

Birmingham City Council

Report to Cabinet

27 February 2024



Subject: 2024/25 Budget Setting for General Fund Revenue Account, 2024/25 to 2027/28 Capital Programme and 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy

Report of: Fiona Greenway, Director of Finance & Section 151 Officer

Relevant Cabinet Members: Councillor John Cotton, Leader of the Council
Councillor Brigid Jones, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

Relevant O & S Chair(s): Councillor Sir Albert Bore, Chair of Co-ordinating Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Jack Deakin, Chair of Finance and Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Report author: Peter Sebastian, Head of Financial Planning

Are specific wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No – All wards affected
If yes, name(s) of ward(s):		
Is this a key decision?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, add Forward Plan Reference: 011742/2024		
Is the decision eligible for call-in?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes No

If relevant, state which appendix is exempt, and provide exempt information paragraph number or reason if confidential:

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1 Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to set out the 2024/25 budget, including General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Capital Programme, and Treasury Management Strategy and Policy, for Birmingham City Council (BCC) and the 2025/26 financial planning context.
- 1.2 In accordance with the City Council's Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules, as laid out within the Constitution, only the full Council is able to approve "the overall revenue budget, the allocations of revenue resources to Directorates, the initial capital programme at the commencement of each year, the level of Council Tax and Council Tax support, the Prudential indicators, the Prudential borrowing limit, the treasury management strategy and policy (Paragraph 4.2.i.b of [Part B](#) of the Constitution).
- 1.3 Cabinet will consider the draft Budget. The Cabinet's role in relation to these matters will be to consider a draft which will then be presented to the full Council for approval. (Paragraph 6.2.iii of [Part B](#) of the Constitution).
- 1.4 This report is set against the context of the financial challenges for the Council, including the issuance of two Section 114 notices in September 2023 and the appointment, by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, of Commissioners to oversee the Council.
- 1.5 While this situation was brought about initially due to the scale of potential Equal Pay liabilities that the Council faces, this budget highlights wider and significant financial pressures and a fundamental structural collapse of the 2023/24 General Fund budget. There are increased future forecast demands on services, particularly in Adults and Children's Social Care and Housing. A significant review of current budgets has been undertaken which, due to poor delivery, has resulted in the cancellation (i.e. the writing off) of the existing savings programme that was approved in the 2023/24 Budget and 2023-2027 MTFP, to be replaced by a new savings programme which has been subject to significant officer and member scrutiny.
- 1.6 There is still significant work (and cost) required to stabilise and improve the operation of the Oracle (ERP) finance and HR system, and the need to implement a new system of job evaluation to ensure that the Council's pay and grading

structure accurately reflects the work that officers do and to mitigate against any future potential Equal Pay claims.

- 1.7 The full range of these pressures means that the budget presented for the 2024/25 financial year is not balanced. To balance this budget – and to enable the City Council to set a lawfully balanced budget on 5 March 2024 – the Council has submitted a formal request to DLUHC to seek Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) which provides the ability to capitalise revenue expenditure and is unfunded, requiring capital receipts generated by asset disposals.
- 1.8 This request, if approved, will enable the Council to set a balanced budget and to start the journey to rebuild a sustainable financial plan. This includes the identification and delivery of a new savings programme that is unprecedented in scale. A significant programme of check, challenge, and scrutiny has been undertaken to enable the identification of credible savings proposals over the next two years to improve the financial resilience of the Council, including draft delivery plans and Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs) where needed. Delivery of these savings will need to involve significant and sustained work by all council officers, members and stakeholders.
- 1.9 The key messages contained in this report are:
 - a) The Council also faces pressures that are unique – the impact of potential equal pay claims and issues with the Oracle finance system (Section 5 refers).
 - b) A “re-basing” exercise has been carried out to review and correct material errors within the 2023/24 General Fund Revenue budget. These include increasing inflation forecasts, funding a range of unfunded pressures and writing off the entirety of the existing savings programme as many savings were not being delivered and did not have clear delivery plans (Section 5 refers);
 - c) The Council faces similar pressures to other councils – as can be seen by the forecast increase in demand and costs of adults and children’s social care and increasing demand for temporary accommodation (Section 7 refers);
 - d) As a result of the identified issues a new proposed savings programme is required. This is included within the budget, but has not closed the budget gap. Delivery of these savings will be key to helping the Council manage its budget (Section 9 refers);

- e) Taking into account the new proposed savings, in cash terms all 2024/25 Directorate net expenditure budgets are increasing compared to 2023/24 (excluding Strategy, Equalities and Partnership) (Appendix 2A refers);
- f) The budget includes a request to DLUHC to set the Council Tax increase above the referendum limit at 9.99% for 2024/25 for the Council's element. The Council recognises the impact of this on residents, and is providing £1.02m of additional Council Tax Support (Section 11 refers); and
- g) After the new savings programme and additional Council Tax increases, the budget is still not balanced. To balance the budget for the City Council, DLUHC is enabling Exceptional Financial Support of £1.255bn to address the budget deficit for the 2024/25 financial year (Section 12 refers).

1.10 Commissioners have instructed the Council to balance its budget over a two year period (2024/25 and 2025/26) before resuming medium-term financial planning. To start this process, the Council will present a two year budget for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years. This is laid out in this report.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet agrees and recommends to the City Council for approval at its Council Tax-setting meeting:

- a) The 2024/25 draft General Fund net Revenue Budget of £1,150.870m (Sections 6, 7 and Appendix 2A refer);
- b) The 2024/25 and 2025/26 programme of proposed savings (Section 9 and Appendix 1 refer);
- c) To apply additional premiums for empty homes, coming into effect on 1 April 2024, and for second homes on 1 April 2025 (Section 10, paragraphs 10.5 to 10.8 refer);
- d) The 2024/25 Reserves & Balances Policy (Section 11 and Appendix 3 refer);
- e) The 2024/25 Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding allocation for Schools (Section 14 and Appendix 6 refer);
- f) The 2024/25 to 2027/28 Capital Programme and Capital Strategy (Section 15, Appendices 7 and 8 refer);

- g) The 2024/25 Treasury Management Policies and Strategy (Section 15, Appendices 7 and 8 refer);
- h) To act in its capacity of accountable body to the Enterprise Zone (EZ) Programme, to approve the retention to Birmingham City Council General Fund of £3m of Business Rates receipts arising from the ringfenced EZ Collection Fund plus 50% of any sum in excess of £6m EZ Programme annual net surplus, as approved by the EZ Partnership Board (Section 17 refers);
- i) The Corporate Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix 10 refers), as well as the Equality Impact Assessments for individual savings proposals at <https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/EqualityImpactAssessments>; and
- j) The draft Council Tax requirement (Appendix 2B refers).

2.2 Cabinet agrees:

- a) To note that the Budget Proposals in this report include the write off of the entire 2023/24 savings programme (including planned savings in that programme for 2024/25 and future years) (Section 9 refers);
- b) To delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, to use the Contingency Budget for those matters which may require an urgent response, subject to compliance with procurement rules. Any delegated decision will be reported through the normal procedures as set out in the Constitution and subsequent reporting via budget management reports to Cabinet;
- c) To receive regular monitoring on the proposed savings and the overall budgetary performance of the Council;
- d) To direct the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) to progress the savings as set out in Appendix 1, following agreement of the City Council;
- e) To note that the 2024/25 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget, and the Business Plan, as approved by Cabinet on 16 January 2024, will be shared with City Council, for information, on 5 March 2024;

- f) To apply the Council's Exceptional Financial Support request of £1.255bn to enable the City Council to set a balanced budget for 2024/25. In particular, to **include a 9.99% increase in Birmingham City Council's Council Tax element;**
- g) To approve the schedule of fees and charges, approving those with the delegations to Cabinet, and recommends all other fees and charges to the City Council meeting on 5 March 2024 (Appendix 9 refers);
- h) To approve the incurring of expenditure funded by accepting external capital resources of £6,825,450 from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to support the introduction of weekly food waste collection (Section 15, paragraphs 15.10 to 15.12 refer); and
- i) To delegate authority to the Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance & Resources, to make any amendments or corrections to the 2024/25 Draft Budget between now and submission to City Council on 5 March 2024.

3 Strategic Context for Birmingham City Council

3.1 A series of reviews and judgements provide evidence of significant and systemic failure at the Council. They highlight the significant financial, governance and cultural challenges the Council faces:

- a) Governance and service delivery concerns raised by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, the Housing Ombudsman, and the Department for Education's Commissioner for Special Educational Needs and Disability services.
- b) The findings from an independent review of governance by the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny (CfGS), commissioned in view of the issues above, identifies significant governance challenges requiring attention, including systemic culture and behavioural issues. Many have been cited previously and are the root causes of some of the challenges the Council is now facing.
- c) External Auditor Statutory Recommendations issued on 29 September 2023 which include 12 recommendations focussed on improvements needed in management, practice, and governance.
- d) Internally, two Section 114 Notices and a Section 5 Notice (issued during September 2023) reflect the exceptional financial position and severity of budget challenges. The potential equal pay liabilities were the major contributing factors to these Notices.

3.2 The Memorandum which accompanied the Government's Intervention Directions issued on 5th October 2023 under Section 15(5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999, references concerns about financial governance and systemic failings over several years including weak governance, poor culture, a challenging relationship with trade unions, and ineffective service delivery, which have been exacerbated by churn at senior officer level. The Directions require the preparation and agreement of an Improvement and Recovery Plan.

3.3 An Improvement and Recovery Plan, to be agreed and published in April 2024, will set out actions to address those challenges.

3.4 The Council must implement the right changes to become a well-run, financially sustainable organisation that values its people and works effectively with its partners. The Council must deliver consistently good services for residents, engage

communities, and play a leading role in making Birmingham a city where people are proud to live and work.

- 3.5 The Council's improvement and recovery journey does not start with the agreement of the Improvement and Recovery Plan. The Plan will build on the initial financial recovery response, focussing as the most immediate issue to address, on the delivery of budget savings, a solution to Equal Pay challenges, and Oracle. It will build upon the Stabilisation Plan being implemented in response to the CfGS Governance Review, and the response to the External Auditor's recommendations. The Improvement and Recovery Plan will be regularly reviewed and updated to reflect changes in priorities and new requirements, such as the requirement for local authorities to produce productivity plans.
- 3.6 The Improvement and Recovery Plan, and delivery of it, will provide assurance to Citizens, Councillors, Officers, Partners, and Commissioners, that we are improving the way we operate as a Council so that we can provide better services and outcomes for the City and Citizens. The Plan will help the Council to ensure clear service standards, customer focus, and value for money.
- 3.7 Together with a new Corporate Plan, to be developed over the next few months, and this budget report, the Improvement and Recovery Plan provides the framework for directorate and service business planning, setting out the Council's priorities for delivery within the available budget envelope.

4 Financial Position – National Context

4.1 There are a significant range of challenges that this Council, and all public bodies, are currently facing.

- a) Service pressures – a Local Government Association survey in December noted that nearly one in five council leaders believe it is “fairly or very likely” that they will run out of money in the next 15 months as funding fails to keep pace with inflation and increased demand for child protection, adult social care and homelessness services;
- b) Uncertain central government funding – the Council’s net revenue budget is funded from four main sources: Business Rates, Council Tax, government grants and fees & charges. Of these:
 - i. While Council Tax and Business Rates are also dependent on ratepayers’ ability to pay, there are uncertainties over these funding streams in future. This includes further policy detail on future allowable Council Tax increases, Business Rates retention of income or reliefs (although the Council, along with the West Midlands Combined Authority, has signed an agreement to extend full retention of business rates for another ten years; approved by Cabinet on 14 November 2023) or any review of how funding is distributed across local government.
 - ii. Government Grants – the Local Government Finance Settlement has provided clarity for the 2024/25 financial year only, with no information for future years. Details of the Council’s financial settlement are included in Section 10 of this report.
 - iii. Fees and Charges for the wide range of Council-run services are dependent on activity levels and residents’ ability to pay.

5 Financial Position – The Local Context for Birmingham

5.1 The Council's financial position is extremely challenging. This report highlights that there is a significant structural General Fund budget deficit of £225.9m for the 2024/25 financial year. Without the approval of Exceptional Financial Support from DLUHC, the Council would not be able to balance, or set, a lawful budget. In addition to these budgetary issues, the Council faces significant potential Equal Pay liabilities. The Council is under statutory intervention, with commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

5.2 The factors that have led to this point are:

Oracle Issues

5.3 Since the implementation of the Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system in April 2022, there have been significant issues with the processes, interfaces, and the systems ability to produce meaningful reports.

5.4 Work is ongoing to stabilise and improve the operations of the Oracle finance and HR system, but significant difficulties remain around the financial integrity of the finance ledger. Simply put, the system is still posting transactions incorrectly and significant manual work is required to ensure that the finance system is accurate. This has led to:

- a) Delays in closing the prior year accounts – an additional six months' worth of work was required across finance teams to manually adjust inaccuracies in the ledger, to ensure transactions were posted to the correct cost centres. This delay in closing has taken up significant finance team resource and meant the production of the 2022/23 accounts has been delayed;
- b) Forecasting being done manually – this is the result of continuing issues with the accuracy of the finance ledger (which finance staff have to manually correct), as well as the delay in implementing system modules that would have enabled budget holders to view and forecast their budget spend more easily. Therefore, budget forecasting has been carried out based on the best available data and organisational intelligence
- c) Significant additional costs for the Council to rectify these issues – these ongoing costs are provided for in the budgets for 2024/25 and 2025/26, a total of an additional £45m across these two financial years, as well as the costs to

operate the system as it currently stands. This is in addition to the £86m budget approved so far.

Equal Pay

- 5.5 During the early stages of the 2023/24 financial year, refreshed analysis of the Council's potential Equal Pay liabilities identified an increased potential liability estimated to be in the region of £650m to £760m. The Cabinet announced the results of this analysis at its meeting on 28th June 2023, outlining that the Council would not be able to afford the liabilities from existing resources including reserves. This is one of the biggest financial challenges that the Council has ever faced, and it means that significantly fewer resources are now available for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 5.6 These potential Equal Pay liabilities led to the issuance of a Section 114 (3) notice on 5 September 2023. This decision was made as the Council was effectively in a negative General Fund position because the cost of providing for potential Equal Pay liabilities, that the Council was legally obliged to recognise, resulted in the Council exceeding the financial resources (including reserves) available to it. This meant that the spend due to fall within the 2023/24 financial year would exceed the financial resources available to the Council in the same period.
- 5.7 To pay for these potential Equal Pay liabilities, the Council needed to seek support from Central Government. On 25 September 2023, an Extraordinary meeting of the City Council considered the Council's Financial Recovery Plan that included asset disposals, redesigning the organisation to achieve a sustainable budget position and generating additional income. Within this report, the Chief Executive outlined that the Council would likely require Exceptional Financial Support from Central Government, including agreement to capitalise the potential Equal Pay revenue liabilities, and explore options to fund this capitalisation through the application of capital receipts.
- 5.8 The Council must limit the growth of any liabilities by implementing a new system of pay and grading to remove any future potential Equal Pay liabilities and do so by the 1 April 2025 (which is the target date assumed by current estimates). Budget of £20m has been set aside for this work across the 2024/25 (£13.3m) and 2025/26 (£6.7m) financial years. Further analysis is being carried out to refine the Council's estimates of these potential Equal Pay liabilities.

Structural Budget Issues

- 5.9 The Council was already facing significant financial challenges prior to the issuance of the Section 114 notices. On 25th July 2023, Cabinet was advised of a forecast General Fund overspend against budget of £87.4m for the 2023/24 financial year (excluding costs being incurred to fix the Oracle system). The forecast for 2024/25 also showed an additional budget gap of £77.5m, making this £164.8m cumulative across the two years (against the forecasts included within the 2023/24 Financial Plan).
- 5.10 Since then, a significant review of the Council's base budgets has been carried out that identified some significant structural issues. This included a review of potential budget pressures and the key assumptions underpinning the 2023/24 budget and the forecasts that were used for 2024/25.
- 5.11 The draft budget for the 2024/25 financial year, as presented in this report, has been subject to a significant amount of due diligence. This included a full review ("re-basing") of the key assumptions that the budget for the 2023/24 financial year and previous forecasts for the 2024/25 financial year were based upon, including:
- a) Reviewing demand pressures across all Directorates;
 - b) Reviewing and updating the inflation forecasts for pay, contracts and general price inflation (Section 8 refers);
 - c) Writing-off the entirety of the 2023/24 savings programme that was agreed by Council on the 28 February 2023 as part of its 2023/24 Financial Plan based on under-delivery and the absence of meaningful delivery plans. This has been replaced by the savings programme laid out in this report (Section 9 and Appendix 1 refer); and,
 - d) Adopting a root and branch review of proposed contributions to and from reserves, as well as a review of the Council's Reserves & Balances Policy (Section 11 and Appendix 3 refer).

Reserves and Balances Position

- 5.12 The Council's General Fund has overspent for the 2022/23 financial year and is facing a further overspend for the 2023/24 financial year. Further details of this overspend, and the updated forecast for the 2023/24 financial year position, will be

brought to Cabinet in March 2024. The reserves forecasts in this report have regard to these forecasts.

5.13 When the impact of these budget overspends is combined with the potential Equal Pay liabilities, the Council faced a negative reserves position in the region of £680m.

Statutory Intervention

5.14 On 29 September 2023, the Council's External Auditor Grant Thornton issued Statutory Recommendations to the Council under Schedule 7 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. The External Auditor outlined 12 Statutory Recommendations, with significant and widespread implications across the Council. These recommendations are contained with the report titled 'Birmingham City Council External Audit 2020-21 to 2023-24', which was considered by City Council on 29 September 2023.

