee pressures as auditors have needed to extend their work to ensure compliance with increased regulatory requirements. Changes in audit scope and technical standards, such as the requirement in the new Code of Audit Practice 2020 for the auditor to provide a VFM arrangements commentary, have also had an impact. Fees are rising in response to the volume of additional audit work now required.

The outcome is awaited of MHCLG's recent consultation on changes to the regulations, designed to provide the appointing person with greater flexibility to allow a fee scale to be set during the audit year (rather than before it starts). If implemented, these changes will enable approved recurring fee variations to be baked into the scale fee at an earlier date so the scale fees are more accurate and the volume of fee variations is reduced.

It is important to emphasise that by opting into the national scheme you have the reassurance that we review and robustly assess each fee variation proposal in line with statutory requirements. We draw on our technical knowledge and extensive experience in order to assess each submission, comparing with similar submissions in respect of other bodies/auditors before reaching a decision.

Procurement Strategy

Our [procurement strategy](#) sets out the detail and scope of the procurement to deliver contracts from which the auditor appointments will be made for eligible bodies that decide to accept the invitation to opt into PSAA's scheme.

Our primary aim is to secure the delivery of an audit service of the required quality for every opted-in body at a realistic market price and to support the drive towards a long term competitive and more sustainable market for local public audit services.

We expect to initiate a new procurement for audit services in February 2022 and, subject to a satisfactory outcome, to award contracts in August 2022. Subject to consultations with opted-in bodies and audit firms, we plan to make auditor appointments by 31 December 2022 (as required by the regulations).

Response to consultation feedback

PSAA consulted with eligible bodies and other stakeholders on our draft prospectus for the national scheme for local auditor arrangements from April 2023, and with the audit services market on important features of its procurement strategy. The insight provided from both these important consultations has helped to shape the arrangements that PSAA will implement from 2023/24. Key areas are highlighted below.

Evolution of the Local Audit Framework

The consultation responses highlight the need for system-wide change. In many areas it is not within PSAA's remit to effect the significant change required.

The newly formed Local Audit Liaison Committee (as outlined in MHCLG's Spring statement), has enabled PSAA to highlight the need for a range of actions to tackle the identified issues that are essential to support a more stable, more resilient, and more sustainable local audit system. Sometimes the actions can be taken by individual organisations, but more frequently responsibility lies collectively across the system. The Liaison Committee and its members are now taking actions forward, including:

- All stakeholders to communicate the importance of audit timeliness as a consistent message to audit firms;
- PSAA to work with the FRC to develop the approach to quality evaluation of tenders;
- MHCLG and other stakeholders to understand the extent of potential increased audit costs for all eligible bodies and to consider how these might be met;
- All stakeholders to consider ways in which to attract new entrants (firms and Key Audit Partners) into the market;
- Central government departments to provide clarity on the direction of local audit policy to inform firms' consideration ahead of next procurement;
- The NAO and FRC to work together to consider how they can provide clarity about the future direction of the Code of Audit Practice to firms ahead of the next procurement; and
- MHCLG, CIPFA and the LGA to consider how to support finance departments with accounting and audit requirements.

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In the vast majority of the areas consulted on which were within PSAA's remit, responses were supportive of our proposals for the national scheme from 2023/24 which is very encouraging. Areas where we have revisited and evolved our approach are highlighted below.

Minimum Audit Fees

Audit fees are rising in all sectors in response to increased regulatory requirements for audit quality and changes in audit scope and technical standards. Striving to ensure realistic fee levels is a vital prerequisite to achieving a more sustainable and stable local audit market.

Where individual audits currently attract scale fees that do not cover the basic costs of the audit work needed for a Code-compliant audit, we propose to implement a minimum fee level at the start of the next appointing period, for the audit of the 2023/24 accounts. Our independent research indicates a minimum fee level of £31,000 should apply, based on the 2020/21 scope of audit work, to any opted-in body (a police and crime commissioner and a chief constable constitute one body for this purpose).

We cannot anticipate scale fees for the next appointing period at this stage, because they will depend on the prices achieved in the procurement and any changes in audit requirements. Where any price increase means that the scale fee for a body does not reach the floor set by the minimum fee, the fee for that body would increase to reach the minimum level. It is likely, given current expectations, that the introduction of a minimum fee specifically would lead to an increase in fees for a relatively small number of local bodies. PSAA consults each year on the fee scale and will consult in 2023 on the 2023/24 fee scale.

Introducing a minimum fee is a one-off exercise designed to improve the accuracy of the fee scale for the next appointing period. Fee variations would continue to apply where the local circumstances of an audited body require additional audit work that was not expected at the time the fee scale was set.

Standardised fee variations

Current local audit regulations allow PSAA to approve fee variation requests only at individual bodies, for additional audit requirements that become apparent during the course of an audit year. MHCLG has announced the intention to amend the regulations, following a consultation, to provide more flexibility. This would include the ability for PSAA to approve standardised fee variations to apply to all or groupings of bodies where it may be possible to determine additional fees for some new requirements nationally rather than for each opted-in body individually. Where it is possible to do this, it would have the effect of reducing the need for local fee variations.

Approach to social value in the evaluation of tenders

We plan to retain our original proposal of a 5% weighting but to broaden the criteria by asking bidders to describe the additional social value they will deliver from the contract, which could include the creation of audit apprenticeships and meaningful training opportunities. Bidders will also be asked to describe how their delivery of social value will be measured and evidenced.

Contract Management

The quality of the audit services received by opted-in bodies is very important to both the bodies themselves and to PSAA. Our intention is therefore to focus a significant majority of the quality assessment of tender submissions on resourcing, capacity and capability (including sector knowledge) and on client relationship management and communication. Correspondingly, we intend to apply a lesser weighting to those criteria that are regularly assessed by the regulator. We will seek the views of the regulator in developing the detail of our approach.

We will also review the contract terms used in 2017 ahead of the next procurement of audit services. In particular we will consider the potential to introduce enhanced performance management arrangements aligned to the greater emphasis on quality within the tender evaluation process. Any such revision must ensure continued compliance with the FRC's Ethical Standard which prevents audit fees from being "*calculated on a predetermined basis relating to the outcome or result of a transaction, or other event, or the result of the work performed*".

Information and Communication

Following the success of the webinars held to support the recent consultation, PSAA will be running a series of webinars starting in October 2021. The webinars will provide eligible bodies with the opportunity to hear and ask questions about specific areas of scheme arrangements and PSAA's work, and our progress to prepare for the second appointing period. Details of the [webinar series](#) can be found on our website.

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Appendix A

Eligible Principal Bodies in England

The following bodies are eligible to join the proposed national scheme for appointment of auditors to local bodies:

- county councils
- metropolitan borough councils
- London borough councils
- unitary councils
- combined authorities
- passenger transport executives
- police and crime commissioners for a police area
- chief constables for an area
- national park authorities for a national park
- conservation boards
- fire and rescue authorities
- waste authorities
- the Greater London Authority and its functional bodies
- any smaller bodies whose expenditure in any year exceeds £6.5m (e.g. Internal Drainage Boards) or who have chosen to be a full audit authority (Regulation 8 of Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015).

Board Members

Steve Freer (Chairman)

Keith House

Caroline Gardner CBE

Marta Phillips OBE

Stephen Sellers

PSAA Board members bring a wealth of executive and non-executive experience to the company. Areas of particularly relevant expertise include public governance, management and leadership; local government and contract law; and public audit and financial management.

Further information about PSAA's Board can be found at <https://www.psaa.co.uk/about-us/who-we-are/board-members/>

Senior Executive Team

Tony Crawley, Chief Executive

Sandy Parbhoo, Chief Finance Officer

Andrew Chappell, Senior Quality Manager

Julie Schofield, Senior Manager Business & Procurement

Within the PSAA senior executive team there is extensive and detailed knowledge and experience of public audit, developed through long standing careers either as auditors or in senior finance and business management roles in relevant organisations.

Further information about PSAA's senior team can be found at <https://www.psaa.co.uk/about-us/who-we-are/executive-team/>

Annex - Procurement Options

Our Preferred Option

A 5 year contract with the fallback of the right to extend one or more of the current contracts if there are insufficient or unaffordable bids.

Other Options Considered and Rejected

Option 1

Extending the existing contracts for 2 years and deferring the procurement. We want to secure 5 year contracts if we can because we believe this option is more attractive to the market.

Option 2

A 5 year contract with a commitment not to extend the existing contracts. We need the back stop of the right to extend the existing contracts if there are insufficient bids to allow us to make auditor appointments to all opted in bodies or if any of the bids received propose unacceptable prices.

Option 3

A 5 year contract with pre-determined prices for years 1 and 2 thereby avoiding the need for firms to price in the value of the right to extend the existing contracts. We believe such an arrangement will be unattractive to the market. Firms should be able to offer their own prices for years 1 and 2.