5.15 On the 5 October 2023, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities made directions under Section 15(5) and (6) of the Local Government Act 1999 in respect of Birmingham City Council. This included directing the Council to take certain actions, and enabling Commissioners to exercise certain functions of the Council. Commissioners have since been appointed and, alongside members and Council officers, are working to tackle the range of issues that have led to this intervention.

5.16 This budget report is due to be published in by April 2024 (as noted in Section 3). **To enable the Council to return to a balanced position, Commissioners have instructed the presentation of a two year budget – for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.** This is laid out in this report.

Asset Disposals Programme

5.17 To be granted Exceptional Financial Support from Government, the Council needs to show that it is doing all that it can to reduce the scale of the request. Alongside the additional Council Tax increases in this report, the Council has embarked on a significant programme of asset disposals of around £750m. The impact of these asset disposals has been factored into this budget report.

Summary

5.18 As a result of the factors described in this Section, the Council faces a significant budget gap for the 2024/25 financial year and beyond. Further details are included

in the Section 25 report of the Section 151 Officer, which is included in the papers for this Cabinet meeting.

6 2024/25 and 2025/26 Draft General Fund Revenue Budget

- 6.1 The budget presented in this report is for the next two financial years. The intention for the 2024/25 budget, and the 2025/26 budget, is to stabilise the Council's financial position and enable medium-term financial planning outlook to be set out. It is critical for the Council to demonstrate that it can set – and live within – proposed expenditure budgets over the next two years, particularly with regard to the delivery of the proposed new savings programme.
- 6.2 At present, the Council cannot set a lawfully balanced budget without a formal request to DLUHC for Exceptional Financial Support.
- 6.3 The requests for Exceptional Financial Support have been twofold:
- a) For permission to **increase Council Tax** above the Government's current referendum threshold of 4.99%; and
 - b) For **a Capitalisation Direction**, which enables the Council to treat revenue costs as capital costs. As capital costs, the Council must sell capital assets to generate receipts to fund this capitalisation. The request for Exceptional Financial Support is explained in more detail in Section 12 of this report.

Table 1 –2024/25 and 2025/26 Draft General Fund Revenue Budgets

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Net Base Budget 2023/24	955,730	955,730
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Staffing	29,516	45,598
Demand-Led Pressures	162,523	174,037
Statutory Requirement	2,718	2,718
Corporately Managed Budgets	5,346	962
Directorate Budget Pressures	200,103	223,315
Pay Inflation	20,975	28,274
Contract Inflation	38,205	72,994
General Price Inflation	33,826	43,748
Inflation	93,006	145,016
Write off 2023/24 Savings Programme	68,773	68,773
2024/25 & 2025/26 Savings Programme	(145,125)	(221,449)
Savings	(76,352)	(152,676)
<u>Income</u>		
Government Grants (Corporately Held)	(39,620)	(35,180)
Other Income	10,735	16,198
Income Subtotal	(28,885)	(18,982)
Net Payment to/(from) Reserves	7,269	(21,407)
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE	1,150,870	1,130,995
RESOURCES		
Forecast Business Rates Income	(435,577)	(455,499)
Business Rates Deficit for the 2024/25 financial year	60,106	
Forecast Council Tax Income	(480,419)	(533,266)
Council Tax Deficit for the 2024/25 financial year	4,221	
Top Up Grant	(73,323)	(74,833)
TOTAL RESOURCES	(924,991)	(1,063,598)
Budget Gap	225,879	67,397
Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) requested	(225,879)	-
Net Budget	-	67,397

Note: The figures for 2025/26 are cumulative

6.4 At present, work remains to balance the 2025/26 budget. The Council will need to continue to develop additional savings of around £67m in addition to the savings laid out in this report, to balance the 2025/26 budget.

6.5 The key elements of the budget are explained in detail in Sections 7 to 10 below.

7 Directorate Revenue Budget Pressures

7.1 There are four main elements that make up these pressures.

Staffing

7.2 **The first element relates to staffing costs.** These include the correction of a previous budget issue that relates to the 1.25% planned increase in National Insurance contributions (and therefore pay costs) which was subsequently scrapped in September 2022. This planned increase was removed from base budgets twice, in error, leaving a shortfall (£3.4m in 2023/24) to cover the forecast pay award. It also includes an additional budget allocation for social worker retention and increment and retention payments for staff at the Birmingham Children's Trust.

Demand-led Pressures

7.3 **The second element relates to a series of demand-led pressures across directorates.** These pressures are driven by additional expected activity and are separate from the inflationary budget pressures (which impact existing activities) which are dealt with in Section 8. The significant demand led pressures are:

Adult Social Care

- a) Adult social care supports around 13,000 citizens at any point in time, providing around 20,000 packages of care, and remains one of the Council's largest areas of net expenditure at around 39% of total directorate net expenditure. Additional investment of £50m has been provided to the service to cover anticipated additional costs and pressures.
- b) The Council continues its strength-based approach to assessing needs and building on the assets that support citizens. This approach fosters independence, choice, and control, which in turn reduces reliance on Council intervention. This approach has placed a greater emphasis on supporting citizens to live independently in community settings, rather than being placed in long term traditional care settings, thus delivering better outcomes for the citizens. The growth that has been built into the budget recognises the impact of these previous initiatives and the impact of ongoing transformation work.
- c) Growth in demand from demographic, population and societal changes has been estimated at £19.2m. There are more Older People with more complex needs and the Younger Adults cohort continues to grow again with more

complex needs. As a reflection of these increasing numbers and complexities the Council has seen average increases in demand of almost 5%.

- d) Inflationary increases in externally commissioned care packages have been factored into the budget at £21m. In addition, £23m of central Government Grants has been allocated to the Council, the purpose of which is to make tangible improvements to Adult Social Care services and in particular build capacity and improve market sustainability and the Council has a duty under Section 5 of the Care Act 2014 to promote the efficient and effective operation of the market for adult care and support services. Nationally, recruitment and retention in the care sector has been challenging. The additional resources include an element which focusses on increasing the social care workforce capacity and retention alongside reducing adult social care waiting times.

Children's Social Care (Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT))

- e) It is recognised nationally that pressures on children's social care are rising substantially. Drivers include:
- i. Rising demand: increasing referrals, assessments, Children in Care. For BCT:
 - Early Help: from no service in 2018 to 20,000 families receiving help
 - Referrals: up 19% since 2018
 - Assessments: up 35% since 2018
 - Child protection plans: up 2% since 2018
 - Children in Care admissions: up 5.5% since 2018
 - ii. Rising complexity of need driven in part by the pandemic and latent, unmet need.
 - iii. Increasing numbers of Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking children (UASC). It is worth noting that young people come through three routes: the National Transfer Scheme, spontaneous arrivals or children wrongly assessed at port of entry and placed in adult hotels in the city. For BCT the number of UASC has doubled in the last 12 months, to 200 children in care. The grant received does not cover costs and, as these young people become care

leavers the grant reduces significantly while our responsibility endures. This has created unfunded pressure.

- iv. Rising costs of care – this is a widely reported national challenge. The impact of inspection and regulation is driving up costs. 22 more children are being cared for in bespoke and extremely high-cost arrangements, with very high staff ratios etc. For BCT:
 - Average unit cost for Children in Care up 8.5% 2016-20; up 11.6% 2020-22
 - Supported accommodation: up 72% 2020-22
 - Residential care: up 18% 2020-22
- v. Staffing pressures, including the challenges of recruitment and retention for some key roles, such as social workers and lawyers
- f) Other pressures that relate to Children's Services include the Children & Young People Travel Service (CYPTS). This remains an area of significant expenditure and risk for the Council. It is a vital and statutory service that provides transport to some of the most vulnerable children and young people in the city. Work is being undertaken to improve medium and long-term demand and financial modelling; and to deliver required savings in this area.

City Housing

- g) The Council continues to face significant levels of demand for Temporary Accommodation, driven by the Cost of Living Crisis and the private rental market prices. In 2020/21, the average number of Bed and Breakfast placements per week was 496; by 2023/24 this had risen to 1,018 per week with further increases forecast for the 2024/25 financial year.
- h) With demand outstripping supply, the prices charged for Emergency Bed and Breakfast (B&B) placements increase as costs are determined by providers, and the rents chargeable to tenants are capped at the Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rate.
- i) This budget is set based on the Council's Temporary Accommodation Investment Strategy, as approved by Cabinet on 5 September 2023, which includes £18.2m in 2024/25, reducing each year after, in order to invest in both

prevention and affordable supply of temporary accommodation, thereby reducing the B&B budget over a 5 year period.

Oracle-Related Costs

- j) Within budgets there are forecast cost pressures to deliver the Stabilisation & Improvement Plan (£25m in 2024/25 and a further £20m in 2025/26), as well as to cover existing temporary staff that are providing manual support to the system to ensure that it continues to carry out the basic functions (£3.6m in 2024/25 and £3.6m in 2025/26);

Job Evaluation / Pay Equity / Equal-pay Related Costs

- k) These pressures relate to costs required to implement the new Job Evaluation scheme and the new Pay Equity and Pay Compliance Team. not to cover the potential Equal Pay liabilities that the council faces which is being handled separately (see the Exceptional Financial Support request in Section 12). These costs are forecast to be £13.3m in 2024/25 and £6.7m in 2025/26. This funding was agreed by Cabinet in July 2023; and

Waste Management Costs

- l) Within City Operations, there are additional budget pressures for additional Waste Management costs – these include a pressure of £5.0m in 2024/25 and 2025/26 for hire and repair costs of vehicles and £4.5m of ongoing pressure related to infrastructure upgrades across the Waste service.

City Operations

- m) In addition, the Council has recently been notified by the Department for Transport that following activity to restructure the PFI Project that Government is no longer minded to continue the existing Highways PFI arrangement which provided for £50.3 million of PFI credits per annum until 2035. The Council is seeking to understand the Government's position in more detail along with the potential impact this will have on the city and region if the decision stands. Should this position manifest this may create additional pressures on the Council's revenue budget in future years, due to the impact this would have on the deliverability of savings presented by the Highways service. This would need to be addressed through alternative savings of an equivalent value from within the Directorate.

Contingency Budget

- n) The Contingency Budget replaces the previous 'Policy Contingency Budget', as described in the budget for the 2023/24 financial year.
- o) It should be noted that the centrally held contingency budget holds a range of contingencies against different line items, including pay and demand-led pressures. Within Table 1, Demand-led pressures includes a £20m budget for service transformation to enable the delivery of the savings programme for 2024/25 and 2025/26.
- p) Also included is a capitalisation contingency, to cover unforeseen budget pressures, including delay in savings delivery and potential additional costs related to the capitalisation direction sought as part of the package of Exceptional Financial Support from DLUHC (see Section 12 below). The capitalisation contingency topped up existing contingency budgets by £22.75m in 2024/25 (for a total of £25m) and a further £5m in 2025/26 (for a total of £30m).
- q) Full details of the Contingency are described in more detail in Section 11.

Statutory Requirement

- 7.4 **The third element relates to costs in respect of the statutory intervention that the Council is currently facing, following the issuance of the Section 114 notices.** This includes a forecast of £1.5m costs of Government-appointed commissioners and £1.2m increased audit costs as a result of the statutory recommendations, and the ensuing required work, that were issued to the Council by external auditors Grant Thornton on 29 September 2023.

Corporately Managed Budgets

- 7.5 **The fourth element relates to corporately managed budgets.** These budgets mainly include Treasury-related costs. There is a significant forecast increase of around £16m for 2024/25 in potential costs, compared to prior budget forecasts. The increase is due to three things:
- a) the review of the Council's Capital Programme (Section 15 refers);
 - b) the reduction in forecast reserves contributions (this budget reduces the contributions that had been planned for future years in the 2023/24 budget,

which means the Council expects to hold less cash on hand in future, so will need further borrowing); and

- c) the impact of the capitalisation direction that the Council needs to balance its budget (Section 12 refers). This places a 1% surcharge on future Council borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board (excluding the Housing Revenue Account).

7.6 These budget pressures are detailed in Appendix 2A in which a breakdown of each Directorate's budget have been provided.

8 Inflation

8.1 Inflation assumptions are calculated on an individual cost centre basis, depending on the type of budget. There are three broad categories of inflation:

- a) Pay Inflation – the estimated pay increase for council officers for the 2024/25 financial year;
- b) Contract Inflation – the specific assumptions made for particular types of purchase, including adults and children’s social care packages; and
- c) General Price Inflation – covering the purchase of general goods and services.

8.2 The budget pressures are calculated by updating budget forecasts for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years, compared to the forecasts for those years in last year’s budget.

Pay Inflation

8.3 The pay assumptions for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years are:

Table 2 – General Fund Pay inflation assumptions

	2024/25	2025/26
Pay award – in base budgets	3.1%	2.0%
Pay contingency – held centrally within the Policy Contingency budget	1.9%	0.0%
Total	5.0%	2.0%
<i>Assumptions used in the 2023/24 Financial Plan</i>	2.5%	2.5%

8.4 For 2024/25, a contingency of £10m is held to mitigate the impact of the 2024/25 pay award. This contingency is also held for 2025/26. An additional contingency for 2025/26 is also held to mitigate the potential costs of a new employee pay and grading structure. These contingencies are held in the newly established central Contingency Budget, Section 11 refers.

8.5 The base pay award of 3.1% in 2024/25 and 2.0% in 2025/26 is based on the Bank of England forecasts from November 2023 for those financial years. The pay contingency reflects the potential of an above inflation pay increase for the next two financial years.

Contract Inflation

- 8.6 These assumptions relate to a range of purchases where costs are not directly tied to general inflation but to particular contractual terms. This includes payments to third party providers to provide adults and children’s social care services, for which the assumptions of future contract inflation are:

Table 3 – General Fund Contract inflation assumptions

	2024/25	2025/26
Adults Social Care packages – used in the 2024/25 budget	6.7%	5.6%
<i>Assumptions used in the 2023/24 Financial Plan</i>	<i>0.6%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>

Children’s Social Care third party payments – used in the 2024/25 budget	7.8%	5.6%
<i>Assumptions used in the 2023/24 Financial Plan</i>	<i>0.6%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>

- 8.7 Inflation forecasts have been reviewed with finance teams and service leads, based on the latest analysis of future care package costs. The inflation forecasts shown above are the broad average across a range of spending categories.

General Price Inflation

- 8.8 These assumptions relate to a range of general goods and service budgets. For this budget, the Bank of England Forecasts for November 2023 are being used:

Table 4 – General Fund - General Price Inflation Assumptions

	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
April-June	8.4% (actual)	3.6%	2.1%
July-September	6.7% (actual)	3.3%	2.1%
October-December	4.6% (forecast)	3.1%	1.9%
January-March	4.4% (forecast)	2.5%	1.9%
Average CPI inflation (based on Bank of England November 2023 forecasts)	6.0%	3.1%	2.0%
Assumptions used in the 2024/25 budget	N/A	9.1%	2.0%
<i>Assumptions used in the 2023/24 Financial Plan</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>	<i>0.0%</i>

8.9 Given that 0% general price inflation was applied to the 2023/24 budgets, during a period in which inflation was very high, the budget assumptions for 2024/25 include an uplift (equivalent to average CPI for 2023/24) to the 2024/25 average inflation rate in order to reset the base budget. Therefore, the inflation rate assumed for 2024/25 budgets is 9.1% (6.0% for 2023/24 CPI + 3.1% for 2024/25 CPI).

9 Savings

2023/24 Savings Programme

9.1 As part of the work to review and re-base existing Council budgets, in light of the ongoing difficulties that the Council faced in the delivery of its existing savings plans (as laid out in the 2023/24 Financial Plan), for the 2024/25 budget and beyond, it is necessary to ***write off the entirety of the existing savings programme***. This decision is taken on the basis that:

- a) Cabinet has already agreed to write off the majority of the existing programme, based on the assessment that the savings were rated as Red or non-deliverable, in October 2023. This includes a significant portion of savings that were held against Corporate Budgets, not allocated to Directorates and with no clear plan for delivery.
- b) Since then, further review by the Section 151 Officer has identified additional savings that are at risk of non-delivery. On the basis that the majority of the savings programme is now deemed as non-deliverable, or a high risk of non-delivery, this report seeks approval to write off all of the existing savings programme, to be replaced with a new credible and deliverable savings programme.

9.2 This decision includes all savings that were included in 2023/24 budgets and any planned savings increases for 2024/25 budgets and future years. The table below summarises the budget impact of removing these savings – and therefore increasing budget pressures:

Table 5 – Existing 2023/24 Financial Plan Savings Programme Write-offs

	2024/25
	£'000
Savings written off as Red / non-deliverable at Cabinet on 12 December 2023	61,319
Additional savings to be written off	7,454
Total savings to be written off	68,773

2024/25 & 2025/26 Savings Programme

- 9.3 For the 2024/25 and 2025/26 budget, an entirely new programme of savings has been introduced. This follows extensive work with Officers, Cabinet Members and Commissioners. This work is described below.
- 9.4 In October 2023, Directorates were initially allocated target levels of savings to try and meet through identifying specific initiatives to reduce costs or increase income. This was based on the Net General Fund Revenue expenditure budgets by Directorate. These targets were originally for £200m of savings but, as a result of the continued work to review existing budget pressures, these targets increased over time, as described below.