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

8 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	Treasury Management Strategy, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement 2022/23			
Purpose of Report	<p>This report outlines the Council's prudential indicators for 2022/23 – 2024/25 and sets out the treasury strategy for this period. It fulfils three key reports required by the Local Government Act 2003:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reporting prudential indicators required by the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities; • a treasury management strategy in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management; • an investment strategy in accordance with the DLUHC investment guidance. <p>It also fulfils the statutory duty to approve a minimum revenue policy (MRP) statement for 2022/23.</p>			
Decision(s)	<p>Council RESOLVES to:</p> <p>a) adopt the prudential indicators and limits for 2022/23 to 2024/25; b) approve the Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23, and the treasury prudential indicators; c) approve the Investment Strategy 2022/23, and the detailed criteria for specified and non-specified investments; and d) approve the MRP Statement 2022/23 e) approve the Ethical Investment Policy as recommended by Audit and Standards Committee.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Link Asset Services (LAS).			
Report Author	Graham Bailey, Principal Accountant Tel: 01453 754133 E-mail: graham.bailey@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	Full Council is required to adopt the prudential indicators and approve the annual treasury management strategy. These are largely determined by the Council's revenue and capital budget decisions when setting the 2022/23 Council Tax, Housing rent levels and the capital programme.			
Background Papers	CIPFA Treasury management in the public services – code of practice and cross-sectoral guidance notes 2021 CIPFA The Prudential Code for capital finance in local authorities 2021			
Appendices	Appendix A - Investments at 31 December 2021 Appendix B - Explanation of Prudential Indicators Appendix C - Economic Background Appendix D - Treasury Management Scheme of Delegation Appendix E - Ethical Investment Policy			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Discussion

1. Under the Local Government Act 2003 (the Act) and supporting regulations the Council is required to “have regard to” the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) 2021 Prudential Code and the CIPFA 2021 Treasury Management Code of Practice to set Prudential and Treasury Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the Council’s capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.
2. Council is required to approve an Annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement for borrowing, and an Investment Strategy which sets out the Council’s policies for managing its investments and for giving priority to security and liquidity of investments.
3. There is also a statutory duty to approve a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement for the year 2022-23.
4. CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires the Council to maintain a Treasury Management Manual, which is reviewed annually. This manual is a record of internal procedures and operational guidance, as such it is not subject to approval by Members. The manual incorporates the following documentation relating to Treasury management:
 - Treasury Management Policy Statement. This is reviewed annually.
 - Treasury Management Practices (TMP) – Main Principles. There are 12 practices which set out the manner in which this Council will seek to achieve its treasury management policies and objectives and how it will manage and control those activities. These are reviewed annually.
 - Treasury Management Practices – Schedules. These schedules set out the details of how the TMPs are put into effect by this Council. This document is revised annually to include the latest detailed procedural documents.
 - Counterparty Lending List and lending criteria. The list used by the Council is provided by Link Asset Services (LAS), the Council’s treasury advisors. A new list is provided weekly and there are daily updates by email of any changes to ratings.
5. Other CIPFA requirements are:
 - a Mid-Year Report and an Annual Report summarising activities during the previous year;
 - a Capital Strategy;
 - delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and monitoring treasury management policies and practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions. At this Council, delegation is to the Section 151 officer;
 - delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny of treasury management reports and strategy to a specific named body. For this Council the delegated body is the Audit and Standards Committee.
6. CIPFA recently completed the second round of consultation on the proposed changes to the current editions of the Treasury Management Code and Prudential Code. The revised editions of these Codes were published on the 20th Dec 2021. The Council has to have regard to these codes of practice when preparing the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and related in-year reports taken to Full Council for approval. CIPFA has agreed a soft launch approach with formal reporting requirements deferred until 2023/24 financial year. We will ensure that we implement these new requirements on or before the 1st April 2023.

7. As part of these changes, the Council is required to adopt a new Liability Benchmark treasury indicator to support Capital Financing Requirement financing risk management. There will also be further changes to clarify what CIPFA expect a local authority to borrow for and what they do not view as appropriate. This will include the requirement to set a proportionate approach to Commercial and Service capital investment; address ESG issues within Capital Strategy; require implementation of a policy to review Commercial Property with a view to divest where appropriate; create new Investment Practices to manage risks associated with non-Treasury investment (similar to current Treasury Management Practice approach); recommend that any long term treasury investment is supported by business model and requirement to effectively manage liquidity and longer term cash flow requirements; amendment to TMP1 to address ESG policy within the treasury management risk framework; amendment to Knowledge and Skills register for individuals involved in treasury management function (proportionate to size/complexity of organisation); a new requirement to clarify reporting requirements for Service and Commercial investment (especially where supported by borrowing/leverage).
8. Members will be updated on how these changes will impact our current approach and any changes required will be formally adopted within the 2023/24 TMSS and associated reports.
9. Whilst the reporting requirements do not formally need to be adopted until 2023/24, the Codes are now in force and should be followed when decisions on capital expenditure, treasury, service and commercial investment are being taken.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Annual Investment Strategy and Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2022/23

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Act and supporting regulations require the Council to 'have regard to' the CIPFA Prudential Code and to set Prudential Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.
- 1.2 The Act therefore requires the Council to set out its treasury strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy (as required by Investment Guidance issued subsequent to the Act). This sets out the Council's policies for managing its investments and for giving priority to the security and liquidity of those investments.
- 1.3 The 2022/23 strategy for the following aspects of the treasury management function is based upon treasury officers' views on interest rates, supplemented with market forecasts provided by the Council's treasury advisor, LAS. The strategy covers:
 - limits in force to mitigate the Council's treasury risk;
 - Prudential Indicators;
 - current treasury position;
 - borrowing requirement;
 - prospects for interest rates;
 - borrowing strategy;
 - policy on borrowing in advance of need;
 - investment strategy;
 - creditworthiness policy;
 - policy on use of external service providers;

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- Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) statement;
- treasury management scheme of delegation and section 151 role;
- ethical investment policy
- miscellaneous treasury issues.

- 1.4 It is a statutory requirement under Section 33 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for the Council to produce a balanced budget. In particular, Section 32 requires a local authority to calculate its budget requirement for each financial year to include the revenue costs that flow from capital financing decisions. Meaning that increases in capital expenditure must be limited to a level whereby increases in charges to revenue from:
- increases in interest charges and minimum revenue provision caused by increased borrowing to finance additional capital expenditure, and
 - any increases in running costs from new capital projects are limited to a level which is affordable for the foreseeable future.

2. CAPITAL PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR 2022/23 TO 2024/25

- 2.1 Capital expenditure plans are a key driver of treasury management activity. There are prudential indicators that focus on the Council's capital spending plans.
- 2.2 The first prudential indicator is a summary of the Council's capital expenditure plans, shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Capital Expenditure

Capital Expenditure	2020/21 £000 Actual	2021/22 £000 Estimate	2022/23 £000 Estimate	2023/24 £000 Estimate	2024/25 £000 Estimate
Community Services	-	147	190	-	-
Environment	2,966	6,625	7,855	4,337	532
Housing General Fund	1,643	2,721	5,813	365	365
Strategy & Resources	904	1,799	174	3,533	-
General Fund	5,513	11,292	14,032	8,235	897
HRA	7,171	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115
Total	12,684	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012

- 2.3 Any shortfall of resources to finance the capital programme results in a borrowing need as set out in Table 2 below.

Table 2: Capital Financing

Capital Expenditure	2020/21 £000 Actual	2021/22 £000 Estimate	2022/23 £000 Estimate	2023/24 £000 Estimate	2024/25 £000 Estimate
General Fund	5,513	11,292	14,032	8,235	897
HRA	7,171	21,790	21,644	16,137	13,115
Total	12,684	33,082	35,676	24,372	14,012
Financed by:					
Capital receipts	1,363	3,251	2,959	1,324	600
Capital grants	2,570	7,813	12,943	3,742	395
Capital reserves	5,098	10,924	6,772	8,433	6,609
Revenue	807	671	1,969	712	1,757
Net GF Financing Need for the year	2,085	2,805	805	4,493	502
Net HRA Financing Need for the year	761	7,618	10,228	5,668	4,149
Total Net Financing Need for the year	2,846	10,423	11,033	10,161	4,651

- 2.4 The second prudential indicator is the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is simply the total historic capital expenditure which has not yet been financed from either revenue or capital resources. It is the measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need. Any newly planned unfinanced capital expenditure will increase the CFR.
- 2.5 The Council is asked to approve the CFR projections below that are in line with approved capital budgets:

Table 3: The Council’s borrowing need (Capital Financing Requirement)

Capital Financing Requirement	2020/21 £000 Actual	2021/22 £000 Estimate	2022/23 £000 Estimate	2023/24 £000 Estimate	2024/25 £000 Estimate
CFR - General Fund	15,202	16,906	16,670	19,948	19,279
CFR - HRA	96,128	103,746	113,974	119,642	123,791
Total CFR	111,330	120,652	130,644	139,590	143,070
Movement in CFR	1,316	9,322	9,992	8,946	3,480

Movement in CFR represented by					
Net financing need for the year	2,846	10,423	11,033	10,161	4,651
Less MRP / VRP and other financing movements	-1,530	-1,101	-1,041	-1,215	-1,171
Movement in CFR	1,316	9,322	9,992	8,946	3,480

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement 2022/23

- 2.6 The Council’s MRP policy statement for 2022/23 is in accordance with the main recommendations contained within the guidance issued by the Secretary of State under section 21(1A) of the Local Government Act 2003. MRP will be charged under Option 3 of the DLUHC guidance on General Fund borrowing. Option 3 is an MRP charge over a time period reasonably commensurate with the estimated useful life of a new asset.
- 2.7 There is no requirement to charge MRP to the HRA. However, since the introduction of Self-Financing the HRA is required to charge depreciation on its assets for financial years commencing April 2017. As a result, depreciation has been a real cost to the HRA from financial year 2017/18 onwards.
- 2.8 The HRA 30 year financial plan now includes provision for the repayment of debt and therefore the HRA will make Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP) when this is considered prudent. The HRA has paid VRP of £0.9m in (19/20). There are no current plans to make further VRP payments, but sums for HRA debt repayment are currently being placed each year in an earmarked reserve.
- 2.9 The requirement for the General Fund to charge MRP began when the General Fund first undertook borrowing during financial year 2016/17. Since then, borrowing in respect of The Pulse fitness extension, Multi-Service contract vehicles, premises and equipment, Littlecombe Business Units, the Canal, Brimscombe redevelopment and water source heat pumps project has resulted in a requirement to charge the General Fund with MRP, as a prudent provision for the repayment of that debt.
- 2.10 The status of £2m of funding received from the HCA in respect of capital development works to Brimscombe Port is effectively a loan. As no expenditure related to that loan has yet been incurred no MRP is charged to make provision for repayment. When expenditure is incurred then MRP will begin.

2.11 In 2022-23 IFRS16 is introduced and this will have the effect of removing the current distinction between finance and operating leases. As a result, some currently leased assets will come on balance sheet, but the impact is assessed as immaterial. The policy will be for these leased assets to be depreciated by the same amount as the MRP element of annual lease payments. MRP is the capital element of the annual lease payments, excluding interest and service elements which are revenue costs.

2.12 DLUHC is currently consulting on MRP regulation changes to address a perception that some local authorities are not adequately complying with the duty to make proper MRP charges to their revenue budgets. Responses are due by 8 February 2022.

Table 4: Core Funds and Expected Investments

Year end resources	2020/21 £m Actual	2021/22 £m Estimate	2022/23 £m Estimate	2023/24 £m Estimate	2024/25 £m Estimate
Fund balances / reserves	38.616	33.186	30.713	26.121	23.689
Capital receipts	10.259	7.638	5.309	4.620	4.655
Provisions	1.536	0.800	0.800	0.800	0.800
Other	0.938	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500
Total Core funds	51.349	42.124	37.322	32.041	29.644
Working capital	13.129	2.000	2.000	2.000	2.000
Under (-) / over borrowing	-8.615	-17.935	-12.927	-15.873	-14.353
Expected investments	55.863	26.189	26.395	18.168	17.291

2.13 The application of resources (capital receipts, reserves etc.) to either finance capital expenditure or support the revenue budget will have an ongoing impact on investments unless resources are supplemented each year from new sources (asset sales etc.). Detailed in Table 4 above are estimates of the year-end balances for each resource and total cash flow balances.

Affordability of capital plans prudential indicators

2.14 A prudential indicator is required to assess the affordability of capital expenditure plans. This indicator provides an estimate of the impact of capital investment plans on the Council’s overall finances. The Council is asked to approve the cost of capital expenditure plans as a ratio of the net revenue stream indicator shown in table 5.

Table 5: Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream

	2020/21 Actual	2021/22 Estimate	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate
Non-HRA	1.09%	0.98%	0.65%	0.75%	0.73%
HRA	16.10%	14.83%	14.31%	13.79%	13.45%

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3. BORROWING

- 3.1 Amongst the objectives of the treasury management function are ensuring that the Council's cash is managed in accordance with relevant professional codes and that sufficient cash is available at the right times to facilitate revenue and capital spending plans. Capital expenditure plans as set out in section 2 indicate if borrowing is required.
- 3.2 Table 6 shows the actual external debt, compared against the underlying capital borrowing need (the Capital Financing Requirement - CFR), highlighting any over or under borrowing.

Table 6: Gross Debt compared with Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

	2020/21 £m Actual	2021/22 £m Estimate	2022/23 £m Estimate	2023/24 £m Estimate	2024/25 £m Estimate
External Debt					
Debt at 1 April	102.717	102.717	102.717	117.717	123.717
Expected change in debt	-	-	15.000	6.000	5.000
Other long term liabilities at 1 Apr	-	-	-	-	-
Actual Gross Debt at 31 March	102.717	102.717	117.717	123.717	128.717
Capital Financing Requirement	111.330	120.652	130.644	139.590	143.070
Under / (-) over borrowing	8.613	17.935	12.927	15.873	14.353

Borrowing Strategy

- 3.3 Currently the Council has £102.717m of external borrowing, compared with a Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) of £111.330m. This means that the capital borrowing need (the CFR) is greater than loan debt by £8.613m, which is the level of internal borrowing. The Council will repay £2m of borrowing during the 2022/23 financial year in February 2023.
- 3.4 There was a limit on HRA borrowing set by the Government in the Localism Act 2011 known as the HRA debt cap. This Council's HRA debt cap was £95.742m. This cap was the absolute limit for HRA borrowing under the Prudential Code, even if the Council considered further borrowing was affordable by the HRA. The debt cap was removed in 2018.
- 3.5 HRA capital plans now include borrowing totalling £27.663m up to 2024/25. General Fund capital plans include borrowing of £8.605m up to 2024/25. The Section 151 officer will decide on the length and type of borrowing which may be required, as well as the optimum time to borrow in consultation with LAS, and take into account the latest projections for interest rates and other relevant factors including any benefits arising from internal borrowing.
- 3.6 At the end of 2022/23 there is an estimated internal borrowing position of £12.927m. Internal borrowing is currently beneficial because it reduces the financial impact of the differential between borrowing and investment interest rates. This position is projected as continuing through the period to 2024/25. Although, with the MTFP forecasting the running down of balances, and possible future changes in interest rate forecasts the Section 151 officer will keep this under review, and adjust the strategy as necessary in consultation with our Treasury advisers LAS.

- 3.7 Within the prudential indicators, there are key indicators to ensure that the Council operates its activities within well-defined limits. One of these is that the Council needs to ensure that its gross debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the CFR in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for 2022/23 and the following two financial years. This allows some flexibility for limited early borrowing for future years, but ensures that borrowing is not for revenue purposes.
- 3.8 The Section 151 officer reports that the Council complied with this prudential indicator in the current year and does not expect any breaches up to and including financial year 2024/25. This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in this year's budget report.
- 3.9 There are two Treasury indicators set which limit external debt. The operational boundary is the limit that external debt should not normally exceed. If external debt were to exceed this figure then it should prompt an internal investigation to establish the reasons why the breach had occurred.

Table 7: Operational Boundary

Operational Boundary	2021/22 £m Estimate	2022/23 £m Estimate	2023/24 £m Estimate	2024/25 £m Estimate
Debt	133	142	152	155
Other Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total	133	142	152	155

3.10 The Authorised Limit is set or revised by full Council, and must not be exceeded. It represents the level of debt that is unsustainable in the longer term. It is the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The Government retains an option to control local government borrowing in total or for specific councils. This power has not been used to date.

3.11 The Council is asked to approve the following Authorised Limit:

Table 8: Authorised Limit for External Debt

Authorised Limit	2021/22 £m Estimate	2022/23 £m Estimate	2023/24 £m Estimate	2024/25 £m Estimate
Debt	138	147	157	160
Other Long Term Liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total	138	147	157	160

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3.12 Link Asset Services (LAS) are treasury advisers to the Council and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. The following table gives the latest LAS forecast as at December 2021.

Table 9: Interest Rate Forecast

Month	Bank Rate	PWLB Borrowing Rates		
		5 year	25 year	50 year
Mar-22	0.25	1.5	1.9	1.7
Jun-22	0.5	1.5	2	1.8
Sep-22	0.5	1.6	2.1	1.9
Dec-22	0.5	1.6	2.1	1.9
Mar-23	0.75	1.7	2.2	2
Jun-23	0.75	1.8	2.2	2
Sep-23	0.75	1.8	2.2	2
Dec-23	0.75	1.8	2.3	2.1
Mar-24	1	1.9	2.3	2.1
Jun-24	1	1.9	2.4	2.2
Sep-24	1	1.9	2.4	2.2
Dec-24	1	2	2.5	2.3
Mar-25	1.25	2	2.5	2.3

Treasury management limits on activity

3.13 The purpose of treasury management limits is to restrain the activity of the treasury function within certain limits, thereby managing risk and reducing the impact of any adverse movement in interest rates. However, if these limits are set to be too restrictive they will impair the opportunities to reduce costs or improve performance. The maturity structure of borrowing limits is set out in Table 10. The gross limits are set to control the Council's exposure to large fixed rate sums falling due for refinancing at the same time. Upper and lower limits are set for each time period.