November 2023

- 9.5 On 14 November 2023, Cabinet received an update on the financial position for the next two financial years, including savings targets of over £200m.
- 9.6 During November 2023, Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) presented draft savings proposals for 2024/25 financial year. The value of these savings did not meet the savings target for 2024/25. These draft savings proposals were presented for discussions at Executive Management Team (EMT), which comprises Cabinet and CLT, on 9 November 2023 and subsequent discussion on 16 November 2023.
- 9.7 During November 2023, due diligence was completed on these savings proposals. This included:
- a) Checking for double counting of proposed savings across Directorates;
 - b) Ensuring savings deliver for the General Fund, and understanding the potential consequential impact on Capital, Housing Revenue Account and the Dedicated Schools Grant budgets;
 - c) Checking the annual phasing of savings, to ensure recurring savings are prioritised over time-limited savings which defer the problem to later years;
 - d) Understanding cross-directorate consequences of service modifications, to ensure pressures are not encountered which offset proposed savings;
 - e) Developing equality impact assessments for all proposals where appropriate; and

- f) Reviewing and challenging the People Services, Procurement, Legal, Risk, and Digital & Technology Services implications for all proposals.

9.8 These activities led to the removal of any unsuitable initial savings proposals and increase the savings targets.

9.9 Further, the first session of the Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group took place on the 20 November 2023. Part of the remit of this Group was to challenge the potential benefits and consequences of savings proposals, to feed into the budget setting process.

9.10 In order to mitigate this risk, significant further effort was required to develop additional savings proposals for 2024/25 and 2025/26. Not only to ensure the calculations were strong, but also to return Council reserves to an adequate level. This included, but was not limited to:

- a) Exploring asset sales to deliver capital receipts;
- b) A review of the Capital Programme;
- c) Opportunities for additional income generation;
- d) Mitigation of pressures;
- e) Service redesign; and
- f) Further service reductions of discretionary and non-statutory services.

9.11 On 20 November 2023, the Chief Executive and Section 151 Officer extended the timeline for development of further savings proposals to 24 November 2023 to support the delivery of a balanced budget. This included an additional savings target of an extra £50m due to the above re-basing exercise.

9.12 To achieve this, the following activities were delivered during the week commencing 20 November 2023:

- a) Due Diligence of Savings/Pressures – In order to develop and challenge the currently presented savings proposals, a team of Director and Assistant Director level Officers across Council Management provided challenge to savings proposals;
- b) Development of Credible Savings Proposals – Corporate Leadership Team Directors scrutinised their savings against the following key areas:

- i. Additional Savings Proposals – Savings proposals were cross referenced against the following items, identified through joint Officer and Member engagement, to ensure they were full and complete: Early Intervention and Prevention, Corporate Services, Customer Services, Cost of Service Failure, Spending Controls, Trading Accounts and Traded Services, Agency and Interim Staff, Partnership Working, Transformation leveraging Oracle, Maximising Grant Funding and savings via Procurement
- ii. Service Review Sessions – Review and challenge sessions, undertaken by a cross-service panel of experts of Assistant Directors across all services in the Council were delivered to challenge the deliverability of savings. This included challenge on the basis of the saving, whether it was an efficiency, service reduction, or income generation; the focus of the Directorate on efficiency savings or service cuts; the credibility of each saving for delivery; the consideration given to cross-cutting savings; the identification of a Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) for delivery and accountability; and the savings profile and timeline over which delivery would be achieved.
- iii. Cross-Cutting Savings Development – A Director led group developed cross-cutting savings opportunities. As the target is increasing for the next two financial years, cross-cutting savings were considered to be additional to the savings identified to date. The target for this work was £50m deliverable from the 2024/25 financial year on a recurring basis.

9.13 As a result of this work, on 24 November 2023 new savings proposals were submitted to the Section 151 Officer, Chief Executive, and Commissioners. These savings proposals totalled £106m for the 2024/25 financial year and an additional £31m of savings in the 2025/26 financial year.

9.14 These savings figures fell short of the savings targets for 2024/25 and 2025/26. Consequently, further work was undertaken up to Friday 1st December 2023 (inclusive) to develop additional savings for the 2024/25 financial year.

9.15 To do this, Directorates sought to bring forward further cross-cutting savings, options to address further non-statutory spend, revise inflation assumptions, and replace proposals previously rejected as not credible or deliverable. These savings areas were:

- a) Additional cross-cutting savings – Additional due diligence has been completed on these savings to ensure their credibility before adding to the total savings figure. The cross-cutting savings identified would need to be allocated to, accepted and owned by Directorates, who will be responsible for delivery and realisation within the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.
- b) Public Health Grant– through a one-off release of reserves over three financial years, between 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27. Reserves have been identified with Directorates needing to allocate budget to the identified grants to realise savings. This was subject to further due diligence and sign off from the Director of Public Health
- c) Opportunities identified via a Member Led Review of budget lines – the lines identified provided a list of items to cross-reference against savings opportunities, to ensure all budget lines were reviewed as part of the savings process.
- d) Opportunities identified via an Officer Led review of Statutory and Non-Statutory Services – Non-statutory services led to a list of potential additional services to be explored in the savings process.
- e) Opportunities identified through a Review of Spend Control Board Rejections – All items rejected in the 2023/24 financial year were reviewed and provided a list of further savings opportunities to explore and cross reference against submissions.

December 2023

9.16 By Friday 1 December 2023, the Council had identified £149.8m savings for the 2024/25 financial year. This was submitted to Commissioners, with supporting detail on the savings, delivery, risks, and mitigations.

9.17 The key activities in December were:

- a) Following the submission of savings for the 2024/25 financial year to Commissioners, further due diligence was required to validate the constituent savings within the submission. Further work was completed during this week to assess the deliverability of savings, risks identified, and mitigations associated with risks.

- b) In addition, during the week commencing 4 December, three Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group sessions were completed to review the savings identified up to Friday 24 November 2023. Savings were presented by Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) Directors, alongside Finance Business Partners (FBPs) and Heads of Service. A cross-party group of Elected Members provided challenge to savings proposals, with Directorates taking away feedback to be addressed in future submissions.
- c) On Friday 8 December 2023 a series of Budget Assurance Forums commenced, with the Leader, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources, and the relevant Cabinet Member hosting challenge sessions with CLT Directors, FBPs, and Managers responsible for delivery of the saving. In addition, relevant Commissioners have attended these sessions to provide feedback on savings proposals and identify further savings opportunities.
- d) Further sessions of the Budget Assurance Forums were delivered during week commencing 11 December 2023, broken out by relevant Cabinet Member portfolio.
- e) In addition, a further Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group was arranged to challenge the savings proposals which bridged the gap between 24 November 2023 and 1 December 2023 savings submissions.
- f) In addition to this, initial Directorate engagement sessions were held, to ensure Directorates were aware of potential staffing implications within the savings proposals for their Directorate.
- g) Further sessions of the Budget Assurance Forums were delivered during week commencing 18 December 2023, split by relevant Cabinet Member portfolio.
- h) In addition, CLT were tasked with identifying further 2025/26 savings, with a deadline of 19 December 2023. A meeting between CLT and Commissioners was held on 20 December 2023 where a selection of these new 2025/26 savings were presented.

9.18 Necessarily, due to the timelines to complete all the work to deliver a budget for 2024/25, the challenge process has been undertaken at pace. The following high-level themes came out of the review and challenge exercise:

- a) A number of the proposals were found to have assumed a full year effect of the savings in 2024/25. These have been challenged and rephased where appropriate.
- b) Cross-cutting savings have been part of the process. The majority of these are now assigned to service level budgets (to avoid the mistakes of the 2023/24 savings programme in which savings were held corporately and not assigned to Directorates). Cross-cutting savings must be accepted at a Directorate level to be deliverable.
- c) Proposals regarding use of Public Health Grant funding to support service area expenditure on eligible activity have been reviewed with teams looking to establish in more detail what the funding would be applied to. This was reviewed by the Director of Public Health and discussions held with the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, to ensure that the proposals met relevant criteria.

9.19 **The most substantial risk arising from the review is the dependency on delivery and grip of savings by Directorates.** While services have explained and stood by the deliverability of their savings, Directorates are responsible for implementing the necessary actions in full, on time and to scale in order to deliver the savings put forward. The accountability for the achievement of the savings rests with Directors and Managers responsible for delivery. The Commissioners commented as follows on the December 2023 Financial Update Report, “Going forward, every budget-holding officer must not overspend without reporting a viable compensating saving. If this is not possible, delegated authority to spend will need to be withdrawn”.

January 2024

9.20 At this point, it was considered that further detail was required to give the necessary assurances that clarity of the savings, risks and mitigations, actions required, timelines, dependencies and the potential impact on other service areas had been fully thought through and could be explained and demonstrated.

9.21 In response to this, further information was requested in the form of a draft Delivery Plan for each proposal. Presentations of the top 12 proposals by value were then conducted with a question and answer session with the Commissioners as part of this review.

- 9.22 At the instruction of the Section 252 Officer, a further 27 proposals were reviewed at sessions held by officers with invites extended to relevant Cabinet members and senior officers. Through both these further sessions, approaching 80% of the value of potential savings for 2024/25 has been closely scrutinised. A number of changes were made as a consequence, with alterations made to the draft delivery plans, proposed saving profiles, and some removed upon identification of double-counting with other proposals or where the proposal conflicted with the proposed corporate treatment of capital receipts.
- 9.23 Throughout January 2024, significant scrutiny was carried out on the detailed savings proposals. This included the member Budget Scrutiny Task and Finish Group, which comprised of the Chairs of all Overview & Scrutiny groups and included a cross-party representation meeting during the week commencing 8 January.
- 9.24 The Finance & Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee has provided a report with feedback on the savings proposals. This is considered separately at this meeting.
- 9.25 Following feedback, further budget assurance sessions were held in late January 2024 that included the Chief Executive, the Section 151 Officer, the Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources and the relevant Directors and Cabinet Member, focusing on high risk savings and finalising Delivery Plans.

February 2024

- 9.26 Finally, during the course of February, the delivery plans for all savings were scoured to identify any costs associated with the implementation or ongoing maintenance of the savings. Any costs netted off the savings were then provided for separately as pressures or growth and the gross savings recognised so that these could be properly monitored over the coming year. Also, a discussion between Commissioners and City Operations officers identified some savings which were potentially undeliverable and would therefore need substitutes, along with a significant ongoing structural overspend in the Waste service which needed to be addressed. Further work by the directorate led to a revised list of savings which was then scrutinised by a panel of officers and cabinet members and refinements made before being added into the overall savings programme.

Summary of the 2024/25 and 2025/26 Savings Programme

9.27 The process to develop this proposed savings programme has been carried out to mitigate the issues experienced with the 2023/24 savings programme, which demonstrated a lack of accountability and a lack of clear Delivery Plans.

9.28 **Table 6** below sets out the summary value of savings proposed by each Directorate. While it may appear that there is only a low level of cross-cutting savings in the coming year (being contract re-procurement savings), a number of savings put forward by Directorates do depend on cross-council support in order to deliver, such as those which lead to a reduction in the number, and cost of, council-run premises. Collaboration, communication and effective project management will therefore be critical in the successful delivery of the savings programme in 2024/25 and 2025/26. As has already been mentioned, work will need to continue to identify further savings in order to address the budget gap in 2025/26, as set out in **Table 1 above**.

Table 6 – Summary of 2024/25 and 2025/26 Savings Programme

Directorate	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Adult Social Care	23,709	52,861
Children & Families	52,228	63,231
City Housing	6,236	9,536
City Ops	39,268	57,111
PPS	8,365	11,150
SEP	2,447	2,597
Council Management	16,512	24,395
Cross-cutting	1,000	5,207
TOTAL	149,765	226,088

9.29 It should be noted that there are £4,640k of savings that have been applied to Collection Fund income forecasts for Council Tax and Business Rates (savings No. 7 and No. 10 in Appendix 1). The remaining £145,125k for 2024/25 and £221,449k for 2025/26 are set against the General Fund budget in Table 1.

9.30 Overall, the process to develop these savings gives greater confidence in the organisation's ability to deliver. The officers and directors proposing these savings are more confident in the credibility and deliverability of these savings proposals. This will be important over the coming months – while the reviews undertaken and the governance processes proposed have or will play a key part, ultimately the savings proposed (if decided upon) will only deliver if the necessary action is undertaken on the part of the service areas, with help as required from the Council's back office support services. This includes the £20m savings implementation budget, held within the Contingency budget for the year (Section 11 refers).

9.31 A full list of the savings proposals for 2024/25 and 2025/26 can be found at Appendix 1.

10 Resources

10.1 This Section deals with the Council's sources of income: government grants, other income (from a range of sources, including fees and charges), Council Tax and Business Rates.

Government Grants

10.2 There are two main categories of grant:

- a) Those used to fund wider Council services (e.g., Top Up Grant, Business-rates related Section 31 grants, Top Up Grant); and
- b) those ringfenced to fund specific services (e.g., the Social Care Grant, Public Health Grant). These allocations were announced by DLUHC as part of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement in December 2023.

10.3 The additional grant income shown in Table 1 above relates to corporately held grants, or grants that have gone towards reducing budget pressures. The allocation is as follows, following the final Local Government Finance Settlement in February 2024:

Table 7 – 2024/25 Summary of the Council's Corporate Grant Allocation

Grant	24/25 Planning Forecast (from 2023/24 Financial Plan) £'000	24/25 Funding allocation £'000	Movement £'000
Social Care Grant	106,475	138,630	32,155
Adult Social Care Market Sustainability & Improvement Fund	21,631	24,471	2,840
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	9,520	15,810	6,290
New Homes Bonus	1,350	3,006	1,656
Service Grant	14,488	2,300	(12,188)
Small Business Relief Grant	91,801	99,653	7,852
National Levy Surplus	3,004	0,000	(3,004)
Local Council Tax Support Admin Grant	2,085	0,000	(2,085)
Business Rates Multiplier Cap Grant	59,744	65,849	6,105
Total	310,098	349,719	39,621

- 10.4 The Social Care Grant is held corporately and then assigned against pressures in Adults and Children's Social Care. Included in the grant allocation for the 2024/25 year only is an additional (and one-off) allocation of £11.630m that was awarded to the Council on 5 February 2024 as part of the final Local Government Finance Settlement. This additional funding will be held in the Strategic Reserve (Section 11 refers) to mitigate against any additional budget pressures in Adults and Children's Social Care that may arise in the 2024/25 financial year.
- 10.5 For the majority of Council grants, the grant is matched to the expected expenditure, resulting in a net zero impact on the budget gap shown in **Table 1. Table 7** above shows the impact of grants that do impact the budget gap – i.e. can be used to cover a range of general pressures. It should be noted that the Adult Social Care grants would normally result in a net zero impact, usually through payments to third party providers. For this financial year, some elements of these grants have been used to fund existing pressures, such as social care worker retention payments.
- 10.6 The full list of grants that the Council expects to receive for the 2024/25 financial year is included in Appendix 4 for information.

Other Income

- 10.7 Within Table 1, the 'Other Income' line includes income from a range of sources including, fees and charges, sales and rents:
- a) The budget movement of £10.7m represents an expected underachievement on income budgets (i.e. the Council expects to get less income than previously budgeted for, so is reducing income budgets compared to the prior year). This includes a reduction in budgeted income from buildings (of £4.0m for 2024/25, rising to £9.0m in 2025/26) to reflect the fact that asset sales will be made throughout 2024/25; a £2.3m expected reduction in parking income (relative to 2023/24 budgets); and reduced income budgets in other areas including Digital Services (£1.9m), trade waste income (£1.9m) and planning income (£1.2m).
 - b) This lost income is offset by a forecast £3.0m additional Enterprise Zone Contribution to General Fund for 2024/25 and 2025/26 to help with the Council's General Fund budget gap. Cabinet is being asked to approve this contribution (Section 17 refers).

- c) The level of fees and charges to be charged by the Council is to be determined by the City Council at the meeting on 5 March 2024. The proposed fees and charges for the 2024/25 year are included in Appendix 9 of this report.

Council Tax

10.8 The Council Tax income yield is dependent upon the accuracy of the forecasts held within this Budget report. This includes:

Forecast Council Tax income

- a) **The Council Tax Taxbase (i.e. the number of eligible homes)** – this forecast includes estimates of the number of new homes to be built in the city, the estimated number of homes eligible for discounts / exemptions from Council Tax and the number of claimants under the Council Tax Support Scheme. The Council Tax forecast for the 2024/25 budget is based on the forecast of 267,940 Band D equivalent properties for 2023/24, which was approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 16 January 2024.
- b) **The assumed levels of collection** – it has been assumed that the percentage of Council Tax that will not be collected is 2.6% for the 2024/25 budget forecast. This is a 0.3% improvement on the 2.9% assumed level of collection within the 2023/24 budget. This improvement is expected as a result of work in the Revenues and Benefits Service to employ additional staff to enforce outstanding council tax debts. This is shown in Saving No. 10 in Appendix 1.
- c) **The Council Tax Rate** – this report proposes an increase of 9.99% for the 2024/25 financial year. This recommendation will be put forward to City Council on 5 March 2024 for final approval.
- d) As part of the final [Local Government Finance Settlement](#), published on 5 **February** 2024, the Government has given the Council the ability to increase Council Tax, as follows:

“Birmingham City Council has requested flexibility to increase council tax bills by an additional 5%. The Government has expressed ongoing concern about the significant financial mismanagement at the Council and has launched a five-year intervention to tackle its serious financial and governance problems. It is disappointing that Birmingham City taxpayers are having to foot the bill for the Council’s poor governance and decision making. Whilst the Government will not oppose this request given the seriousness of the circumstances, any decision to increase council tax is solely one for Birmingham City Council, who should have taken into account the pressures that people in Birmingham are currently facing on living costs. The Government is of course conscious of the effect on local taxpayers, particularly those on low incomes, of having to foot part of the bill for these Councils’ very significant failings. We have been clear to each of the Councils that in implementing any additional increases, they should take steps to mitigate the impact on those least able to pay.”