3.14 The Council is asked to approve the following treasury indicators and limits:

Table 10: Maturity structure of borrowing

Maturity structure of new fixed and variable rate borrowing during 2022/23	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 months	25%	0%
12 months and within 24 months	50%	0%
24 months and within 5 years	75%	0%
5 years and within 10 years	100%	0%
10 years and above	100%	0%

Policy on borrowing in advance of need

3.15 The Council will not borrow more than, or in advance of, need purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed. Any decision to borrow in advance will be within approved Capital Financing Requirement estimates as required by the Prudential Code (see paragraph 3.7). Decisions to borrow will seek to ensure value for money and security of funds.

3.16 The Council will consider borrowing up to 12 months ahead of capital spend:

- If such capital spend is considered very likely to occur within 12 months;
- treasury advisers demonstrate that rates are particularly low and likely to move higher within 12 months;
- treasury advisers evaluate a net saving after assessing cost of carry;
- a trigger rate(s) will be set by s151 officer in consultation with treasury advisers and treasury officers;
- borrowing may be conducted in parcels – e.g. £4m could be split into 4 x £1m or 2 x £2m;
- ensure the ongoing revenue liabilities created, and the implications for the future plans and budgets have been fully considered;
- evaluate the economic and market factors that might influence the manner and timing of any decision to borrow;
- consider the merits and demerits of alternative forms of funding;
- consider the alternative interest rate bases available, the most appropriate periods to fund and repayment profiles to use.

3.17 The foregoing usual procedure will not prevent the Section 151 officer from forward borrowing to the fullest extent permitted by the Prudential Code, CFR for the current year

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plus the following two years, if extraordinary conditions arise in the short term to make such action in the interests of the authority.

Debt rescheduling

- 3.18 The Council has £102.7m of debt. There is a repayment of £2m due in February 2023. The Section 151 officer will keep under review opportunities for debt rescheduling. Debt rescheduling will be reported to Council at the next meeting after it occurs.

4. ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

Investment Policy

- 4.1 It is vital that the Council ensures that its investment balances are best utilised to help the overall financial position. Appendix A shows there is over £50m invested as at 31 December 2021. Improving average returns on the Council's investment portfolio will be a significant factor in improving the Council's financial sustainability. Investment strategy is to broaden the range of longer term investments, and during 2019/20 £10m of longer term investments were approved comprising £6m in property funds and £4m in multi-asset funds.
- 4.2 The Council will have regard to the DLUHC's Guidance on Local Government Investments ("the Guidance") issued in March 2004, any updates to that guidance such as the 2018 update, and the 2021 revised CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes ("the CIPFA Treasury Management Code"). The Council's investment priorities in order are:
- 1) security
 - 2) liquidity
 - 3) yield
- 4.3 In accordance with the above, and in order to minimise the risk to investments with banks and building societies, the Council has below clearly stipulated the minimum acceptable credit quality of counterparties for inclusion on the lending list. The creditworthiness methodology used to create the counterparty list fully accounts for the ratings, watches and outlooks published by all three ratings agencies with a full understanding of what the ratings mean for each agency. LAS's bank ratings service enables real-time monitoring of a bank's rating. Daily emails are sent to the Council to notify of any significant change to a bank rating, and are available on Link's Passport online portal.
- 4.4 Further, the Council's officers recognise that ratings should not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution and that it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector. Assessment will also take account of information reflecting the opinion of the markets. To this end the Council will engage with its advisors to maintain a monitor on market pricing such as "credit default swaps" (CDS). Other information sources used will include the financial press, share price and other such information about the banking sector in order to establish the most robust scrutiny process on the suitability of potential investment counterparties.
- 4.5 The intention of the strategy is to provide security of investment whilst maximising returns and an awareness of the risks, both of losing capital and also of eroding the value of funds through lower rates of return.

- 4.6 The Council will also aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. The risk appetite of this Council has been generally low in order to give priority to security of investments, however higher risk longer term investments are part of a balanced portfolio of investments up to a value of £15m, subject to proper due diligence by the Section 151 officer.
- 4.7 Borrowing of monies purely to invest or on-lend and make a return is unlawful and this Council will not engage in such activity.
- 4.8 ‘Specified’ Investments which are investments with a high level of credit quality and maturities of up to 1 year and ‘Non-Specified’ Investments which are of a lower credit quality, may be for longer periods than 1 year and are more complex investment instruments which require proper due diligence before they are authorised for use during the financial year.

Table 11: Upper limit for investments over 365 days

Upper Limit for total principal sums invested for over 365 days	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Investments	£15m	£15m	£15m	£12m	£10m

Specified Investments

- 4.9 All specified investments will be sterling denominated, with maturities up to 1 year or less (including any forward deal time), subject to LAS’s colour coding rating system as set out in creditworthiness policy paragraphs 4.19 – 4.24.

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Table 12: Specified Investments

Type of Investment	Minimum 'High' Credit Criteria	Max Sum** per institution / group
Debt Management Agency Deposit Facility	*	Unlimited
Term deposits – local authorities	*	£4m per local authority £12m total
Term deposits – banks and building societies	Colour coded as per CAS Weekly counterparty listing (AA-countries & UK only)	£8m
UK Government Gilts	*	£12m
Bonds issued by multilateral development banks	*	£8m
Bonds issued by a financial institution which is guaranteed by the UK government	*	£8m
Treasury Bills	*	£12m
Certificates of deposits issued by banks and building societies	Colour coded as per CAS Weekly counterparty listing (AA-countries & UK only)	£8m
Money Market Funds (CNAV)	AAA	£6m per MMF & £12m total in MMFs
Money Market Funds (LVNAV)	AAA	£4m per MMF & £12m total in MMFs
Money Market Funds (VNAV)	AAA	£2m & £12m total in MMFs

Non-Specified Investments

- 4.10 All investments will be sterling denominated.
- 4.11 Investments will not necessarily be made in all categories but they are included to allow the Council to put together a balanced portfolio to mitigate risk.
- 4.12 There are some important considerations that need to be borne in mind when considering non-specified investment types:
- There is usually a need to commit to investing for the medium to longer term and so funds invested need to be sourced from balances that will not be called upon for cash flow purposes in the short term;
 - Some investments have naturally fluctuating capital values, whilst still providing a revenue income stream;
 - Fluctuation in the value of pooled investments has no impact upon the General Fund in the short term. This is because government has given local government a 5-year mitigation, commencing April 2018 and ending March 2023, under the accounting standard IFRS9 which affects the accounting for pooled investments. Without the mitigation, IFRS9 would have meant charging any fluctuations in capital values of investments against the Council's revenue expenditure each year. In financial year 2023-24 any balance on the Financial Instrument Adjustment account will be charged to revenue.
 - The Section 151 officer will subject any investment proposals to extensive due diligence using investment advisers as appropriate.
- 4.14 An investment selection process lead by LAS and involving a cross-party member advisory group to reflect member views in the decision making process was carried out in 2019 to select property fund and multi-asset fund investments. That process resulted in the selection and approval of investments in two property funds (Lothbury £4m and Hermes £2m), and two multi-asset funds (Royal London £3m and CCLA £1m). The multi-asset funds are under the Mixed Investment 0 – 35% Shares non-specified category, although it is accepted by the Section 151 officer that there could theoretically be up to 40% in equities in the CCLA fund due to their volatility constraints.
- 4.15 Predominantly, investments greater than a year in duration except for unrated building societies which are limited to durations of less than a year.

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Table 13: Non-specified Investments

Financial instrument / institution	Minimum Credit Criteria	Max. maturity period	Max. Sum**
Term deposits – banks and building societies	Colour coded as per LAS Weekly counterparty listing (AA- countries & UK only)	3 years	£8m
Certificates of deposits issued by banks and building societies	Colour coded as per LAS Weekly counterparty listing (AA- countries & UK only)	3 years	£8m
Building Societies	Unrated with assets > £1bn	6 mths	£2m*****
Building Societies	Unrated with assets < £1bn	3 mths	£1m*****
Property Funds	***	25 years	£12m
Short Dated Bond Funds	****	3 years	£3m
UK Gilts Funds	****	4 years	£3m
UK Index Linked Gilts Funds	****	4 years	£3m
£ Corporate Bond Funds	****	4 years	£3m
UK Equity & Bond Income Funds	****	10 years	£3m
Mixed Investments 0-35% Shares	****	3 years	£6m
Mixed Investments 20-60% Shares	****	4 years	£4m
Mixed investments 40-85% Shares	****	5 years	£3m
Corporate Bonds	AA-	3 years	£3m
Housing Associations	AA-	3 years	£3m
Folk2Folk	****	5 years	£1m
UK Local Authorities	*	3 years	£8m
UK Government Gilts	*	3 years	£8m
Bonds issued by multilateral development banks	*	3 years	£8m
Bonds issued by a financial institution which is guaranteed by the UK government	*	3 years	£8m

* Government institutions have the highest security, although they are not formally rated.

** A maximum sum refers to the combined total of specified and non-specified investments with a particular bank, or group if specified.

*** Any investment would be subject to an evaluation process and a report to Strategy and Resources Committee.

**** Due diligence Section 151 Officer

***** Maximum of £8m in unrated building societies

Investment Definitions

Short Dated Bond Funds focus on shorter-term investments, typically with a maturity limit of 5 years. May invest in all forms of fixed income investments, including government and corporate debt. They are often limited to using only investment grade bonds (BBB-rated and higher), but some funds may make use of sub-investment grade bonds, or unrated issuance.

UK Gilt Funds invest at least 95% of their assets in Sterling denominated (or hedged back to Sterling) government backed securities, with a rating the same or higher than that of the UK, with at least 80% invested in UK government securities (Gilts).

UK Index Linked Gilt Funds invest at least 95% of their assets in Sterling denominated (or hedged back to Sterling) government backed index linked securities, with a rating the same or higher than that of the UK government, with at least 80% invested in UK Index Linked Gilts.

Sterling Corporate Bond Funds invest at least 80% of their assets in Sterling denominated (or hedged back to Sterling), Triple BBB minus or above corporate bond securities (as measured by Standard & Poors or an equivalent external rating agency). This excludes convertibles, preference shares and permanent interest bearing shares (PIBs).

UK Equity & Bond Income Funds invest at least 80% of their assets in the UK, between 20% and 80% in UK fixed interest securities and between 20% and 80% in UK equities. These funds aim to have a yield in excess of 120% of the FTSE All Share Index.

Mixed Investments 0 – 35% Share Funds are required to have a range of different investments. Up to 35% of the fund can be invested in company shares (equities). At least 45% of the fund must be in fixed income investments (for example, corporate and government bonds) and/or “cash” investments. “Cash” can include investments such as current account cash, short-term fixed income investments and certificates of deposit.

Mixed Investments 20 – 60% Shares Funds are required to have a range of different investments. The fund must have between 20% and 60% invested in company shares (equities). At least 30% of the fund must be in fixed income investments (for example, corporate and government bonds) and/or “cash” investments. “Cash” can include investments such as current account cash, short-term fixed income investments and certificates of deposit.

Mixed Investments 40 – 85% Shares Funds are required to have a range of different investments. However, there is scope for funds to have a high proportion in company shares (equities). The fund must have between 40% and 85% invested in company shares.

Property Funds invest an average of at least 70% of their assets direct in UK property over 5 year rolling periods.

Investment Strategy

4.16 Cash flow forecast requirements and the outlook for short-term interest rates are important factors to consider when making investments. During 2021 base interest rate was 0.10% until 16 December when it increased to 0.25%.

4.17 In 2022-23 the Council will continue to invest in the specified investment category for the longest permitted duration with quality counterparties to maximise return without

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compromising security or liquidity. In particular instances the Section 151 Officer may authorise investments in the LAS blue category (see para 4.20) for a period of up to two years, which is currently longer than the LAS recommended duration of one year. Otherwise, the length of investments permitted will vary if necessary in line with LAS advice subject to the Council's upper time limits.

Table 14: Investments maturing after the end of the current financial year.

Financial Institution	Amount Invested £	Maturity	Rate
Toronto Dominion Bank	2,000,000	02/09/2022	0.16%
NatWest (RFB)	3,000,000	18/08/2022	0.19%
Thurrock District Council	1,000,000	01/07/2022	0.15%
Toronto Dominion Bank	2,000,000	28/06/2022	0.11%
Dudley Metropolitan Council	1,000,000	01/04/2022	1.45%
Lothbury Property Fund	4,000,000	long term	variable
Hermes Property Fund	2,000,000	long term	variable
Royal London Multi Asset Fund	3,000,000	long term	variable
CCLA Multi Asset Fund	1,000,000	long term	variable

4.18 The Council has £10m of fund investments in the Non-Specified category.

4.19 Bank Rate is currently forecast to increase to 1.25% by March 2025.

4.20 The Council will primarily make short-dated deposits of up to a year with appropriately rated banks or UK local authorities rather than utilising call accounts or money market funds in order to maximise interest. Transaction costs will be taken into account in any investment decision for smaller sums, which means balances of up to £1m may be retained in lower

interest rate accounts. This will be done to save transaction costs, where transaction costs would exceed interest earned.

- 4.21 There will be daily monitoring of investments by treasury staff. There will be first quarter and third quarter reports to Audit and Standards Committee and a strategy report, half year and year end reports that detail investment activity and performance to Audit and Standards Committee and to Council.

Creditworthiness policy

- 4.22 This Council applies the creditworthiness service provided by LAS. This service employs a sophisticated modelling approach utilising credit ratings from the three main credit rating agencies - Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's. The credit ratings of counterparties are supplemented with the following overlays:

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

- 4.23 This modelling approach combines credit ratings, credit Watches and credit Outlooks in a weighted scoring system which is then combined with an overlay of CDS spreads. The end product is a series of colour coded bands which indicate the relative creditworthiness of counterparties. These colour codes are used by the Council to determine the suggested duration for investments. The Council will therefore use counterparties within the following durational bands:

- **Yellow** 3 years
- **Dark pink** 3 years for Ultra-Short Dated Bond Funds with a credit score of 1.25
- **Light pink** 3 years for Ultra-Short Dated Bond Funds with credit score of 1.5
- **Purple** 2 years
- **Blue** 1 year (only applies to nationalised or semi nationalised UK Banks)
- **Orange** 1 year
- **Red** 6 months
- **Green** 100 days
- **No colour** not to be used

- 4.24 This creditworthiness service uses a wider array of information than just primary ratings, and by using a risk weighted scoring system, it does not give undue impact to just one agency's ratings.

- 4.25 Typically, the minimum credit ratings criteria the Council uses will be a short term rating (Fitch or equivalents) of F1 and a long term rating of A-. There may be occasions when the counterparty ratings from one rating agency are marginally lower than these ratings, but may still be used. In these instances, consideration will be given to the whole range of ratings available, or other topical market information, to support their use.

- 4.26 All credit ratings will be monitored prior to making an investment decision. The Council is alerted to changes to ratings of all three agencies through its use of the LAS creditworthiness service.

- if a downgrade results in the counterparty / investment scheme no longer meeting the Council's minimum criteria, its use for new investments will be withdrawn immediately;
- in addition to the use of credit ratings the Council will be advised of information in movements in credit default swap spreads against the iTraxx European Financials

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benchmark and other market data on a daily basis via LAS's Passport website. Extreme market movements may result in downgrade of an institution or removal from the Council's lending list.

- 4.27 The Council will not place sole reliance on the use of this external service. In addition, this Council will use market data and market information, and information on external support for banks to help support its decision making process.

Benchmarking investment performance

- 4.28 Publication of official LIBOR and LIBID interest rates ceased at the end of 2021. The Council will from 2022-23 onwards benchmark specified investments against the 7-day and 3-month compounded SONIA (Sterling Overnight Index Average) rate, which is the risk-free rate for sterling markets administered by the Bank of England. The Council's fund investments will be benchmarked against the 0 – 35% shares index.

Ethical Investment Policy

- 4.29 Stroud District Council is directly and indirectly investing an average of over £150m per day throughout the year. As directed by the CIPFA Treasury Code's requirement for Councils to prioritise security, liquidity and yield, return on investment is important, but more important are the security of the sums invested and the availability of funds when they are needed.
- 4.30 An important factor that sits alongside those fiduciary duties is responsible or ethical investment, in particular our investments' impacts on the climate because of the Council's 2018 declaration of a Climate Change Emergency and 2019 commitment to be a Carbon Neutral District by 2030.
- 4.31 This Council is supportive of the Principles for Responsible Investment (www.unipri.org) and will seek to bring ESG (environmental, social and governance) factors into the decision making process for investments.
- 4.32 The ethical policy will be developed by examining and exploring in consultation with members, Link Asset Services, other government and local government organisations what the Council can do to avoid and minimise the collateral impacts of investments and maximise positive impacts, whilst still meeting its primary fiduciary duties to prioritise security, liquidity and yield.
- 4.33 The Ethical Investment Policy is set out in Appendix E.

Country limits

4.34 The Council will only invest in the UK and countries with a sovereign rating of AA- or higher. The following countries currently have sovereign ratings of AA- or higher, and also have banks operating in sterling markets which have credit ratings of green or above in LAS credit worthiness service.

AAA	AA+	AA	AA-
Australia	Canada	Abu Dhabi (UAE)	Belgium
Denmark	Finland	France	Hong Kong
Germany	USA		Qatar
Luxemburg			UK
Netherlands			
Norway			
Singapore			
Sweden			
Switzerland			

5. MISCELLANEOUS TREASURY ISSUES

Use of external service providers

5.1 A treasury management advice contract with Link Asset Services (LAS) was procured via the Eastern Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO) commencing 1 October 2020. This contract has an end date of 30 September 2023, with an option to extend until 30 September 2025. Responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the Council at all times, therefore undue reliance will not be placed upon our external treasury management advisers.