- e) Therefore, the Council Tax requirement for 2024/25 assumes a general increase in the City Council, Council Tax Element of 9.99%, inclusive of a 2% precept relating to Adult Social Care. This increase reflects the severity of the Council’s budget deficit, as laid out in this report and the Section 25 Report of the Section 252 Officer, and the recognition that additional income is required to help balance the budget, alongside the significant programme of savings (as set out in Appendix 1).
- f) The additional increase of 5% (for a total increase of 9.99% compared to the previous year) is estimated to raise £21.8m of additional income.
- g) The flexibility to charge the Adult Social Care precept in addition to the general amount of Council Tax was extended by Government in recognition of the ongoing financial pressures on adult social care services. The precept is estimated to raise £8.7m of additional resources to support adult social care investment.
- h) The Council Tax requirement of £480.419m (excluding parish precepts and Enterprise Zone growth) is divided by the Council Taxbase for the year of 267,940 to give a band D Council Tax for Birmingham Council of £1,793.01 (excluding Police, parish, and Fire precepts). This figure is converted to the amount payable by properties in other valuation bands by applying a set

multiplier, to arrive at the charge citizens will pay for Council services. Further details will be laid out in the meeting of the City Council on 5 March 2024 for formal approval of the Council Tax charges for the 2024/25 financial year.

- i) For 2025/26, this budget report also assumes a 9.99% increase in Council Tax rates in 2025/26, based on the flexibility granted by Government. In total, the forecast Council Tax increases are forecast to raise a total of £61.2m (compared to the baseline assumptions of 4.99% increase in 2024/25 and a 1.99% increase in 2025/26).

Impact on Council Tax Bills

- j) The formal approval of the Council tax charge for the 2024/25 financial year will be put forward to City Council on 5 March 2024.
- k) However, for information purposes for Cabinet, it is worth noting that the impact on the basic amount of Council Tax for City Council services is:

Table 8 – Proposed basic amount of Council Tax for City Council services for the 2024/25 year

Band	Birmingham Excluding Parishes 2023/24 £	Birmingham Excluding Parishes 2024/25 £	% increase from 2023/24 to 2024/25	Weekly increase from 2023/24 to 2024/25 £
A	1,086.77	1,195.34	9.99%	£2.09
B	1,267.90	1,394.56	9.99%	£2.44
C	1,449.03	1,593.79	9.99%	£2.78
D	1,630.16	1,793.01	9.99%	£3.13
E	1,992.42	2,191.46	9.99%	£3.83
F	2,354.68	2,589.90	9.99%	£4.52
G	2,716.93	2,988.35	9.99%	£5.22
H	3,260.32	3,586.02	9.99%	£6.26

- l) The impact of the proposed increase, for a Band D home, is an increase of £3.13 per week, with a Band B at £2.44 increase per week.
- m) It should be noted that this charge is not the final charge that residents will see on their council tax bills. The final charge will include the additional precepts for the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioners. These precepts are set separately to the Council and not subject to the same increase as the basic amount above. These proposed charges are:

Table 9 – Proposed Council Tax charge for the 2024/25 year

Band	Council Tax Areas without a Parish Council £	Council Tax New Frankley in Birmingham Parish £	Council Tax Royal Sutton Coldfield Town £
A	1,389.17	1,417.97	1,422.48
B	1,620.70	1,654.30	1,659.56
C	1,852.23	1,890.63	1,896.64
D	2,083.76	2,126.96	2,133.72
E	2,546.82	2,599.62	2,607.88
F	3,009.87	3,072.27	3,082.04
G	3,472.93	3,544.93	3,556.20
H	4,167.52	4,253.92	4,267.44

- n) **These figures are shared in draft and for information.** Further details are included in Appendix 2B. The final Council Tax resolution will be shared in the report to the City Council meeting on 5 March 2024.

Council Tax deficit for the 2024/25 financial year

- o) Where councils have been unable to collect outstanding Council Tax in a year, this shortfall usually becomes an adjustment to the Council's overall income in the financial year following collection. For 2023/24, the Council Tax deficit has been estimated to be £4.2m – this was driven by a larger than expected number of discounts and reliefs claimed by residents and an increase in overdue payments that are expected to be written off (“bad debt provision”).

Additional premiums for empty homes

10.9 On 11 May 2022, the Government issued a policy paper which outlined the intention, as part of the Regeneration Bill, to introduce a new discretionary council tax premium on second homes of up to 100% in addition to the existing base line charge.

10.10 In practice, this would mean that properties which are furnished but not an individual's primary residence would attract a 200% Council Tax charge. The policy paper also allowed Local Authorities to bring forward the existing empty homes premium and apply a Council Tax premium of 100% to properties which are unfurnished and have been empty for more than one year.

10.11 The current regulations state that properties need to be unfurnished and empty for two or more years to attract the premium. The policy also states that the Authority can use its own discretion to waive the premium where a property is actively on the open market for sale or rent. The proposed legislation (currently awaiting Royal Assent) requires Local Authorities to make the decision to charge these premiums twelve months in advance of the effective date.

10.12 The legislation was introduced on 26 October 2023 in the Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023. Further regulations will be made to specify exemptions which will be adopted.

Business Rates

10.13 The Business Rates income yield is dependent upon the accuracy of the forecasts held within this Budget report. This includes:

Forecast Business Rates income

- a) **Rateable value of the businesses in the city:** The Valuation Office Agency (VOA) provided the City Council with an updated version of the valuation list as at 24th November 2023. This has been used in calculating the Business Rates income projection. The Government continues to set the Business Rates multiplier which determines the level of Business Rates that each business pays. The Council has forecast the levels of growth, appeals and non-collection that are expected to occur in 2024/25. This forecast is based on developments that are ongoing, planning approvals that are in place and expected to be completed in 2024/25 and further growth from the identification of additional rateable value as a result of external partnership work being carried out in order to maximise Business Rates Income.
- b) **Collection rates:** In any year a proportion of the billed Business Rates may not be collected; for example, if a business goes liquidation. The City Council has made an assumption of 1.6% for non-collection for 2024/25. This compares to the assumption of 2% made in years prior to Covid-19. This improvement is expected as a result of work in the Revenues and Benefits service to employ additional staff to enforce outstanding council tax debts. This is shown in Saving No. 10 in Appendix 1. Should this collection rate be improved, the resulting surplus will become available to assist in budget setting in future financial years

and should this collection rate not be achieved the resulting deficit will be reflected in future budget setting.

- c) **Expected number of appeals:** Each year appeals are made against the rateable value of properties as determined by the Valuation Office Agency. Appeals that are upheld are backdated to the beginning of the ratings list period, or when the change in circumstances came into existence if later than this date. It is prudent for the Council to make an assumption about the level of successful appeals that will be made each year and set aside adequate provision for repaying appeals. The council is assuming that these will be £21.9m, which is in line with the 2023/24 budget.
- d) **Expected number of reliefs (i.e. discounts on business rates):** as announced at the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement in December 2023, the Government continues to provide a package of measures to support small businesses during 2024/25 along with additional support to eligible retail, leisure and hospitality premises. This will reduce the level of Business Rates income generated within the city. An estimate of £43.6m for additional support to eligible retail, leisure and hospitality premises, excluding Designated Areas (the existing Enterprise Zones, and two new zones, the Birmingham Knowledge Quarter and East Birmingham and North Solihull Growth Zone) has been included in the 2024/25 business rates forecast, although detailed guidance notes of the scheme are yet to be published by the Government. Government compensates the Council for the lost income from these reliefs in the form of a Section 31 unringfenced grant (i.e. can be spent any services that the Council chooses; not ringfenced for a particular service), as described in the grants section of this report (Appendix 4 refers).
- e) After allowing for these measures, the Council's total projected retained income for 2024/25 from Business Rates is expected to be £435.6m. This is an increase of £24.7m when compared with 2023/24. In addition, the Council expects to receive compensatory grants of £165.5m which is an increase of £14.0m when compared to 2023/24. Taking this into account, overall income from Business Rates related funding is expected to be £601.1m as summarised in the table below.

- f) This is an increase of £38.7m or 6.9% when compared with 2023/24 and is largely a £6.4m decrease in the estimate for losses in collection, a £16.3m increase in the Designated Area Baseline due to new zones expected to commence in 2024/25 and a £14.0m increase in compensatory grants, mainly due to funding to compensate for the Business Rates Multipliers not being fully increased in line with inflation. (It is worth noting that, if these new zones had not been included in the forecast, then gross rate yield would have been higher.) The forecast for the 2024/25 financial year is set out in the table below.

Table 10 – Forecast Business Rates Income

	2023/24	2024/25	Movement
	Council Areas (excluding Enterprise Zones) £'000	Council Areas (excluding Enterprise Zones) £'000	Council Areas (excluding Enterprise Zones) £'000
Gross Rate Yield after Reliefs and Growth	439,420	441,713	2,293
Estimate of Losses in Collection	(13,569)	(7,163)	6,405
Designated Area Baseline less Allowance for Cost of Collection	11,059	27,324	16,265
Allowance for Appeals and Prior Years Adjustments	(21,897)	(21,897)	0
Net Rate Yield	415,013	439,976	24,963
99% of Business Rates to be retained by Birmingham	410,863	435,577	24,714
Net Section 31 Grants budgeted for	151,545	165,502	13,958
Total Resources Including Funded Reliefs	562,408	601,079	38,671

- g) The value of Business Rates growth over and above a pre-determined baseline expected to be collected from the Designated Areas (i.e. Enterprise Zones) is required to be calculated separately from the Council's element of total income as this resource is ring fenced in its entirety to the Designated Areas.

Business Rates deficit for the 2024/25 financial year

- h) The overall Business Rates deficit to be charged to the Collection Fund is £60.7m. The Council's share of this is £60.1m, the remainder being split across the other preceptors for whom the Council collects tax (West Midlands Fire Service and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner). The overall deficit of £60.7m can be split into two elements: The 2022/23 Outturn was £22.5m worse than forecast when setting the 2023/24 budget, and the 2023/24 Outturn is forecast to have a deficit of £38.2m.
- i) The 2022/23 deficit in comparison with the original forecast was mainly caused by two issues:

- i. Provision for Bad Debts £12.5m deterioration – The overall collection rate was lower than anticipated due to the Cost of Living crisis and issues with the implementation of the Oracle ERP Finance and HR system also delayed enforcement action.
- ii. Provisions for Appeals £11.5m deterioration – In the last few months of the financial year, there was a very large increase in the number of appeals lodged. The Council had to provide for these at Outturn.

In 2023/24, the Council sought independent advice from LG Futures, who are experts in Collection Fund accounting, to provide a forecast position, and agreed the forecast with them. This forecast was a £38.2m in year deficit. This deficit largely related to the Appeals Provision.

It was agreed to use a new methodology for the Appeals Provision where the Council uses the estimate of provision needed calculated by Analyse Local. It is felt that this independent calculation will be more accurate than internally generated estimates, given their expertise in this area. The impact of this was a forecast deficit of £36.6m.

Ring-fenced Business Rate Zones

- j) The Council is forecasting to receive £436m in Business Rates income across the entire city in 2024/25, with an anticipated rise to £456m by 2025/26. Business Rates income alone is larger than the corporate grants received by the Council as part of the final Local Government Finance Settlement, a total of £350m for the 2024/25 financial year (see Table 7).
- k) Therefore, there is a strong incentive for the council to plan for and achieve growth in the Business Rates tax base (i.e. increase the number of businesses paying tax in the city). Business Rates income is a particularly significant for the Council as it retains 100% of business rates and as a result of this arrangement does not receive revenue support grant.
- l) If additional areas of the city are ringfenced for growth initiatives, such as the arrangements proposed under the WMCA Single Settlement for newly created Investment Zones and Levelling Up or Growth Zones, future Business Rates income growth will be retained for investment in those particular areas and will not be available to the Council as income to pay for services.

m) A review of the growth experienced in existing zones and the growth projected across the new zones clearly shows a level of anticipated new income that is not directly linked to the new investment but can be said to be inherent in an economically expanding city. For that reason, the Council will aim to capture a fair proportion of any Business Rates income uplift in future. A proposal to capture additional income for the Council is included in Section 16.

10.14 Top Up Grant – alongside Business Rates income, the Council will receive a Top Up Grant for the 2024/25 financial year. This will be £73.3m for the 2024/25 financial year. The reason that the Council receives this grant is that the expected level of Business Rates income (known as the Business Rates baseline) is lower than the expected level of income that the Government expects the Council to generate (known as the Baseline Funding level).

Levies & Precepts

10.15 The Transport Levy and contribution towards other costs of the West Midlands Combined Authority are included within the Council's revenue budget (see Appendix 2A).

10.16 The Resolution to the City Council concerning overall Council Tax levels includes the amounts for the various precepts. These are as follows:

- a) Fire & Rescue Authority;
- b) West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner;
- c) New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council; and
- d) Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Council.

11 Reserves

2024/25 Reserves & Balances Policy

- 11.1 The Council's Reserves & Balances Policy has been completely reviewed (Appendix 3 refers). The new proposed Reserves & Balances Policy is consistent with the latest guidance from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). This is the CIPFA Bulletin 13 – Local Authority Reserves and Balances (updated in March 2023).
- 11.2 The Council's policy on reserves makes clear that reserves are not to be used to avoid the necessity to make ongoing savings or meet budget pressures other than in exceptional circumstances. Reserves can only be used on a one-off basis, which means that their application does not offer a permanent solution.
- 11.3 It should be noted that there are three significant changes proposed to the Reserves and Balances Policy for the 2024/25 financial year:
- a) Recommended levels of General Fund Balances: To ensure consistency with CIPFA guidance, it is planned to increase the level of the General Fund Balance. This reserve acts as a corporate contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies. It also provides a working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing. In prior years, the reserves policy was to hold 4.5% of net expenditure in reserve for any given year. For 2023/24, the General Fund balances were held at 4.1% of net expenditure. This year, the Section 151 Officer proposes to increase General Fund balances to 5% of net expenditure for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years (and will maintain this policy in future years).
 - b) Creation of the Strategic Reserve: Previously, the Council has held a large number of small reserve pots to cover a range of policy earmarks. This process has been confusing and not well-managed. To improve the governance around the reserves, it is proposed to create a "Strategic Reserve". This reserve will replace the previous corporate reserves (Delivery Plan Reserve, Financial Resilience Reserve and Budget Smoothing Reserve). It will also bring together a range of other previously earmarked reserves. A full list of the proposed reserves to be amalgamated into the "Strategic Reserve" are included in

Appendix 3. To access the new “Strategic Reserve”, any request will have to be formally approved by Section 151 Officer and approved at Cabinet.

- c) Amend the process for accessing reserves: to access the Strategic Reserve, any request will have to be formally approved by the Section 151 Officer and approved at Cabinet. It should be noted that any reserve spending for future years, even if it has received prior approval (through the Section 151 Spend Control board or previously) will need to come back to the Section 151 Officer for approval.

11.4 The Council’s Reserves and Balances policy is included in Appendix 3.

Reserves Forecast

11.5 It should be noted that the Reserves forecast below does not include the impact of the potential Equal Pay claims. These costs are covered by the Capitalisation Direction described in Section 12 of this report. The Council has requested EFS to enable it to protect its existing reserves.

11.6 It should also be noted that reserves balances from prior years may change when the external audits of the accounts 2020/21 and 2021/22 are finalised.

11.7 At the start of the 2022/23 financial year, the Council held reserves (earmarked and unearmarked) totalling £1,071.7m. During 2022/23, subject to approval and audit, there was a net use of £268.4m of reserves, leaving a closing balance of £803.3m.

11.8 During 2023/24, there is a forecast net use of reserves of £129.2m, leaving a forecast closing balance of £674.0m, however as stated above, this is before the impact of provisions for potential Equal Pay liabilities.

11.9 The summary movement in reserves is shown in Table 11 below. This shows the movement in reserves between the planned figures for the 2023/24 and 2025/26 financial years, including planned contributions to and from reserves and balances.

Table 11 – 2024/25 Reserves and Balances Forecast

Analysis of Reserves - 2024/25 to 2025/26			
Description	31/03/2024	31/03/2025	31/03/2026
	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Reserves and Balances			
Corporate General Fund Balance	38,382	57,546	57,546
Strategic Reserve	105,204	116,834	116,834
General Reserves and Balances	143,586	174,380	174,380
Schools Reserves	83,945	83,945	83,945
DSG Reserves	15,989	15,989	15,989
Public Health Reserves	13,580	10,402	5,844
Earmarked Reserves			
Earmarked reserves: Contractual commitments			
Highways PFI	189,646	189,646	189,646
Other Contractual Commitments	3,634	3,634	3,634
Total Contractual commitments	193,280	193,280	193,280
Earmarked reserves: Planned Future Revenue & Capital Expenditure			
Bus Lane Enforcement Income	9,655	9,655	9,655
Clean Air Zone	51,998	45,840	34,908
Community Recovery Plan Reserve	529	529	529
Corporate Major Events	500	500	500
Covid-19 Council Tax Hardship Fund Reserve	1,000	1,000	1,000
One-off resources from previous years	1,294	761	761
S31 Grant Reserve	(8,860)	0	0
Other Grant Reserves	116,743	94,036	76,211
Other Earmarked Reserves	12,851	11,059	11,359
Total Planned Future Revenue & Capital Expenditure	185,709	163,380	134,923
Earmarked reserves: Specific Risks			
Business Rates Volatility Contingency	15,160	15,160	15,160
Cyclical Maintenance	13,067	16,157	19,247
Insurance Fund	6,120	7,931	9,742
Other Risk Reserves	799	799	799
Total Specific Risks	35,146	40,047	44,948
Earmarked reserves: Other			
Other Reserves	2,813	2,813	2,813
Total Other	2,813	2,813	2,813
Total Earmarked Reserves	416,949	399,520	375,964
Total Reserves	674,048	684,236	656,121

11.10 The reserves forecasts in this report have regard to the current forecasts for the 2023/24 financial year. An updated forecast for the 2023/24 financial year (as at Quarter 3) will be presented to Cabinet in March 2024. However, to be prudent, the potential use of reserves is included in the budget forecast.

11.11 Table 12 shows the movement in reserves forecast for the 2024/25 financial year.

It should be noted that, for the purposes of the General Fund budget, it is only the use of corporate reserves that impacts the overall budget gap in Table 1. That is because use of corporate reserves impacts the Council's overall corporate reserves balance and its ability to fund other potential reserve requests. The movement in corporate reserves of £7.269m below represents an increase in the budgeted contribution to reserves in 2024/25 compared to the budgeted contribution to reserves made in 2023/24.

11.12 Table 12 also shows that there was a budgeted use of Directorate reserves of £36.042m in 2024/25. This budgeted use does not impact the Council's overall budget gap – it impacts funding already set aside for specific Directorate purposes.

Table 12 – Movements in Reserves for the 2024/25 financial year

	2023/24*	2024/25	Movement
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Contribution to Capital Fund (Revenue Reserve)	275	0	(275)
Contribution to General Fund Balance	0	19,164	19,164
Business Rates Volatility Contingency	0	0	0
Section 31 Grant	32,400	8,860	(23,540)
Corporate Contribution to/ (Use of) FRR Reserve	16,664	11,550	(5,114)
Use of FRR Reserve to fund World of Work and Youth Employment Initiative	(1,449)	0	1,449
Policy Contingency Reserve	(531)	(533)	(2)
Contribution to/(Use of) Delivery Plan Reserve	2,999	0	(2,999)
Income Compensation re Collection Fund	(7,827)	0	7,827
Use of Budget Smoothing Reserve	(8,259)	0	8,259
Cyclical Maintenance Reserve	1,800	3,090	1,290
Contribution to Social Care Reserves	0	0	0
Insurance Fund	2,000	2,000	0
Education PFI Reserve-corporate (use of)/contribution	917	2,098	1,181
Other Repayments to Reserves	971	0	(971)
(Use of)/Contribution to Grant Reserves to support corporate position	(1,000)	0	1,000
Sub total Corporate (uses of)/contributions to Reserves	38,961	46,230	7,269
Education PFI Reserve-directorate (use of)/contribution	(1,481)	(2,098)	(617)
Insurance Fund-reduction in contribution by Directorate	(189)	(189)	0
Directorate repayment to FRR Reserve	971	80	(891)
(Use of)/Contribution to Grant Reserves	(23,983)	(25,885)	(1,902)
(Use of)/Contribution to Other Earmarked Reserves	(170)	(7,950)	(7,780)
Sub total Directorate (uses of)/contributions to Reserves	(24,852)	(36,042)	(11,190)
Total (Use of)/Contribution to Reserves	14,109	10,188	(3,922)

* This is the original planned use of Reserves as per the Financial Plan 2023/24

Use of Reserves

11.13 Table 11 above assumes a net contribution to Reserves of £10.2m. Details of planned reserves uses and contributions are summarised here:

Table 13 – Planned Uses of Reserves in 2024/25

	Forecast Closing Balance (31st March 2024) £'000	2024/25 planned (use) / contribution to Reserves £'000	Total £'000
General Fund Balance	38,382	19,164	57,546
Strategic Reserve	105,204	11,630	116,834
Schools Reserves	83,945	0	83,945
DSG Reserves	15,989	0	15,989
Public Health Reserves	13,580	(3,178)	10,402
Earmarked Reserves	416,948	(17,428)	399,520
Total	674,048	10,188	684,236

Strategic Reserve

11.14 From the end of the 2023/24 financial year, the following reserves are to be merged into one new Strategic Reserve: the Delivery Plan Reserve (DPR), the Financial Resilience Reserve (FRR), and the Budget Smoothing Reserve into one new Strategic Reserve.

11.15 There will also be a transfer into this reserve of Directorate reserves that have been reviewed and recommended to be centralised on the basis that ongoing pressures should be included in base budgets and existing reserve spend is not needed. The full list of reserves to be centralised into the Strategic Reserve is:

Table 14 – Directorate Reserves to be centralised into the Strategic Reserve

Reserves centralised	£'000
Policy Contingency (Mgmt Capacity for Change)	4,867
Capital Fund - Financial Control	20,260
Waste Management Outage	2,000
Covid Reserve	203
Leasing Smoothing - Reallocation	801
Income Compensation re Collection Fund	2
Corporate Major Events	500
Delivery Plan Programme Management Reserve	1,810
Council House Refurbishment Reserve	2,325
Highways Commuted Sums	183
Highways Initiatives	557
Permanent Loss of Parking Bays (Car Parking Commuted Sums)	72
Highways - Bridge Agreements	314
Highways - Interest on Compensation	175
Major Events (Subvention)	217
Parks Pool Cyclical Maintenance	1,250
Museums Repair and Maintenance	82
Hostile Vehicle Mitigation	20
Neighbourhood Action Co-Ordinators	194
Windrush	50
Celebrating Communities	80
Finance Birmingham Loan Contingency	1,001
Schools HR IT	297
Benefits Service Transformation	1,819
ITDS Transition Reserve	569
Customer Service Access Strategy Programme Project Support	1,320
Business Improvements complaints programme	175
Tech Refresh Lancaster Circus	594
To fund additional complaints staff in Customer Services	378
Cyber Security Programme	1,590
Future Major Events Reserves	1,096
BCL Accommodation Move Reserve	65
Birmingham Audit - Statement of Recoveries	50
People Services - Apprentice Levy Cfwd	15
CWG Legacy Portfolio - Earmarked Reserve	27,871
Technology road map	936
Portfolio Reserve	489
Graduate Hub	138
Invest to Save - Central Admin Buildings	600
Invest to Save - Public Hubs	531
Health & Safety Surveys	400
Route to Zero	421
Apprentice	233
Grand Total	76,550

11.16 There are no planned uses of the new combined Strategic Reserves in 2024/25 as set out in the table below. However, there is a planned contribution of £11.630m to the Strategic Reserve. This represents the Council's additional Social Care Grant allocation for the 2024/25 financial year from the final Local Government Finance Settlement in February 2024 (as noted in Section 11). This will be held in the Strategic Reserve to cover unforeseen cost pressures across Adults and Children's Social Care:

Table 15 – Planned Uses of the Strategic Reserve

	£'000
Opening Balance as at 1st April 2023 (FRR, Delivery Plan Reserve, and Budget Smoothing Reserve)	137,540
Use of FRR in 2023/24 re MRP	(3,000)
Use of FRR to fund World of Work and the Youth Employment Initiative	(1,449)
Contribution to FRR in 2023/24	16,333
Net repayment to FRR in 2023/24	4,302
Use of FRR to fund forecast 2023/24 overspend	(115,127)
Funding of Transformation activities across the Council from DPR	(2,250)
Funding of other Transformation projects in Children and Families from DPR	(750)
Funding of other projects in Children and Families from DPR	(815)
	0
Forecast Net Repayment of DPR	5,999
Planned use of Budget Smoothing Reserve in 2023/24	(8,259)
Transfer in of other available reserves	76,550
Subtotal Forecast Balance - Strategic Reserve - as at 31st March 2024	105,204
Contribution to Strategic Reserves in 2024/25	11,630
Forecast Closing Balance as at 31st March 2025	116,834

General Fund Balance

11.17 The General Fund Balance will be £38.4m at 1 April 2024. It is planned to transfer £19.2m into it in 2024/25, in order to bring the value of the reserve up to £57.5m. This represents 5.0% of the Council's net General Fund budget, in line with the updated Reserves and Balances Policy (Appendix 3). There is no planned use of the General Fund Balance in 2024/25. It is planned in future years to transfer further sums into the General Fund Balance when required to maintain it at 5.0% of net General Fund Budget because, due to current budget forecasts, the net expenditure

budget for 2025/26 is forecast to be lower than the net expenditure budget for 2024/25.

Schools Reserves

11.18 In 2024/25, there is no planned use of Schools' reserves and the balance remains the same at £83.9m.

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserves

11.19 In 2024/25, there is no planned use of DSG reserves and the balance remains the same at £16.0m.

Public Health Reserves

11.20 In 2024/25, there is a planned use of £3.2m of Public Health reserves and the balance is expected to reduce from £13.6m to £10.4m.

Earmarked Reserves

11.21 In 2024/25 it is proposed to make a net use of £17.4m of earmarked reserves comprising the following:

Table 16 – Net Use of Earmarked Reserves

Uses of Earmarked Reserves	£'000
Use of Syrian Refugees Reserve	(696)
Use of Better Care Fund Grant Reserves	(5,500)
Use of Domestic Abuse Support Grant Reserves	(1,700)
Use of Section 106 Grant Reserve by Children & Families	(2,499)
Use of CRSTS Capacity Fund Ringfenced for Transportation Revenue	(636)
Use of Clean Air Zone (CAZ) reserve to fund projects	(6,158)
Use of Policy Contingency Reserve	(533)
Use of Homes for Ukraine Reserve	(2,433)
Use of Fairer Futures Reserve	(7,000)
Use of Challenge Funds Reserve	(1,000)
Use of Revenues NDR Project Reserve	(1,100)
Net Uses of other grant and earmarked reserves.	(3,381)
Subtotal Uses of Earmarked Reserves	(32,636)
Contributions to Earmarked Reserves	
Net Repayment to Section 31 grant reserve from Business Rates Collection Fund surplus/deficit related to Government reliefs	8,860
Contribution to Cyclical Maintenance Reserves	3,090
Contribution to Insurance Fund	1,811
Contribution to Local Election Costs cyclical reserve	300
Contribution to Afghan Resettlement Reserve	1,147
Subtotal Contributions to Earmarked Reserves	15,208
Total (Use)/Contributions to Earmarked Reserves)	(17,428)

Contingency Budget (formerly known as the Policy Contingency Budget)

11.22 Separate and distinct from reserves, the 2024/25 budget includes a Contingency budget. The Contingency budget is held centrally and not allocated to services at the start of the financial year. It is retained to protect against unplanned expenditure or when the costs of certain decisions which may be taken during the course of the financial year become clearer. Allocations will be made to services only after the demonstration of need and are subject to review and approval by the Section 151 Officer, with the exception of allocations from the Capitalisation Contingency which will be approved by Cabinet.

Table 17 – Contingency Budget proposed allocation for 2024/25

Contingency Budget	£'000
Capitalisation Contingency	25,000
Improvement Plan	20,000
Inflation Contingency	11,642
Apprenticeship Levy	1,399
Highways Maintenance	1,300
Council Tax Support Scheme	1,020
Community Empowerment Fund	1,000
Costs to Deliver Corporate Landlord Operational Property Savings	500
Procurement Rebate Contingency	300
Flood Defence Contingency	50
Total Contingency excluding savings	62,211
Procurement Contract savings to be allocated	(1,000)
Total Contingency Budget	61,211

11.23 This budget includes the following allocations:

- a) Capitalisation contingency – this budget is held as a buffer against two things:
 - 1) the potential additional unforeseen borrowing costs as a result of the capitalisation direction requested by the Council; and
 - 2) the non-delivery of savings in Section 9 and Appendix 1. It provides the Council with some ability to smooth the impact of delayed savings in the 2024/25 financial year.
- b) Improvement plan – this funding will enable the Council to undertake the plans required to deliver the proposed savings programme for the 2024/25 financial year.
- c) Inflation contingency – this includes a £10m contingency for an additional pay award (if the award for 2024/25 is above forecast inflation) as well as other contingencies for pension fund and highways inflation.
- d) Apprenticeship levy – funding to cover costs incurred by directorates.

- e) Highways maintenance – contingency requested to cover potential overspends.
- f) Council Tax Support scheme – this includes additional contributions to residents that are already in receipt of partial Council Tax support. This contribution essentially covers the additional increase in Council Tax proposed in this budget
- g) Community Empowerment Fund – this Fund will be used to support and empower local communities as the Council enters into a period of transformation. Our citizens will be critical to that journey and the fund will be used to support activities that: boost civic pride; mitigate the impacts of the cost-of-Living crisis; increase volunteering; improve community cohesion; promote wellbeing and encourage active lifestyles and; protect the local environment including public open spaces.
- h) Corporate Landlord costs – additional investment required to deliver the Corporate Landlord savings (Saving no. 214 in Appendix 1).
- i) Flood defence contingency – to ensure the Council has funds available for the potential impact of flooding in the 2024/25 financial year.
- j) Procurement rebate – this is an investment to enable the delivery of the newly-proposed procurement saving (Saving no. 188 in Appendix 1).
- k) Procurement savings – these are held centrally and will be allocated to Directorates in the 2024/25 financial year, based on expected procurement activity.

12 Exceptional Financial Support for Birmingham City Council

12.1 The Council is currently in a position where it is unable to present a balanced budget without seeking Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) from Government. The scale of the Council's EFS request has now been finalised and submitted to DLUHC for approval, to enable the setting of a balanced budget for 2024/25.

12.2 The Council's request for EFS seeks support from Government to provide alternative arrangements that would allow the Council to close the budget gap and set a balanced budget. This request comes in the form of a "capitalisation direction" to enable the Council to close the budget gap.

12.3 A capitalisation direction allows the Council to treat revenue costs (and therefore the additional funding required to balance the General Fund revenue budget for the 2024/25 financial year, as shown in Table 1) as if they were capital costs. Once capitalised, these costs will sit within Capital budgets, not Revenue budgets. The Council can opt to finance these costs by selling assets and generating a capital receipt (of which more below). It should be noted that:

- a) Without a capitalisation direction, councils are not permitted to sell capital assets (usually buildings) and use the money (capital receipt) to fund expenditure on services budgets (revenue expenditure). This money, based on accounting conventions, is ringfenced to spend on capital projects through the Council's capital programme. However, as part of a capitalisation direction, Government can allow the council to use capital receipts to cover the budget shortfall as the revenue expenditure will have been capitalised, allowing it to be treated as capital expenditure.
- b) The Council has committed to a significant programme of capital asset disposals to help finance the overall EFS request. Further detail is laid out in Section 15 as part of the Council's capital programme.
- c) Further, it should be also noted that due to the Council's current financial challenge, that this EFS requests includes the request to capitalise significant additional costs in relation to potential Equal Pay liabilities.

12.4 A capitalisation direction is a last resort for councils seeking to balance their budgets. This request is usually time-limited and exists for long enough for the council in question to bring their Capital Financing Requirement back to balance (i.e.

to pay for the additional costs incurred as part of the capitalisation direction), usually through a combination of asset disposals and budget savings. Further, Government will only agree EFS in the form of Capitalisation for one financial year at a time, and as such the Council would need to request an additional EFS if this was required to close a budget gap for the 2025/26 financial year.

12.5 In addition to the capitalisation direction, the Council's request for EFS also covers the following elements:

- a) The estimated costs of a redundancy programme, linked to the delivery of the overall savings programme (as laid out in Appendix 1)
- b) The estimated costs of potential Equal Pay liabilities
- c) An EFS Contingency, to address items which not known, or could not have been known, at the time of setting this budget. This cannot be used to fund any spend which was identified at the start of the financial year, nor can it be used to address missed savings.
- d) Seeking permission from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities to increase Council Tax above the current referendum threshold of 4.99% without the need for a local referendum. The Council has sought permission to increase Council Tax by a total of 9.99% for each of the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years.

12.6 To enable the City Council to vote on a balanced budget, the Council has sought an EFS request of £225.9m to mitigate the current budget gap for the 2024/25 financial year, as shown in Table 1.

12.7 This request was formally submitted to DLUHC in January 2024. It is expected that the Secretary of State will issue a "minded to" letter in advance of the City Council meeting on 5 March to enable the City Council to vote on a balanced budget. Following this "minded to" letter, the Secretary of State will issue a formal capitalisation direction to come into force for the 1 April and the start of the 2024/25 financial year.

12.8 Therefore, in advance of the EFS request being agreed by the Secretary of State, the Cabinet are being asked to agree and recommend to the City Council the proposed budget, assuming that this request is agreed in time for the City Council meeting.

13 2024/25 Housing Revenue Account Budget

- 13.1 The HRA Self Financing Framework was introduced from April 2012 (as part of the Localism Act 2011), and this required local authorities to maintain a long term HRA Business Plan. This Business Plan was approved by Cabinet in January 2024.
- 13.2 In November 2023 the Government confirmed its intention to revert the rent policy for 2024/25 to CPI+1%. With October CPI at 6.7%, this allows the Council to increase social rents to a maximum of 7.7%. Service charges are updated following a review of the services provided and to reflect changes in costs of service delivery due to pay and price inflation. There is a continuation of the existing policy to fully recover the cost of rechargeable services to tenants.
- 13.3 The full and balanced funding, borrowing and expenditure plan is set out in the HRA Business Plan and rent setting paper approved by Cabinet in January 2024, following an in-depth planning review carried out by the City Housing Directorate, Finance and independent advisors. Further details are set out in Appendix 5.