Member Training

5.2 Member training provided by LAS was arranged for 17th January 2022.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial Implications

The whole report is of a financial nature.

It includes the detail of the Council’s policies on investments and borrowing. The Council has a responsibility to set a Treasury Management Strategy for the effective management of investments and borrowings. It is designed to protect the Council’s finances, and safeguarding public funds, through limiting exposure to risk.

The Strategy proposed is in line with the Medium-Term Financial Plan including estimates of capital expenditure, borrowing, costs and targets for income receivable.

Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources

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6.2 Legal Implications

As detailed within the report and appendices.

One Legal

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6.3 Equality Implications

The report includes an Ethical Investment Policy set out at Appendix E.

6.4 Environmental Implications

The report includes an Ethical Investment Policy set out at Appendix E.

Investments as at 31 December 2021

Counterparty	£	%	S / NS	Type	Issue	Maturity
NatWest Treasury Reserve	2,284,204	0.01%	S	Call		
Natwest RFB	3,000,000	0.19%	S	CD	19/08/2021	18/08/2022
NatWest/RBS Group Total	5,284,204					
Goldman	469	0.00%	S	Call		
Federated Prime Rate	746,302	0.03%	S	Call		
Aberdeen	3,984,267	0.05%	S	Call		
Money Market Fund Total	4,731,038					
Santander - 180 day Notice	55	0.58%	S	Notice		
Santander - 95 day Notice	7,999,320	0.40%	S	Notice		
Santander Total	7,999,374					
Svenska call	6,491,538	0.02%	S	Call		
Svenska 35 Day Notice	13,000	0.05%	S	Notice		
Svenska Total	6,504,538					
32 day notice	2,049,061	0.05%	S	Notice		
Lloyds Total	2,049,061					
Barclays FIBCA	523	0.01%	S	Call		
Barclays 95 Day Notice	7,774,253	0.15%	S	Notice		
Barclays Total	7,774,775					
Standard Chartered 95 Day Notice	2,000,000	0.36%	S	Notice		
Standard Chartered	2,000,000	0.11%	S	Fixed	20/08/2021	18/02/2022
Standard Chartered	3,000,000	0.08%	S	Fixed	29/09/2021	05/01/2022
Standard Chartered Total	7,000,000					
Toronto Dominion	2,000,000	0.20%	S	CD	06/09/2021	02/09/2022
Toronto Dominion	2,000,000	0.20%	S	CD	28/09/2021	28/06/2022
Toronto Dominion	4,000,000					
Goldman Sachs	2,000,000	0.09%	S	Fixed	01/09/2021	01/03/2022
Goldman Sachs	2,000,000	0.21%	S	Fixed	08/10/2021	31/03/2022
Goldman Sachs	4,000,000					
Coventry Building Society	2,000,000	0.12%	S	Fixed	22/12/2021	19/01/2022
National Counties Building Society	2,000,000	0.19%	S	Fixed	20/09/2021	26/01/2022
Principality Building Society	2,000,000	0.09%	S	Fixed	14/09/2021	26/01/2022
Building Societies	6,000,000					
Bayerische Landesbank	2,000,000	0.14%	S	Fixed	15/10/2021	26/01/2022
Bayerische Landesbank	2,000,000					
Thurrock District Council	1,000,000	0.15%	S	Fixed	01/07/2021	01/07/2022
Dudley Metropolitan Council	1,000,000	1.45%	S	Fixed	03/04/2020	01/04/2022
Local Authorities	2,000,000					
CCLA	1,000,000		MAF			
Hermes	2,000,000		PF			
Lothbury	4,000,000		PF			
Royal London	3,000,000		MAF			
Funds	10,000,000					
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	69,342,990					

S = Specified Investment - 1 year and less
 PF = Property Fund (non-specified) latest valuation
 MAF = Multi-asset fund (non specified)
 SONIA = Sterling Over Night Index Average

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 Appendix A

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EXPLANATION OF PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

Central government control of borrowing was ended and replaced with Prudential borrowing by the Local Government Act 2003. Prudential borrowing permits local government organisations to borrow to fund capital spending plans provided they can demonstrate their affordability. Prudential indicators are the means to demonstrate affordability.

Capital expenditure – table 1 shows last year's capital expenditure, this year's projected capital expenditure and the approved programme until 2024/25.

Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream – table 5 shows that the General Fund interest on borrowing accounts for between 0.98% and 0.65% of net revenue. In the HRA interest on net borrowing now accounts for between 14.83% and 13.45% of net revenue.

Net borrowing need – table 2 shows borrowing planned to fund the capital programme.

Capital financing requirement (CFR) as at 31 March – table 3 shows the CFR which is the council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes as determined from the balance sheet. Table 6 shows the overall CFR is £111.330m. As the Council has borrowing of £102.717m the balance sheet shows there is currently under borrowing of £8.613m, which is projected to increase to £17.935m by 31 March 2022.

Authorised limit for external debt - table 8 shows the maximum limit for external borrowing. This is the statutory limit determined under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003. This limit is set to allow sufficient headroom for day to day operational management of cashflows.

Operational boundary for external debt – table 7 shows the more likely limit to the level of external debt that may be required for day to day cashflow.

Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 365 days – table 11 shows the amount it is considered can be prudently invested for period in excess of a year.

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ECONOMIC BACKGROUND

MPC meeting 4th November 2021

- The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) voted 7-2 to leave Bank Rate unchanged at 0.10% with two members voting for an increase to 0.25% and made no changes to its programme of quantitative easing purchases due to finish by the end of this year at a total of £895bn by a vote of 6-3.
- After the Governor and other MPC members had made speeches prior to the MPC meeting in which they stressed concerns over inflation, (the Bank is now forecasting inflation to reach 5% in April when the next round of capped gas prices will go up), thus reinforcing the strong message from the September MPC meeting, financial markets had confidently built in an expectation that Bank Rate would go up from 0.10% to 0.25% at this meeting. However, these were not messages that the MPC would definitely increase Bank Rate at the first upcoming MPC meeting as no MPC member can commit the MPC to make that decision ahead of their discussions at the time. The MPC did comment, however, that Bank Rate would have to go up in the short term. It is, therefore, relatively evenly balanced as to whether Bank rate will be increased in December, February or May. Much will depend on how the statistical releases for the labour market after the end of furlough on 30th September 2021 turn out.
- Information available at the December MPC meeting will be helpful in forming a picture but not conclusive, so this could cause a delay until the February meeting. At the MPC's meeting in February it will only have available the employment figures for November: to get a clearer picture of employment trends, it would, therefore, need to wait until the May meeting (although it also meets in March) when it would have data up until February. At its May meeting, it will also have a clearer understanding of the likely peak of inflation expected around that time. If the statistics show the labour market coping well during the next six months, then it is likely there will be two increases in these three meetings.
- Over the next year the MPC will be doing a delicate balancing act of weighing combating inflation being higher for longer against growth being held back by significant headwinds. Those headwinds are due to supply shortages (pushing prices up and holding back production directly), labour shortages, surging fuel prices and tax increases. However, those headwinds could potentially be offset – at least partially - by consumers spending at least part of the £160bn+ of “excess savings” accumulated during the pandemic. However, it is also possible that more affluent people may be content to hold onto elevated savings and investments and, therefore, not support the economic recovery to the extent that the MPC may forecast.
- The latest forecasts by the Bank showed inflation under-shooting the 3 years ahead 2% target (1.95%), based on market expectations of Bank Rate hitting 1% in 2022. This implies that rates don't need to rise to market expectations of 1.0% by the end of next year.
- It is worth recalling that the MPC pointedly chose to reaffirm its commitment to the 2% inflation target in its statement after the MPC meeting in September yet at its August meeting it had emphasised a willingness to look through inflation overshooting the target for limited periods to ensure that inflation was ‘sustainably over 2%’. On balance, once this winter is over and world demand for gas reduces - so that gas prices

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Appendix C

and electricity prices fall back - and once supply shortages of other goods are addressed, the MPC is forecasting that inflation would return to just under the 2% target.

- **The MPC's forward guidance on its intended monetary policy** on raising Bank Rate versus selling (quantitative easing) holdings of bonds is as follows: -
 1. Raising Bank Rate as "the active instrument in most circumstances".
 2. Raising Bank Rate to 0.50% before starting on reducing its holdings.
 3. Once Bank Rate is at 0.50% it would stop reinvesting maturing gilts.
 4. Once Bank Rate had risen to at least 1%, it would start selling its holdings.
- **COVID-19 vaccines.** These have been the game changer which have enormously boosted confidence that **life in the UK could largely return to normal during the summer** after a third wave of the virus threatened to overwhelm hospitals in the spring. With the household saving rate having been exceptionally high since the first lockdown in March 2020, there is plenty of pent-up demand and purchasing power stored up for services in hard hit sectors like restaurants, travel and hotels. The big question is whether mutations of the virus could develop which render current vaccines ineffective, as opposed to how quickly vaccines can be modified to deal with them and enhanced testing programmes be implemented to contain their spread. There is also a potential for the winter flu season combined with Covid to overwhelm NHS hospitals so the UK is not entirely in the clear yet.
- **Since the September MPC meeting**, the economy has been impacted by rising gas and electricity prices which are now threatening to close down some energy intensive sectors of industry – which would then further impact the supply chain to the rest of the economy. Ports are also becoming increasingly clogged up with containers due to a shortage of lorry drivers to take them away. The labour market statistics for August released in mid-October showed a sharp rise in employment but also a continuing steep rise in vacancies. The combination of all these factors is a considerable headwind to a recovery of economic growth in the months ahead.