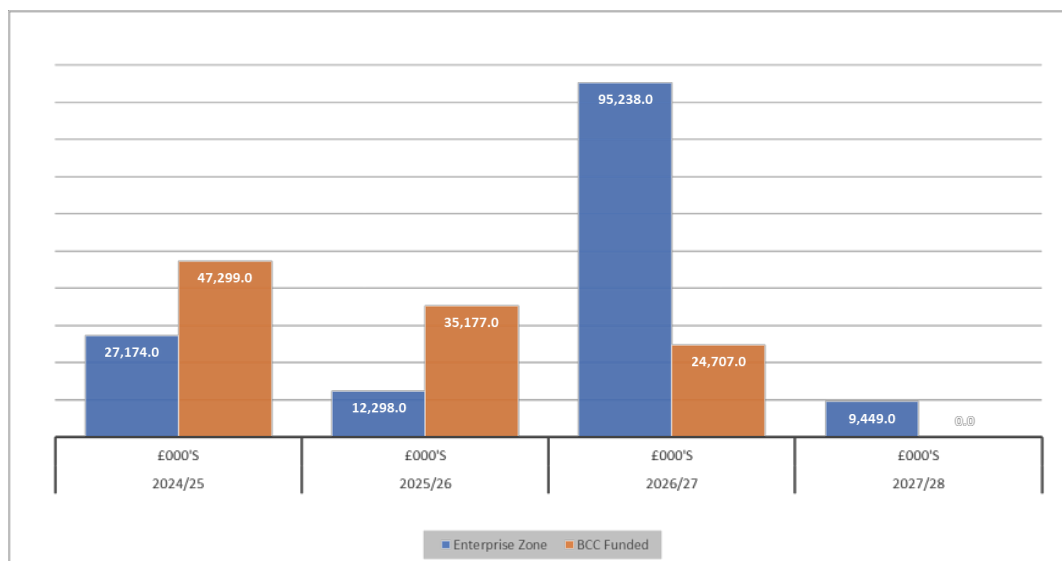
14 2024/25 Dedicated Schools Account Budget

- 14.1 Schools receive funding via a variety of different streams, the main ones being the four blocks of the Dedicated School Grant (DSG), Pupil Premium, Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) Post 16 Funding and Universal Infant Free School Meals.
- 14.2 DSG is the main funding stream for schools and education services. The Birmingham City Council (BCC) allocation of DSG announced by the Department for Education (DfE) 19 December 2023, is £15bn for 2024/25. Further details are set out in Appendix 6.

15 2024/25 to 2027/28 Capital Programme & Strategy

- 15.1 The Capital Strategy sets out how the Council aims to use its resources to support corporate priorities and objectives and identifies the main influences for the capital programme.
- 15.2 The main objectives of the Capital Strategy include supporting the Council's vision and priorities, support service delivery strategies and support asset management plans for Council assets.
- 15.3 In recognition of the financial situation of the Council, the scope for council funded capital investment is extremely restricted. A key feature of this Capital Strategy is for capital investment to support the Council's Financial Recovery Plan. This will be achieved by maximising external funding and minimising the use of council resources that impact on the General Fund, in particular borrowing.
- 15.4 A review of the Capital programme and future immediate needs has been undertaken.
- 15.5 In the medium term the Strategy aims to bring General Fund borrowing to nil (by end of 2026/27). In the short-term General Fund borrowing will be restricted to revenue saving initiatives, capital receipt generation and a small amount of essential or contractually committed projects. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the previous General Fund capital programme that is not funded by external resources.
- 15.6** The graph below shows planned Prudential Borrowing for the General Fund split between Enterprise Zone and General Fund funded projects for the periods 2024/25 to 2027/28. It demonstrates how prudential borrowing falls from £47.3m in 2024/25 to nil in 2027/28 (non EZ related programmes).

Table 18 – General Fund Prudential Borrowing 2024/25 to 2027/28



15.7 The four-year Capital Programme 2024/5 to 2027/8 totals £1,797.7m. The programme includes provision for:

- a) Investment in Council housing through the HRA of £1,088.1m. The HRA Capital Investment Programme is entirely funded from the ring fenced HRA account. The Investment Programme is driven by a long term HRA Business Plan;
- b) £350.6m on roads and transport infrastructure;
- c) Continuing commitment to the funding of development in the Enterprise Zone totalling £137.2m over the next four years, including investment to enable Birmingham to get the most out of the HS2 Curzon railway station;
- d) £70.2m for the Waste Management Service Strategy including replacement vehicles, depot refurbishment and weekly food collection infrastructure;
- e) £52.5m in Adult Social Care including Independent Living; and
- f) Major investment in Education and Skills of £86.5m.

15.8 Following a recent review, the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts programme has been reduced significantly. The programme now has plans to fund the capitalisation of revenue reform costs of £13.8m in 2024/25 (£14.4m identified for financial year 2023/24).

15.9 Further details on the Capital programme are included in Appendix 7 of this report.

Weekly Food Waste Collections

15.10 The provision of separate weekly food waste collections will come into effect for households from 1 April 2026, as required under s45A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has allocated initial capital grant funding of £6,825,450 to the council to support the introduction of weekly food waste collection based on allocations below:

- a) Kitchen caddies (plus spares): £955,500
- b) Kerbside caddies (plus spares): £1,762,950
- c) Communal wheel bins (plus spares): £526,500
- d) Vehicles (plus spares): £3,580,500

15.11 In addition, transitional resource funding will be provided from the 2024/25 financial year as well as ongoing resource / revenue funding from 1 April 2026. Further clarification is awaited from DEFRA on these additional funding allocations. Detailed implementation planning for the introduction of separate weekly food waste collections will take place as part of the waste transformation programme that is currently being developed. This will include due diligence to assess the level of investment needed to introduce separate food waste collections across the whole city and whether additional resources, for implementation or ongoing operations, are required. This will be progressed through relevant governance as appropriate.

15.12 This decision is coming to Cabinet for formal approval for inclusion in the capital programme. This proposal does not impact any of the existing savings put forward for the 2024/25 financial year.

16 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy and Policy

16.1 The 2024/25 Treasury Management Strategy takes account of the Council's current financial position and sets out its Treasury needs for the year and the interest rate outlook, in accordance with the Treasury Management Policy.

16.2 The Strategy aims to minimise the cost of borrowing to the Council whilst balancing its security and liquidity risks.

16.3 Although borrowing for General Fund capital projects is restricted to the minimum, the Council's gross loan debt is forecast to increase in forthcoming years due to significant investments required for the Housing Revenue Account.

16.4 The Loan Debt forecast that flows from the Capital programme as set out in Section 15 of this report is set out below and the required additional borrowing to meet that debt requirement:

Table 19 – Borrowing Requirements for 2024/25 to 2027/28

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Forecast gross loan debt	3,605,500	3,727,800	3,812,300	3,904,400
Cash balance required	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
Forecast net loan debt	3,505,500	3,627,800	3,712,300	3,804,400
<i>of which:</i>				
Existing loans outstanding at year end	3,243,500	3,124,700	2,967,900	2,741,900
Cash balance required	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
Required new/ replacement loan balance (cumulative)	362,000	603,200	844,300	1,162,500
	3,505,500	3,627,800	3,712,300	3,804,400

16.5 Previously, the Council used a balanced borrowing strategy that maintained a proportion of short term or variable rate loan debt with long term or fixed rate borrowing in order to seek an appropriate balance between the risks of variable rate and fixed rate borrowing. However, within the context of the Improvement and Recovery Plan and the general availability of short term loans, the Council is likely be restricted to longer term fixed rate loan debt to meet its borrowing requirements as part of this strategy. Any short term loans available will be considered within the prudential limit for variable rate exposures.

16.6 Based on this Strategy, Table 20 summarises, for the Council as a whole, the new long term and short term borrowing proposed to fund the new or replacement required borrowing each year:

Table 20 – Proposed Borrowing Strategy for 2024/25 to 2027/28

Cumulative new borrowing:	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Total long term loans	361,000	603,000	843,000	1,112,000
Total short term loans	1,000	200	1,300	50,500
New / replacement loan required	362,000	603,200	844,300	1,162,500

16.7 The Council is expected to raise capital receipts for the whole capitalisation direction, thereby eliminating the need to borrow. The likely conditions of EFS will be that any further borrowing must be obtained from the PWLB and will be subject to a premium above the rate the loan would otherwise be subject to, for as long as the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) includes amounts related to the capitalisation direction. These conditions are not likely to be required for borrowing in relation to the HRA. In addition, the Council will need to make annual provisions for the repayment of any borrowed amounts as part of the capitalisation direction, in line with its MRP policy or further Government directions, if any.

16.8 The Treasury Management Strategy, Treasury Management Policy, Service and Commercial Investment Strategy, Debt Repayment Policy and the Prudential Indicators are included in Appendix 8 of this report.

17 Enterprise Zone voluntary income contribution

- 17.1 The Greater Birmingham and Solihull Enterprise Zone was set up in 2012, a £1bn investment plan, extended in 2017 to run until 2045/46. Within this zone all uplift in Business Rates is captured and ringfenced to accelerate economic growth by unlocking development sites and attracting private sector investment.
- 17.2 The Enterprise Zone (EZ) covers 113 hectares across 39 sites in the City Centre and the EZ Investment Plan 2019 has a strategy to deliver a phased programme of £1.2bn value of projects by 2046. All Business Rates growth generated within an Enterprise Zone is to be kept and used by the relevant Local Enterprise Partnership and local authorities to reinvest in local economic growth.
- 17.3 The Local Enterprise Partnerships were dissolved in the 2022 White Paper and within Birmingham, the GBSLEP EZ programme transferred to Birmingham, under a DLUHC-approved assurance and governance structure managed by the Enterprise Zone Partnership Board comprising private and public sector partners.
- 17.4 The ringfenced Business Rates income due to the EZ, whilst providing investment and economic growth for the city does not make a direct financial contribution to the Council's budget. The business rates attributable to the EZ geography are excluded from the total business rates which contribute approximately 25% of the total revenue. Now in year 13 of the EZ investment plan, increased business rates over and above the retained baseline are not entirely attributable to EZ direct investment, albeit there will have been some additional growth attracted by early tax incentives and stimulated by adjacent investment. There is consequently a level of economic growth within the city that is inherent, would have occurred, potentially at a slower rate but without the EZ incentive
- 17.5 Therefore, this proposal assumes that, from 2023/24 financial year and for the life of the EZ (to 2045/46), the first £3m of the net surplus will accrue to the Council and the second £3m will accrue to the EZ reserve. The annual net surplus balance will then be split 50:50. The final split will be calculated in arrears following close-down of the accounts.
- 17.6 This calculation is to be backdated to commence from year one of the EZ (2013/14) and thus the accumulated balance (noting that £3m may not have been achievable each year) to be paid to the Council, at a time that is affordable to the EZ, totals £5.8m. The projections of the share are to be forecast on a 5-yr rolling basis. The

share recognises that the City Council stands behind the borrowing risk on the EZ and the 50% amount retained within the programme continues to provide a buffer reserve to manage any variations over and above the provisions already scheduled.

17.7 In 2024/25, the Council will invest and contribute to the acceleration of economic growth through continued spend on approved construction projects, through its transport network investment and in addition through spend on housing, skills and training. The contribution of funds from the EZ to the Council Revenue Budget will be utilised to directly and indirectly deliver economic benefit to the City.

18 Options Considered and Recommended Proposal

18.1 During this budget process, a range of options have been considered, particularly with regard to the proposed savings programme. This budget seeks to balance the needs to protect discretionary services for residents with the need to move towards a balanced budget by the end of the 2025/26 financial year.

19 Consultation

Internal

19.1 Relevant Cabinet Members, Directors and the City Solicitor have been consulted in the preparation of this report and the budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

19.2 The savings proposals have also been scrutinised by members in detail, as laid out in Section 9 of this report.

19.3 The input from Scrutiny Committees into this budget process, and the response from the Council, is included as a separate report to this meeting.

19.4 Trade Union Consultation is underway as required by s188 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, on potential redundancies, which it is envisaged may arise as a result of the proposed budget savings in this Report. This consultation sets out the proposed employee reductions that are anticipated following the downsizing (or in some cases ceasing) of services and teams and was shared with Trade Union colleagues on 13th December 2023.

19.5 It is proposed to mitigate against compulsory redundancies, by agreeing a Targeted Voluntary Redundancy scheme with the Trade Unions. The Targeted Voluntary Redundancy scheme will be made available to those employees where it is anticipated that services will be downsized (or in some cases cease). Should further redundancies be required, then the Council may carry out a compulsory redundancy scheme, whereby each directorate will provide a business case outlining the posts that are affected taking into account those posts that have already been deleted through the Targeted Voluntary Redundancy scheme.

External

19.6 Section 65 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council each financial year to consult persons or bodies representative of business ratepayers about expenditure proposals.

19.7 The council must make available the information described in the Non-Domestic Ratepayers (Consultation) Regulations 1992/3171, including:

- a) Details of proposals for expenditure in the financial year to which the consultation relates;
- b) Estimates of expenditure in the preceding financing year; and
- c) Particulars of significant changes in the level of proposed expenditure between the two years.

19.8 More than 30,000 businesses were invited to the business ratepayer meeting held on 24 January 2024. This included invites through the Business Improvement Districts and Birmingham Chambers of Commerce. Of those invited, 134 businesses agreed to attend and 43 attended including The Mailbox, Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care Board and businesses from across Birmingham. There was no feedback from the audience on the budget revenue or capital spending. Questions were asked about Council Tax rises, support for small businesses and also if a list of assets due to be sold would be released to the public.

19.9 Other specific consultation exercises have and will take place where the Council is subject to a duty to consult, and in limited circumstances where the council, although it is not subject to any duty to do so, has chosen to do so.

20 Risk Management

20.1 Creating this budget involved balancing risks, clarifying uncertainties, and mitigating potential impacts of volatility.

20.2 Assumptions made in this report have been examined for risks and variability in order to mitigate impacts, as far as is practicable. Estimates of expenditure and income have been made on a prudent basis, informed by previous experience, the latest available evidence in the current financial year, market forces and service intelligence. An assessment of, and arrangements for, the management of the Council's principal budget risks is set out in the Section 25 statement, presented separately to Cabinet at this meeting.

21 Compliance Issues:

21.1 Legal Implications

- a) Local authorities are subject to statutory duties to ensure that their financial management is adequate and effective and that they have a sound system of internal control and management of financial risk. This report sets out the basis upon which a recommendation will be made for the adoption of a lawful budget and the basis for the level of the council tax for 2024/25.
- b) Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 imposes a duty on an Authority's Chief Finance Officer to make a report to the Authority for it to take into account when it is considering its budget and funding for the forthcoming year. Members will find the Section 25 Report of the Section 151 Officer on the agenda for this meeting. This outlines the Council's current and anticipated financial circumstances, including matters relating to the General Fund budget, the HRA, the capital programme and borrowing and expenditure control.
- c) Section 26 of the Act gives the Secretary of State power to set a minimum level of reserves for which an authority must provide in setting its budget. There is an ongoing need to prepare for contingencies including maintaining sound risk management and a level of reserves which enables the authority to be prepared to deal with risks, contingencies, and its future strategic vision.
- d) The Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires local authorities to balance their budget. The setting of the budget and council tax by Members involves their consideration of choices as to spending. No realistic options should be dismissed without proper consideration and Members must also consider their fiduciary duty to the council taxpayers of Birmingham.
- e) Where the Council is subject to a mandatory duty to provide a service, it would not be lawful to fail to discharge that duty. Where there is discretion as to how a discretionary power is to be exercised or as to the manner in which a mandatory duty is to be discharged, that discretion must be exercised reasonably. There will need to be appropriate consultation where the Council is subject to a duty to consult, as well as compliance with the public sector equality duty.

- f) Under the constitutional arrangements, the setting of the council budget is a matter for the council, having considered recommendations made by the Cabinet.
- g) Before the final recommendations are made to the Council, the Finance Overview and Scrutiny Committee must have been given the opportunity to scrutinise these proposals and the Cabinet should take into account its comments when making those recommendations.
- h) For the 2024/25 financial year, the Council requires Exceptional Financial Support from Central Government to enable a balanced budget to be set. This will need to come in a letter from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities in advance of the City Council meeting on 5 March, to enable a vote on a balanced budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

21.2 Financial Implications

- a) The financial implications of the budget for the 2024/25 financial year are set out in this report.

21.3 Procurement Implications

- a) The implementation of proposals set out in this draft budget report will need to be managed in accordance with the appropriate procurement governance arrangements.

21.4 Human Resources Implications

- a) The impact of the new savings proposals will result in staff redundancies. The Council will take all necessary steps to minimise the number of redundancies. The costs of these redundancies forms part of the request for Exceptional Financial Support from DLUHC.

21.5 Public Sector Equality Duty

- a) The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The Council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps

to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The Council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

- b) After more than a decade of significant budget savings, it is difficult to make new savings without any impact on residents. There will inevitably be some impact on particular groups, including those with protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act. The Council is not legally obligated to reject savings with negative impacts on any particular groups but must consider carefully and with rigour the impact of its proposals on the Public Sector Equality Duty, take a reasonable and proportionate view about the overall impact on particular groups and seek to mitigate negative impacts where possible.
- c) The need for an individual Equality Impact Assessments (EQIA) has been considered for all the budget savings proposals and where assessments are deemed necessary these are set out in full at:
<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/EqualityImpactAssessments>. These demonstrate that the Council has met its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and has taken account of its duties under the Child Poverty Act 2010
- d) A summary corporate EIA assessment of the budget proposals was completed on 8 February 2024 and is attached as Appendix 10. This report is based on data extracted from the individual EIAs completed by Directorates uploaded to the Council's SharePoint site as of February 2024. This document is only a summary and does not replace the individual specific EIAs, which decision-makers must read before making their decision.
<https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/EqualityImpactAssessments>.