US. Shortages of goods and intermediate goods like semi-conductors, are fuelling increases in prices and reducing economic growth potential. It now also appears that there has been a sustained drop in the labour force which suggests the pandemic has had a longer-term scarring effect in reducing potential GDP. Economic growth may therefore be reduced to between 2 and 3% in 2022 and 2023 while core inflation is likely to remain elevated at around 3% in both years instead of declining back to the Fed's 2% central target. This could well cause the Fed to focus on supporting economic growth by delaying interest rate rises, rather than combating elevated inflation i.e., there may be no rate rises until 2023.

EU. The slow roll out of vaccines initially delayed economic recovery in early 2021 but the vaccination rate then picked up sharply. After a contraction of -0.3% in Q1, Q2 came in with strong growth of 2%. With Q3 at 2.2%, the EU recovery is nearly complete although countries dependent on tourism are lagging. Recent sharp increases in gas and electricity prices have increased overall inflationary pressures but the ECB is likely to see these as being only transitory after an initial burst through to around 4%, so is unlikely to be raising rates for a considerable time.

German general election. With the CDU/CSU and SPD both having won around 24-26% of the vote in the September general election, the composition of Germany's next

coalition government may not be agreed by the end of 2021. An SDP-led coalition would probably pursue a slightly less restrictive fiscal policy, but any change of direction from a CDU/CSU led coalition government is likely to be small. However, with Angela Merkel standing down as Chancellor as soon as a coalition is formed, there will be a hole in overall EU leadership which will be difficult to fill.

China. After a concerted effort to get on top of the virus outbreak in Q1 2020, economic recovery was strong in the rest of the year; this enabled China to recover all the initial contraction. During 2020, policy makers both quashed the virus and implemented a programme of monetary and fiscal support that was particularly effective at stimulating short-term growth. At the same time, China's economy benefited from the shift towards online spending by consumers in developed markets. These factors helped to explain its comparative outperformance compared to western economies during 2020 and earlier in 2021. However, the pace of economic growth has now fallen back after this initial surge of recovery from the pandemic and China is now struggling to contain the spread of the Delta variant through sharp local lockdowns - which will also depress economic growth. There are also questions as to how effective Chinese vaccines are proving. Supply shortages, especially of coal for power generation, which is causing widespread power cuts to industry, are also having a sharp disruptive impact on the economy. In addition, recent regulatory actions motivated by a political agenda to channel activities into officially approved directions, are also likely to reduce the dynamism and long-term growth of the Chinese economy.

Japan. 2021 has been a patchy year in combating Covid. However, recent business surveys indicate that the economy is rebounding rapidly now that the bulk of the population is fully vaccinated and new virus cases have plunged. The Bank of Japan is continuing its very loose monetary policy but with little prospect of getting inflation back above 1% towards its target of 2%, any time soon: indeed, inflation was actually negative in July. New Prime Minister Kishida had promised a large fiscal stimulus package after the November general election which his party has now won.

World growth. World growth was in recession in 2020 but recovered during 2021 until starting to lose momentum more recently. Inflation has been rising due to increases in gas and electricity prices, shipping costs and supply shortages, although these should subside during 2022. It is likely that we are heading into a period where there will be a reversal of **world globalisation** and a decoupling of western countries from dependence on China to supply products, and vice versa. This is likely to reduce world growth rates from those in prior decades.

Supply shortages. The pandemic and extreme weather events, followed by a major surge in demand after lockdowns ended, have been highly disruptive of extended worldwide supply chains. At the current time there are major queues of ships unable to unload their goods at ports in New York, California and China. Such issues have led to a misdistribution of shipping containers around the world and have contributed to a huge increase in the cost of shipping. Combined with a shortage of semi-conductors, these issues have had a disruptive impact on production in many countries. The latest additional disruption has been a shortage of coal in China leading to power cuts focused primarily on producers (rather than consumers), i.e., this will further aggravate shortages in meeting demand for goods. Many western countries are also hitting up against a difficulty in filling job vacancies. It is expected that these issues will be gradually sorted out, but they are currently contributing to a spike upwards in inflation and shortages of materials and goods on shelves.

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**TREASURY MANAGEMENT SCHEME OF DELEGATION AND ROLE
OF THE SECTION 151 OFFICER**

1. Council

- Approval of annual strategy, mid-year report and outturn report

2. Audit and Standards Committee

- Receipt and review of quarterly monitoring reports
- Receipt, review and recommendation to Council of reports on treasury strategy, policy and activity

3. Section 151 Officer

- Reviewing the treasury management policy, procedures, strategy and making recommendations to the Audit and Standards Committee;
- Approving the selection of external service providers and agreeing terms of appointment;
- Submitting regular treasury management strategy reports;
- Receiving and reviewing management information reports;
- Reviewing the performance of the treasury management function;
- Ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills, and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function;
- Ensuring the adequacy on internal audit and liaising with external audit;
- Treasury management/capital and revenue financial implications of the Capital Strategy;
- Preparation of a capital strategy to include capital expenditure, capital financing, and treasury management, with a long term timeframe;
- Ensuring that the capital strategy is prudent, sustainable, affordable and prudent in the long term and provides value for money;
- Ensuring that due diligence has been carried out on all investments and is in accordance with the risk appetite of the authority.

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ETHICAL INVESTMENT POLICY

Investments covered by the ethical investment policy can be treasury investments or capital programme expenditure.

Statement of Principles

The Council will avoid direct investment or borrowing activities with organisations whose core activities include:

- Fossil Fuel extraction and combustion
- Armaments – weapon systems
- Gambling
- Pornography
- Tobacco
- Pay-day loans

The Council will seek to directly invest in organisations or financial products whose core focus includes:

- Renewable energy
- Green investment products (for example Barclays 95-day notice green account £7.8m, Standard Chartered ESG fixed deposits £5m – the Council has been using these products over a number of years)
- Social housing

Impact Investments

The Council will seek to be innovative and take proportionate risk-based decisions to invest in local organisations, for example by considering online platforms such as Folk2Folk or investments through Triodos Bank. Any such investment types will be approved for use in the annual Investment Strategy.

Short Term Investments

Link's Creditworthiness system based on the principles of security, liquidity and yield is a determining factor in the decision-making process as to whether or not the Council invests with a particular financial institution, and for determining the maximum time period. The Council will seek to work with others to lobby for a Creditworthiness system that incorporates analysis of ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) factors into the scoring system.

In the interim, the Council proposes to contract with Camdor Global Advisers who in collaboration with CIPFA have developed an ESG rating system. They will provide quarterly analysis of the Council's direct investment portfolio, which will enable ESG to be a factor in the investment decision-making process. Review and analysis will be incorporated into quarterly Treasury Management monitoring reports to Audit and Standards Committee.

In order to comply with treasury management professional guidance, the Council's investments must prioritise security, liquidity and yield in that order. This Ethical Investment Policy is a fourth consideration in the decision making process.

Agenda Item 6c

Appendix E

Property and Multi-Asset Fund Investments

Property Fund or Multi-Asset Fund investment selection processes will involve pre-screening to exclude funds with holdings in the above categories such as fossil fuels. This process was followed for the Council's £10m Multi-Asset and Property Fund investments in 2019. There will also be ongoing monitoring and reporting of ESG fund performance.

Pension Fund Investments

As at 31/03/2021 the Council's fund had pension fund investments of £115m. The Council's fund is part of the £2bn Gloucestershire Pension Fund, which makes up part of the £35bn Brunel Pension Partnership. The council will keep under review the County Council Investment Strategy Statement and The Brunel Partnership investment policies and performance. The Council will take up any training or feedback and aim to take an active rather than passive role in ESG investments of the fund.

Reporting

Performance reporting in relation to the ethical investment policy will be part of the annual outturn report and quarterly reports, as well as incorporation into the Annual Strategy document.

Ethical Investment Policy Review

The Ethical Policy will be subject to annual review.