22 Appendices

Appendix 1 – Savings proposed in 2024/25 and 2025/26

Appendix 2A – General Fund Revenue Budgets – overall and by Directorate

Appendix 2B – Council Tax Requirement

Appendix 3 – Reserves & Balances Policy

Appendix 4 – Grants appendix (summary of government income from grants)

Appendix 5 – Housing Revenue Account

Appendix 6 – Schools & Dedicated Schools Grant

Appendix 7 – Capital Strategy

Appendix 8 – Treasury Management Strategy, including:

- Appendix 8A: Treasury Management Policy
- Appendix 8B: Service & Commercial Investment Strategy
- Appendix 8C: Debt Repayment Policy
- Appendix 8D: Prudential indicators

Appendix 9 – Fees and charges

Appendix 10 – Summary Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (to follow)

23 Background Documents

23.1 Council Taxbase Report, approved by Cabinet 17 January 2023

23.2 Finance update to Cabinet in November 2023

23.3 Finance update to Cabinet in December 2023

23.4 Finance update to Cabinet in January 2024

23.5 Linked to the Fees & Charges Appendix 9:

- Council's Fees & Charges guidance – [Fees and Charges guidance | Birmingham City Council Portal](#)
- REVIEW OF LICENSING SERVICE FEES AND CHARGES 2024/2025 – 15 November 2023 ([Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#))
- Minutes for this meeting at Item 4 of 17 January 2024 LPPC meeting at <https://birmingham.cmis.uk.com/birmingham/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/13535/Committee/5/Default.aspx>
- REVIEW OF LICENSING AND PUBLIC PROTECTION FEES AND CHARGES 2024/25 – 14 January 2024 ([Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#))

Appendix 1 – Savings proposed in 2024/25 and 2025/26

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
Adult Social Care				
125	Review Care Packages to reflect a strength-based approach whilst still meeting assessed needs	This saving proposal assumes a strength-based approach whilst ensuring citizens' assessed care and support needs are met. Savings are proposed to be generated by extending existing savings programmes, maximising the offer of the third sector, reducing reliance on traditional home care by the use of equipment and technology enabled care and reviewing the provision to young people as they transition from Children's to Adults services.	5,687	10,187
126	Review of Care Centre Model	This saving proposal involves the review of the usage of the Council's Care Centres to consider options for the future use of all services considering the needs of the residents and stakeholders.	346	6,400
130	Review of Day Centre Model	This proposal will involve a review of the internal Day Opportunities offer for citizens to ensure that the internally provided Adult Social Care Day Centres are as efficient as possible and support the achievement of positive outcomes for citizens and their informal carers.	1,950	3,350

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		Citizens will continue to have their assessed care needs met by the internal day service provision and there is no anticipated reduction to the number of existing staff.		
131	Review of the Enablement Service	This saving proposal focuses on the in-house home care service and the specialist enablement services. This proposal will review both services and consider options for how this service can be delivered as efficiently as possible and support for citizens.	1,755	5,229
134	Review Learning & Development Team external training offer	This saving proposal involves the exploration of a range of options for how this service can purchase externally statutory and essential training as well as deliver training and support for the social care workforce to deliver services as efficiently as possible for citizens and their carers.	315	567
137	Review of social work teams and improve efficiencies	This saving proposal looks to review services and reduce vacancies across social work teams.	1,501	2,233
138	Grant Maximisation - Adult Social Care	This saving proposal will generate ongoing revenue savings by maximising the use of Government grants across Adult Social Care.	3,161	4,284

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
139	Review of Shared Lives Care Packages	This saving proposal looks to expand and diversify the Shared Lives offer to citizens whilst still meeting assessed needs. This involves reducing the reliance on traditional bed-based care packages with citizens actively becoming part of a carer's home, their family, and their local community.	500	1,900
140	Review of third sector inflationary uplifts	This proposed saving looks to remove inflationary uplifts to contracted third sector providers where it is not a specified requirement within their contracts and uplifting rates for inflation is at the discretion of the Local Authority.	4,464	4,464
141	Review and Re-commission third sector contracts	This proposed saving will involve a review of vulnerable adults contracts with third sector providers that are due to end in 2024/25 with a view to recommissioning them in a manner that meets assessed needs as efficiently as possible. Part of this saving (£470k) has been achieved through a review of other commitments ending in 2023/24.	1,600	3,870
193	Neighbourhood Advice and Information Service (NAIS) and Community libraries	This saving proposes changes to the NAIS and Community Libraries services into Early Intervention and Prevention Hubs 'community living rooms'. The focus is to deliver better outcomes for citizens, have a fit for purpose offer which gets to citizens	1,260	2,285

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		much sooner, supports self-support and self-navigation, removes avoidable demand from higher cost services, whilst delivering efficiencies and savings.		
211	Grant Maximisation - Public Health	Public Health funding has been secured for Neighbourhood Network Schemes for a period of three years. There will be no changes to the services provided under this saving and contracts with providers have been protected for a period of three years.	1,000	1,000
221	More efficient use of BCC Operational Estate - Resident Facing Community Assets	This saving proposal aims to bring together all community facing assets, targeting support to core hubs only. Spokes and non-statutory assets will be considered for transfer to the community or possibly closed. There will be engagement with communities to discuss whether community groups could sustainability take over the running of these assets.	-	2,000
223	Regulated Adult Social Care - Joint Commissioning with NHS	This proposal will build on existing plans to change the way Adult Social Care and the NHS commission the regulated provider market with the aim of driving out efficiencies for the wider health and social care system and improving the quality and consistency of services received by citizens.	-	500

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
224	Integration with partners – ASC and health	This proposed saving involves a whole system review working in partnership with the NHS service leads to capture areas that duplicate assessments or interventions when working with citizens. Both the NHS and ASC will be able to offer assessment and support services with reduced staffing levels and more efficient pathways, systems, and processes. There will be improved integrated working across Health and Social Care, better use of community assets and improved systems and processes. And greater emphasis on prevention to reduce/delay admissions into residential and domiciliary care.	-	4,300
232	Review of Bharosa Services	This saving proposes to review the funding options for this non-statutory service provided by the Council.	170	292
Total Adult Social Care			23,709	52,861
Children & Families				
88	Saving on the cost of Prudential Borrowing for Schools Basic Need Projects	In order to ensure there are sufficient school places for children in Birmingham, the Children and Families Directorate was allocated £19.656m of corporate funding,	710	710

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		<p>which would require borrowing and attract financing costs. The Children and Families Directorate have agreed £14.200m can be returned to the corporate centre. Borrowing the £14.200m would have generated a revenue financing cost of £0.710m pa. As the budget for borrowing and financing costs is held centrally, this saving will be taken from a corporate centre budget, but the initiative is being led by the Children & Families Directorate.</p>		
89	<p>Services for young people (including Careers, NEET and targeted focus in youth services on preventing knife crime)</p>	<p>This proposal is to achieve savings of £2.263m from 24/25 onwards through an independent review of the careers, youth and 14-19 services, which was already planned, with the participation of staff and key stakeholders. The redesigned service will need to deliver statutory duties to support young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) and ensuring 14 to 25 access to employment, training and education (with a particular focus on excluded groups and young people with SEND). A small statutory participation function for youth consultation will also</p>	1,263	1,987

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		remain. The review work will be completed by the end of August 2024.		
90	Commissioning of Early Help Contracts for Children, Young People and Families	This is a proposal to end direct Council funding of Early Help services for children, young people and families to deliver £8.4m of recurring savings from 24/25. If adopted, this would end contracts with voluntary, community or social enterprise organisations and the Early Help contract with Birmingham Children's Trust.	8,378	8,378
93	Children's Travel Transport Contracts Re-procurement	These savings are a result of the implementation of a framework agreement for the provision of Children and Young People's Travel Service (CYPTS) using the open procurement procedure in line with the Public Contracts Regulations (PCR) 2015.	13,700	13,700
96	Funding to Vulnerable Young People at Risk of Exploitation	This saving is a funding switch from General Fund to Public Health grant to fund existing support services for young carers, and young people who are vulnerable to criminal and sexual exploitation who are supported by the EmpowerU team.	1,476	1,376

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
98	Realigning Dedicated Schools Grant	This saving will be delivered through realigning the Dedicated Schools Grant in accordance with the terms of the grant.	1,627	2,627
146	Children's Travel Agency Passenger Assistants Re-procurement	This saving results from procuring agency passenger assistants through the new procurement framework.	148	148
147	Termination of contract for the existing Children and Young People's Travel Service (CYPTS) database	This saving is associated with ending the contract for the CYPTS database due to the introduction of an in-house database with improved functionality and better integration with ICT systems.	253	253
148	Establishment of Permanent Children's Travel Service Structure	This saving is the result of the proposed move of the Children and Young People's Travel Service to a permanent staffing structure from April 2024.	1,066	1,066
149	Optimisation of Bus Passes	This saving results from the optimisation of bus passes awarded by the Children's Travel Service	171	171
150	Review of non-statutory transport packages (Post 16)	This proposal is a review of non-statutory transport packages for Post-16 young people following a review of the travel assistance policy. Current service provision for this cohort will be reduced.	7,066	7,066
151	Passenger Assistance service re-design	This saving is a result of a service redesign of the passenger assistance team once a	1,050	1,050

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		permanent Children and Young People's Travel Service structure is in place.		
152	Reviewing transport packages for provided to school age pupils receiving statutory school transport	This saving is due to reviewing transport packages for school age children receiving statutory school transport, and young people starting with the most historic to ensure consistent application of the eligibility criteria in the 2019 travel assistance policy.	1,963	1,963
179	Increase to Fees and Charges	Increasing fees and charges for all traded services by circa 10%.	165	165
182	Release Children & Families Transformation Reserve	Transformation reserve for Children and Families can be released by absorbing transformation activity into business as usual.	992	-
183	Release of centrally held budgets	Proposal that the budget assigned for Learning and Development (including restorative practice) for the Children and Families directorate will no longer be used. The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Independent Advice and Support Service will be moving to a permanent structure in 2024 so a one off centrally held amount will not be required.	726	726

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
185	Reduction of contract sum for Birmingham Children's Trust	The annual contract sum will be reduced on 1 April 2024. The Trust will be required to deliver a range of savings which may include staff savings, reduction in preventative services, reductions in care costs and efficiency savings.	9,000	10,000
186	Headcount reductions in Children and Families	The Children and Families staffing structure will be reduced with four posts deleted and 32 vacancies not recruited to.	2,474	2,545
219	Children's Services efficiencies	The Children and Families directorate and Birmingham Children's Trust have been working with an external improvement partner who specialise in children's services. A detailed workplan to deliver appropriate redesign and efficiencies to be delivered from 2025/26 will be provided after six months' work with the improvement partner.	-	9,300
Total Children & Families			52,228	63,231
City Operations				
13	Street lighting reduce 2m kilowatt hours - dimming and trimming	Reduction of operational levels of street lighting by 2,000,000 Kilowatt hours in order to reduce energy use and associated costs	900	900

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
14	School crossing patrols (Non-Statutory Service) - CAZ funding for 3 years	Change funding model for school crossing patrols and fund through Clean Air Zone funds	750	750
15	Local engineering (Non-Statutory Service) - amend delivery model	The Local Engineering service is a non-statutory service within Highways. The service acts as a central point of contact for local Councillors, communities and the Public on Highway related issues and manages the delivery of minor highway improvement schemes. Proposal to amend delivery model	316	474
16	Dropped kerbs – redesign to maximise efficiency and group like activity	Optimisation of service delivery and grouping like activity through multi-skilling to ensure the service is funded from the income generated by issue of Dropped Kerbs with no funding via the general fund	100	150
17	Highways specified licences – 100% self-funding – redesign to maximise efficiency and group like activity	Optimisation of service delivery and grouping like activity through multi-skilling to ensure the service is funded from the income generated by issue of Highway Licences with no funding via the general fund	209	314
18	Reduce spend on Highways maintenance	Reducing the level of planned maintenance carried out on Highways	12,000	20,000

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
19	Reduction in PFI management budget	Employee reductions following change in highways maintenance arrangements	500	750
21	Property licensing – administrative overhead and absorption rate	Overhead and absorption (central support charges and divisional overheads) for the delivery of property licensing schemes are to be activated as per original licence fee calculations. This includes Mandatory (House in Multiple Occupation) licensing and the new Selective and Additional Licensing Schemes commenced on 5 June 2023. All schemes' fees include pre calculated overhead and absorption rates within them.	900	900
22	Property licensing – optimising council delivery of support, advice and administration activity of property licensing schemes	Optimising council knowledge in delivery of support, advice and administrative activity that fall within the remit of the schemes. To be delivered via internal services with costs to be recharged into the schemes. Actual costs will be transferred from the licensing schemes to the general fund at year end.	100	100
23	Property licensing – any financial penalty resulting from enforcement to be invested into supporting further enforcement activities	Any financial penalty resulting from enforcement of the schemes is to be invested into carrying out any enforcement function in relation to the private rented sector.	-	100

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
24	Pest control – new charge for domestic rat treatments	Introduction of new charge at £20+VAT for rat in garden and rat in house treatments.	195	195
25	Additional Bulky waste income and fee increase	Increase bulky waste charge from £35 to £45	440	490
26	Additional Garden waste income and fee increase	Increase garden waste subscription charges from £50 to £60 per year.	1,200	1,200
27	Cease non statutory Waste Prevention activities	Remove the team undertaking street quality audits and neighbourhood waste contamination.	180	200
29	Move to fortnightly residual waste (non-recyclable) collection and amend early starts	Develop year 2 proposals that introduce fortnightly residual waste collection, coupled with food waste. Also change 5am start times for waste collection crews to 6am.	-	4,500
31	Introduce charging for car parks in parks	Introduce parking charges at Sutton Park, Lickey Hills Country Park and Sheldon Country Park Preparation and capital works to take place in 2024/5 for implementation in 2025/6	-	381
32	Phase out the use of herbicides in parks.	Phase out chemical spraying in Parks and increase the use of mulch in flower beds.	200	200

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
34	Reduce Grounds Maintenance capability	Reduce 33 staff in grounds maintenance. This will require a review of Grounds Maintenance activities	1,000	1,000
35	Remove Ranger Patrol and delete vacant posts within the Ranger Service	Reduce Rangers from 33 to 20. For the smaller Ranger service to be refocused on priority areas of Parks Risk Assessment, open water safety assessments and tree safety inspections	807	807
38	End contract with Keep Britain Tidy	The Council will be unable to utilise KBT's logo and not access KBT publications and guides.	100	100
42	Reduce Graffiti Crews	Remove external spend on graffiti removal and utilise in-house graffiti removal resources only. Graffiti removal will prioritise offensive graffiti.	200	200
44	Reduction in Street Cleansing posts	Reduce the Street Cleansing team from 325 to 305 FTEs.	700	700
45	Reduction in managerial posts	Review management structures in Street Scene	470	470
46	Neighbourhood Waste Enforcement Officers – self financing	The team consists of 6 FTEs, which it is proposed to reduce to 3. For the team of 3, to be self-financing through fine income.	291	291
47	Additional Bereavement income – fees increase	An average increase of 11% in 2024/25 and a further fee increase of average 5% in 2025/26 across all fees and charges. This	880	1,280

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		includes an £80k increase to staffing expenditure for a future operating model to improve maintenance to meet customer expectations. Benchmarking indicates that the services will remain competitive and comparable with those provided by neighbouring authorities.		
48	Additional income from registration of marriages	Increase income by appointing an additional postholder to increase the number of marriage ceremonies that can take place. An additional marriage ceremony day will be offered on Thursdays (which is not currently available). Staffing expenditure will increase but costs are assumed covered by income with a net surplus of £35k	70	70
49	Amend the Community Safety team	Reduction in posts – proposal is to not renew or make permanent any FTC contracts currently paid via revenue budget and not fill a grade 5 vacancy. The Service is also proposing to lose staff savings achieved as a result of flexible retirement and reduced hours applied within service.	185	185
52	Increase Leisure fees by 5%	Increase prices at Birmingham City Council directly managed sport, leisure and wellbeing facilities by 5%	50	50

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
53	Increase income and reduce expenditure in internal leisure – breakeven budget	Reduce costs at Moseley Road Baths and transfer the facility that used to house Great Barr Leisure Centre	83	83
54	Combine management of Wellbeing and Sport service	Align the sports facilities, leisure centres and wellbeing centres under a single management structure	-	50
55	Measures implemented to deliver a profit share for Birmingham Community Leisure Trust leisure centre contract	Implement measures that will increase the likelihood of the Birmingham Community Leisure Trust leisure centre contracts returning a surplus share for the Council including: i) reviewing the passport to leisure discount scheme on all activities ii) reviewing opening hours iii) removing the cap on maximum charges iv) reviewing the viability of facilities in receipt of the greatest operational subsidy.	-	150
56	Reduction of grant to The Active Wellbeing Society	Reduce the grant from £1.2m to £0.3m thereby reducing the outdoor physical activity offer provided though The Active Wellbeing Society	-	900

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
57	Increase income from commercial events	Increase in income for Frankfurt Christmas Market and new income for Summer Music Event	95	75
60	Review Film Birmingham	Implement cost reductions and increase income	89	89
61	Cultural Organisation Grant reductions	Excluding the B:Music premises grant, reduce other grants by 50% in year 1 and 100% in year 2.	630	1,261
62	Cease funding for cultural projects	Deliver two historical cultural project grants in year 1 ceasing the rest including Local Arts Forums. Cease all cultural project grants in year 2.	452	487
63	Restructure culture delivery team	Restructure team to reflect reduction in service activity	25	50
64	Neighbourhood Action Coordinators – cease the 22 ward pilot and do not roll out city wide	Neighbourhood Action Coordinators – cease the 22 ward pilot and do not roll out city wide	1,955	2,255
67	Reduce Ward Forum meetings to 3 per year and integrate ward planning	Reduce the number of ward forum meetings and staffing levels accordingly from 4 to 2 Community Governance Managers. Remove the localisation ward plan budget	150	200
69	Neighbourhood Development Support Unit	Reduce the management capacity to reflect the reduction in NDSU activity	50	100