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	Standards Sub-Committee			
Purpose of Report	To establish a Standards Sub-Committee as required by Article 7.3 of the Council's Constitution which was agreed by Council on 21 October 2021.			
Decision(s)	<p>The Council RESOLVES to:</p> <p>a) Establish a sub-committee of the Audit Committee to be called the Standards Sub-Committee which will have responsibility to consider allegations under the Code of Conduct in respect of District, Town and Parish Councils, and consider what sanctions, if any, to impose where allegations are found; and</p> <p>b) Appoint the Members of the Standards Sub-Committee, as suggested in paragraphs 2.1 to 2.3 of this report, for the remainder of the Civic Year 2021/2022.</p>			
Consultation and Feedback	Consultations have been carried out with Group Leaders and the Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils.			
Report Author	Stephen Taylor, Monitoring Officer Email: stephen.taylor@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	It is a requirement of the Constitution that a Standards Sub-Committee be appointed. Code of Conduct complaints which need to go to a hearing cannot be determined until the Sub-Committee is established. Membership of the Sub-Committee is a matter for Council.			
Background Papers	There are none.			
Appendices	There are none.			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	No	No	No	No

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Article 7.3 of the Council's Constitution requires the Council to establish a sub-committee of the Audit Committee to be called the Standards Sub-Committee which will have responsibility to consider allegations under the Code of Conduct in respect of District, Town and Parish Councils, and consider what sanctions, if any, to impose where allegations are found.
- 1.2 Article 7.4 of the Constitution states that the Standards Sub-Committee will consist of three councillors who are not leaders of political groups, one Independent Person appointed by the Council for that purpose and, where the allegation is against a Town or Parish Councillor, one Town or Parish Councillor within Stroud District.

Agenda Item 7

2. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

- 2.1 It is a matter for Council as to the individuals appointed to serve on the Sub-Committee and this will be reviewed at the next Annual Meeting of Council. It is suggested that, initially at least, the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Audit Committee and the Chair of the Constitution Working Group be appointed, ex officio, as the three councillors on the Sub-Committee.
- 2.2 As stated above, an Independent Person also needs to be appointed to the Sub-Committee. There are two Independent Persons currently in post; namely, Phyllida Pyper and John Acton. It is suggested that Phyllida Pyper be appointed initially, with John Acton as alternate in the event of Phyllida Pyper being unable to act for whatever reason.
- 2.3 It is also necessary to appoint a town or parish councillor to the Sub-Committee in order that any allegations against a town or parish councillor can be considered. The Gloucestershire Association of Parish and Town Councils (GAPTC) have been consulted as they are a representative organisation for town and parish councils in the District even though not all town and parish councils are members.
- 2.4 GAPTC have suggested that Cllr Muriel Bullock, Chair of Eastington Parish Council, be appointed as a well experienced parish councillor. GAPTC have further suggested that if Cllr Bullock is conflicted or otherwise unable to attend the Sub-Committee for any reason, then Cllr Steve Ponting of Rodborough Parish Council be appointed as an alternate member of the Sub-Committee. Group Leaders have been consulted on this and are supportive. Both of the individuals concerned have signified their willingness to serve on the Sub-Committee.

3. IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Financial Implications

An allowance is currently paid to Independent Persons and is included within current budgets.

There is no current allowance for Parish Council representatives, and this can be considered by the Independent Remuneration Panel.

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3.2 Legal Implications

The authority has a statutory duty to promote high standards of conduct by members and to put in place appropriate arrangements to deal with complaints against members.

One Legal
Tel: 01684 272012 Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

3.3 Equality Implications

An EIA is not required because there are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

3.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant environmental implications.

STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL

17 FEBRUARY 2022

Report Title	Continuation of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) - Until 31 March 2023			
Purpose of Report	To consider a request to extend the operation of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) until 31 March 2023 and to delegate authority to the Head of Paid Services to amend the Inter - Authority Agreement (dated 4th September 2014) accordingly.			
Decision(s)	Council RESOLVES: a) that the GEGJC will continue to operate from 4th March 2022 until 31 March 2023, and b) to delegate authority to the Chief Executive to agree and complete the appropriate legal documentation to allow the Inter Authority Agreement to be extended until 31 March 2023.			
Consultation and Feedback	Gloucestershire Chief Executives and Leaders GEGJC			
Report Author	Andrew Cummings, Strategic Director of Resources Email: andrew.cummings@stroud.gov.uk Kathy O'Leary, Chief Executive Email: kathy.oleary@stroud.gov.uk			
Options	To not agree to extend the IAA to enable the Joint Committee continuing until 31 March 2023 will result in there being no other formal joint decision-making arrangements across Gloucestershire local authorities in place to promote the economy and support the economic response to COVID19.			
Background Papers	Continuation of the GEGJC sept 2020 – March 2022			
Appendices	None.			
Implications (further details at the end of the report)	Financial	Legal	Equality	Environmental
	Yes	Yes	No	No

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1. Members will recall that the Strategy and Resources Committee considered and approved a report in July 2020, extending the operation of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (GEGJC) for a period of 18 months to expire in March 2022. A copy of the report is set out in the background papers. Members will note that the decision in 2020 removed the requirement for 12 months' notice for any future changes to the agreement.

Agenda Item 8

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1. The eighteen-month period was to allow Gloucestershire local authorities to continue to work collaboratively together on Gloucestershire's economic development through the Joint Committee. At its June 2020 meeting, the Joint Committee also identified that it will be supporting the economic recovery of the County because of the economic impact of COVID19. The 18-month extension was to enable the Joint Committee to oversee the strategy development and delivery, as the principal partnership based economic co-ordination forum.
- 2.2. Implicit in the previous extension was the need to review the operation of the GEGJC and whether it remained the appropriate forum to consider joint working on Economic Growth and managing the funds held for Economic Growth generated by the Business Rates Pooling arrangements in the County.
- 2.3. Gloucestershire Authorities considered the future governance arrangements for leading economic growth in the County at its Leadership Gloucestershire meeting in June 2021. Leadership Gloucestershire was mindful that the government would be publishing the CLUHC 'Levelling Up' white paper which will potentially impact the future governance and partnership arrangements. It was anticipated, at that time, that the White Paper could be available before Christmas which would allow Officers and Members time to consider the issues raised by its proposals and develop governance proposals in respect of the future economic agenda for Gloucestershire.
- 2.4. Unfortunately, the anticipated White Paper was delayed and was made available early in February 2022. Consequently, at its meeting in January 2022 Leadership Gloucestershire considered three options in respect of the continuation of GEGJC pending publication of the anticipated White Paper:
 - Do nothing and let GEGJC terminate in March 2022 – this will mean there is no formal partnership decision making body on economic issues and specifically no joint administering body for the Strategic Economic Development Fund (SEDF). Unless alternative governance arrangements were established for the SEDF, the funds would need to be handed back to the business rates pool authorities.
 - Extend the life of the GEGJC for say 12 months or for as long as needed and carry on as at present. This is the simplest option and will not require significant work to amend the IAA. It will simply require a resolution from each local authority before 4th March 2022 to continue GEGJC for the period agreed.
 - An alternative to option 2, would be to extend the life of the GEGJC, but limit agenda items to SEDF decisions. The GCRB could then be used for all other strategic discussion, offering a wider partnership forum for these items. This option could be delivered by simply managing the GEGJC agenda and could be done without the need for significant amendments to the IAA.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Gloucestershire Authorities at the Leadership Gloucestershire meeting favoured option 2 as the simplest and least disruptive. The further extension of the IAA to be capped to continue until 31 March 2023 to enable the GEGJC to continue until that time, and review

of the governance arrangements in respect of the future economic agenda for Gloucestershire to take place as soon as the Levelling Up White Paper was available.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial Implications

The inter-authority agreement between the Councils provides for the administration costs of the Gloucestershire Economic Joint Committee (capped at £5,000 per annum) to be paid from the Strategic Economic Development Fund. Direct cost to this Council is limited to members' expenses to attend meetings, if claimed, together with providing the Officer time involved with supporting the Joint Committee and the Senior Officer Group.

Stroud District Council provides the support for the administration of the Business Rates Pool, including attendance at GEGJC. Again, the cost of this is limited to officer time.

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4.2 Legal Implications

The IAA no longer includes a provision requiring 12 months' notice being served by any of the partner authorities to any proposal to extend the life of the committee. Therefore, it is permissible to extend the agreement if all the Gloucestershire local authorities agree.

One Legal
Email: legalservices@onelegal.org.uk

4.3 Equality Implications

There are not any specific changes to service delivery proposed within this decision.

4.4 Environmental Implications

There are no significant implications within this category however, the GEGJC must recognise that economic growth now has to be considered in the context of declared climate emergencies by the constituent Gloucester authorities.

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CIVIC TIMETABLE 2022/23

	Community Services & Licensing	Environment	Housing	Strategy & Resources	COUNCIL	Audit & Standards	Development Control
	Thu 7pm	Thu 7pm	Tue 7pm	Thu 7pm	Thu 7pm	Tue 7pm	Tue 6pm
May 2022					19 (AGM)		
June 2022	23	16	21	09			
July 2022				12 (Tues)	21	19	26*
Aug 2022							
Sep 2022	15	08	13	29		27	06
Oct 2022					20		11
Nov 2022				24		29	15
Dec 2022	01 (Budget)	08 (Budget)	06 (Budget)		15		13
Jan 2023	26		31				17
Feb 2023		09		02 (Budget)	16 (Budget/CTax)	07	
Mar 2023	23	30	28	09			07
Apr 2023				20	27	18	25
May 2023					18 (AGM)		

* Tuesday 26 July is within school holidays.

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