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
	(NDSU) Management Restructure			
70	Changes to Business Improvement District Service	Introduce 3% revenue account management fee (collection charge) for Business Improvement Districts Service. Release remaining budget for BID establishments and ballots and reduce BID officers & high street officers	167	190
72	Community Facilities – Cease Direct Management	Most Council owned community centres have already been transferred to third parties (mainly voluntary and community groups), but the Council still directly manages eleven facilities. The proposal is for the service to stop running these remaining facilities and instead seek to transfer them to third parties to operate, but if this proves unviable then alternative routes of disposal will be considered.	-	300
73	Delete 4 vacant posts – neighbourhoods division	Delete non-priority vacant posts	170	170
74	Release service prudential borrowing capacity identified for Alexander Stadium	Reduction in the revenue budget available to fund capital works through borrowing.	141	141

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
75	Restructure Resilience team and Reduce repairs and maintenance budget.	Reduction in posts – proposal is to reduce team by 4.5FTE which includes vacancy management, staffing reduction, in addition to vacancy management, and removal of two grade 4 posts. Proposal also includes reduction of repairs and maintenance budget.	183	256
76	Align Events & City Centre Teams – Refocus on contracted and commercial events	The team will refocus on its core activity - the events that remain contracted to be delivered, its two key civic events (Remembrance Sunday and Holocaust Memorial) and on bringing in new events to generate income. Funding for Birmingham International Dance Festival and Weekender will cease. The City Centre Management and Events teams will better align, improving effectiveness and efficiency - this will result in the reduction of one post in year 1 and one post in year 2.	400	400
154	Resilience – stop volunteering payments and payments to the regional Local Resilience Forum	Proposal is to stop non-statutory payment into the Local Resilience Forum and to cease supplementary payments to staff volunteers.	25	25
155	Allocation of Public Health funding to support	Public Health Funding to be secured to support community safety early intervention	100	100

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
	Community Safety – 2 year allocation	and prevention activity around the street community.		
156	Public Health funding for Environmental Health and Trading Standards – 3 years only	<p>Provision of non-statutory work that protects physical health and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>This includes advice to businesses on allergen compliance, advice to planners to protect developing environments, attendance at night to speed up resolution and investigation of nuisances, supporting communities which experience stress for unauthorised encampment as well as delivering welfare advice to the Gypsy and Romany Traveller community, advising Safety Advisory Groups with safety advice and advice for sporting and non-sporting activities delivered for the wider community, plus contribution to back office IT support to facilitate the above.</p> <p>Specific work will also be carried out in relation to Illicit vaping, nicotine inhaling products and smoke free areas.</p>	690	690
158	Reduce tourism budget	Halve the budget available to support new initiatives aligned with delivering the Visitor	25	25

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		Destination Plan that increase the number of tourists visiting our city		
160	Alexander Stadium future operating model	Outsource Management operation or establish a Charitable Trust/CIO to run the Stadium	-	300
163	Review of Wellbeing Service operating model	In conjunction with stakeholders such as Sport England and Public Health develop a new model for the management and operation of the Council's Wellbeing Centres. This will initially utilise Public Heath Funding thereby enabling the changes to be implemented by March 2027, delivering an annual budget saving of £1m.	500	1,000
164	Review Love your Street activities	The Love Your Street service enhances the resident experience through organising local community work and supplies tools and equipment to do so. This proposal is to review and prioritise a reduced level of activity on areas of greatest need.	500	500
168	Cease area based community work and cease Neighbourhood Development Support Unit (NDSU) non-statutory functions	Cease area-based community work and cease NDSU non-statutory functions. Restructure team to reflect reduction in service activity with a reduction of 3 Grade 5 Community Support and Development Officers.	-	180

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
169	Cease Sports Development Function	Cease the non-statutory function	20	100
170	Reduce Flood Risk Maintenance Budget	Reduction in maintenance budget, flood asset regimes and reactive maintenance	50	50
212	Rationalisation of Assistant Director posts	With the proposed reduction in services provided through City Operations there is scope to reduce the directorate management team and reorganise remaining service provision. Based on existing directorate services – does not assume movements across directorates.	-	117
213	Consolidation of Enforcement	The consolidation of enforcement activity into a centre of expertise. Full scope needs to be defined and discussed but will be focussed on enforcement activity that affects the street scene. Likely to include, but not limited to, Litter Enforcement, Waste Enforcement, Street Intervention, Parking Enforcement, Anti-Social Behaviour, Highways enforcement. Consolidation should lead to better outputs and outcomes; however the potential saving needs to be scoped and analysed. Prudent efficiency saving proposed.	-	50

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
225	Additional Income – Birmingham Wildlife and Conservation Centre	Additional income generated through 10% increase in entrance fees	70	105
233	Redesign Garden Waste collection rounds	Redesign garden waste collection rounds and optimise collection operations	192	192
234	Procurement of Street Scene agency contract	Re-procure the agency contract for Street Scene agency resources	142	142
235	Commercial Waste income growth	Redesign Commercial Waste collection services and grow income	150	150
237	Reduce cost of Queslett closed Landfill site	Reduce the management and technical costs of the closed Queslett landfill site	260	260
238	Fuel contract procurement	Reprocure the fuel contract for street scene's fleet	190	190
239	Strategic review of fleet	Increase utilisation and optimise fleet operations of Street Scene's vehicles	520	520
240	Redesign Recycling waste collection rounds	Redesign recycling waste collection rounds and optimise collection operations	850	850
241	Reduce the Mobile Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) provision	Halve the mobile HWRC provision and focus on priority areas. To also utilise existing fleet to maximise efficiencies.	723	723
242	Remove 'additional' Deep Cleansing Crews	Reverse the growth funding for Deep Cleansing Crews	1,000	1,000

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
243	Review of agency staff working arrangements	Review agency staff arrangements to pay agency staff on a deployed hours basis	600	600
236	Review Grounds Maintenance	Remove client/contractor working arrangements in Grounds Maintenance and review the POPI system	106	106
244	Reduce Mechanical Sweepers	Remove 10 mechanical sweepers that are beyond their operational life	350	350
245	Reduce agency staff in Waste Collection	Reduce reliance of agency resource in waste collection, as a contingency for mainstream operations	2,100	2,100
246	Reduce agency resource in Street Cleansing	Reduce reliance of agency resource in street cleansing, as a contingency for mainstream operations	600	600
247	Reduce short term vehicle hires	Remove 23 hire vehicles from the Council's fleet	1,472	1,472
248	Remove early starts in waste collection	Reverse the early start arrangements introduced as part of COVID control measures	700	700
Total City Operations			39,268	57,111
City Housing				
78	Property Acquisition capital financing	Removal of the use of General Fund budget to finance capital costs of the Property Acquisition programme over the previous 1	1,400	3,600

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		and next 5 years. The existing purchases will be made and financed by the Housing Revenue Account, with properties becoming Social Housing with short term vacancies dispersed for Temporary Accommodation use.		
79	Service charge increases to full cost recovery	Service Charges in 23/24 have not kept pace with inflationary increases and will be increased in 24/25 to catch up with current costs to ensure the charges from April 2024 are in line with the existing policy of full cost recovery.	600	800
81	Establishment reduction	Reduction of posts across all levels of Housing Solutions and Support Service, predominantly through vacancy deletion	1,650	1,650
82	TA investment strategy delays to capacity increases	Implementation of the TA Investment Strategy agreed at Cabinet in June 2023 involved £3.7m new budget to increase the capacity in teams working with people requiring Temporary Accommodation support. The plan and programme will continue, but with a reduced budget of £3.35m	350	350
83	Shelforce Surplus	Increased surplus from Shelforce greater production and sales of windows and fire	778	978

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		doors to fulfil orders planned from the investment planned into HRA stock.		
84	TA Investment Strategy delays to landlord incentives	Implementation of the TA Investment Strategy agreed at Cabinet in June 2023 involved £1.5m new budget to give as grants to landlords as an incentive to increase the number of PRS properties available to people looking to move out of Temporary Accommodation. The plan, and programme, will continue, but with a reduced budget of £1.25m	250	250
85	Homeless Centre financing	The service has a budget for annual financing and repayment of debt incurred to acquire and develop homeless centres. Repayment of two of these centres is complete, and the budget can be set from 2024/25 onwards without this commitment	288	288
86	Income collection and provision improvements	Increased income collection rates through joint working and best practice sharing with debt management teams across the Council	300	600
87	Public Health grant funding	Existing Public Health funding to be allocated to Homelessness interventions carried out in Housing Solutions but currently funded by base budget	200	200

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
176	Emergency Accommodation Unit cost negotiation	Emergency accommodation is currently provided at a night rate of between £50 and £90 per room per night for 800 units for families and individuals in bed and breakfast style accommodation. The project is seeking out providers of emergency accommodation and negotiating lower rates for guaranteed bookings over longer periods	420	420
220	HRA Review and joined up locality working between Housing and City Ops	Coming out of the comprehensive review of existing recharge arrangements between HRA and General Fund activity there are a number of opportunities internal BCC functions to deliver front line estate-based services, the cost recovery for which will include funds for a relevant portion of existing management and overhead	-	200
226	HRA and Investments and Valuations Team - Municipal Shops	The HRA is carrying out a review of its 400+ shops and commercial assets, which will involve the support from existing internal BCC services for which a recharge will be made to reflect the cost of using these resources	-	200
Total City Housing			6,236	9,536
Place, Prosperity & Sustainability				

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
106	Service re-design and restructure	This saving arises from a planned service re-design and re-structure and includes removal of vacancies, the deletion of posts and a review of recharging that contributes towards the savings to General Fund.	4,365	5,325
107	Reduction in Central Administrative Buildings (CAB) Premises (Saving from operating costs when the buildings are decommissioned)	It is proposed that this will be achieved by the closure of Centrally Administered Building (CAB) Estate buildings including Woodcock Street, Sutton New Road and New Aston House, migrating occupying services and other building users to alternative space optimising use of the wider estate for an interim period into 25/26 until such time as future operational demand can be better interpreted so as to identify a more optimum and sustainable asset profile. This will therefore bring savings from property related operating costs.	1,000	2,325
108	European Affairs and Business Enterprise Teams to be self-financing and funded from external grant	Historically both the European Affairs Team and Business Enterprise Teams have had an element of corporate funding to support staffing costs. It is proposed to move to a target model of self-funding to reduce the cost to the General Fund. This means, moving forward from 24-25, the staff will be funded via project costs that are funded by external grants.	800	800

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
109	Income generation (combination of lease and rent reviews for commercial portfolio and increase in planning fee income)	The income will be generated from a combination of an increase in planning fees (in line with Government's statutory guidelines allowing an increase in planning and pre-application fee) and through a programme of rent and lease reviews covering the commercial portfolio.	1,500	2,000
110	Reduction in supplies	Savings arising as a result of reducing the available budget to commission supplies and services.	700	700
Total Place, Prosperity & Sustainability			8,365	11,150
Strategy, Equality & Partnerships				
142	Review of spans and layers and reorganisation of services within the directorate	A reduction in staff expenditure through a review of spans and layers and reorganisation of services within the directorate.	1,780	1,930
143	Return non-pay inflation and other budget efficiencies	A reduction in expenditure on non-staff budgets across services within the directorate.	667	667
Total Strategy, Equality & Partnerships			2,447	2,597
Council Management				

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
1	Traded Services surrender of pay and price increases subsidy (Group & Capital Finance)	Traded services operate on cost recovery, past budget allocations for inflationary pressures will be returned to the corporate centre.	1,500	1,500
2	Reduction in traded services performance subsidy (Group & Capital Finance)	Improved performance within traded services and obligation to recharge at full market cost hence the subsidy will not be called upon for under-recovery.	799	799
3	Review Benefits Advice Team	Review of non-statutory provision of the Benefits Advice Team within the Benefit Service	122	162
4	Insource Enforcement work for some council tax, business rates and Business Improvement District debts	Income generation - Commence bringing some of the external enforcement agent work 'in house' for council tax, business rates and Business improvement district (BIDs) levies.	1,098	1,098
6	Cease Local Welfare Provision Scheme	Proposal that the provision of emergency payments (crisis) for food and utilities (gas and electric) cease. Proposal that payments for 'White goods' for provision of (for example) table-top fridges and cookers cease.	900	900
7	Review Council Tax Single Person Discounts (SPD)	Income generation – to review all existing SPDs to ensure the 25% discount is only applied where residents are entitled. This is	800	800

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
		in addition to existing activity to ensure correct entitlement is awarded.		
9	Additional income generated through the Governments' New Homes Bonus scheme	Income generation – additional work to use external data to identify empty homes that have been bought-back into use and attract payments from the Government (as well as council tax income).	-	1,984
10	Increased tax collection - additional debt recovery teams	Income generation – employ additional staff to deal with outstanding council tax and business rate debts. Includes proactive work to identify financial problems at an earlier stage.	3,840	3,840
12	Corporate Procurement Services	Undertaking a mini restructure and refining recharging of services delivered to “non-general fund” budget areas.	240	240
100	Ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services, by removing telephone lines and mobile phones (Analogue, mobile and land lines).	Reducing numbers of mobile phones in the organisation and taking out analogue telephone lines savings on calls costs and line costs.	370	370
101	Change service delivery in DTS to reduce costs, via third party contracts and	Reviewing Technology platforms, consolidating where appropriate, maximising relationships with key suppliers.	220	220

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
	greater utilisation of commercial relationship			
102	Reduction in agency costs	Improved efficiency in service area, less agency top-up staff required	80	80
103	Voice Automation within Contact Centre Services	Voice Automation technology will offer an additional access channel for customers and release call handlers from low complexity calls	1,490	1,690
104	Contact Centre SLA reduction from 90% to 85%	Proposal to reduce the call handing service level within the contact centre which will enable a saving to be achieved through the removal of agency posts	-	50
105	Business Support Re-design	A reconfiguration and reduction of the existing business support administrative activity and posts to release savings	-	2,660
112	Recruitment Portal review	External recruitment portal non-renewal	30	30
113	Annual Staff Survey review	Replacement of externally run staff survey with in-house options	50	50
118	In-sourcing	Proposal to bring a proportion of legal work back in house from outsource partners to reduce costs.	75	100
119	Counsel Spend Reduction	Proposal to reduce spend on external counsel	118	118

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
120	Review current contracts for efficiency - subscriptions / case management system.	Review of current subscriptions/ICT provision to maximise efficiency of service delivery and reduce costs.	6	6
121	Review of election and committee structure	Proposed to change service delivery; non recruitment to vacant posts and headcount reduction.	98	130
123	Transport for Members (Taxi / Rail)	Proposed reduction of costs by changing how this is currently delivered to be more efficient and cost effective.	10	10
144	Restructure and redesign	Proposed reorganisation of structures within Legal and Governance; change delivery of service, efficient ways of working and reduction in headcount.	835	1,114
145	Governance efficiencies – fewer meetings/clerking	Reduction in Scrutiny Committees and Full Council meetings, resulting in reduction in headcount and reduction in special responsibility allowances.	57	66
175	5G Small Cells and Long Range Wide Area Network (LoRoWAN)	Enabling private sector to use council lampposts to host sensors or 5G small cells for a fee.	115	168
177	DTS staffing and licence savings for smaller organisation	Review of team sizes where lower volumes of calls are expected in a smaller organisation	250	400

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
178	Digital and Technology Services Redesign	A review of the service structure, prioritisation of core services, and review of vacant positions.	2,200	2,200
209	Service review and rationalisation of vacant posts	Review of finance service structure and vacant posts	360	360
210	Workforce savings	Review of people services structure and vacant posts	849	908
215	Business Improvement & Support Consolidation	Consolidate administrative activity, where appropriate, across the Council into the existing Business Support function	-	300
216	Debt recovery consolidation	Enable the Council where possible to have a single view of debt by consolidating all debt management, debt recovery activity into a single debt management team where appropriate	-	1,823
217	Customer contact consolidation	Where appropriate, consolidate customer service contact across the Council into the existing Customer Service Contact Centre	-	219
Total Council Management			16,512	24,395
Cross-cutting				

Ref	Saving Title	Description	Value 2024/25 £000	Value 2025/26 £000
188	Contract Management Efficiencies / Contract Savings	To deliver contract management savings from existing third party spend - with the aim to improve value for money from and reduce spend with third parties through a range of initiatives, including system controls to enhance compliance, reduction of spend through amalgamating spend / contacts and stopping spend.	1,000	3,000
190	Automation of Manual Processes	Using technology to complete repetitive manual tasks, and release savings in service areas	-	200
191	Greater use of digital tools	Using our digital tools more creatively to reduce administrative effort, processing errors and improve customer service.	-	200
218	Integrated Transport Unit	Review all transport and fleet management activity across the Council and consolidate this into a single management structure where appropriate	-	807
228	Fees and Charges - further savings	Anticipated increase in income relating to fees and charges uplifts across all service areas.	-	1,000
Total Cross-cutting			1,000	5,207
Total Savings			149,765	226,088

Appendix 2A – General Fund Revenue Budgets

Gross Expenditure	2023/24 Budget £'000	2024/25 Budget £'000
Directorate		
Adult Social Care	610,449	720,266
City Housing	64,044	97,431
Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	87,637	87,591
City Operations	358,130	320,746
Council Management	642,137	787,836
Children & Families	475,151	458,327
Strategy Equalities and Partnerships	101,659	118,382
Total Directorate Expenditure	2,339,206	2,590,580
Corporately Managed Budgets	288,818	306,587
Contingencies	1,351	61,212
Total Expenditure on Services	2,629,374	2,958,378
Corporate Contribution to Reserves	49,119	46,412
Total General Fund Expenditure	2,678,494	3,004,790
Housing Revenue Account	303,594	326,994
Dedicated Schools Grant	836,283	838,008
Total Gross Expenditure	3,818,371	4,169,792

Gross Income	2023/24 Budget £'000	2024/25 Budget £'000
Directorate		
Adult Social Care	(184,082)	(244,512)
City Housing	(48,710)	(63,571)
Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	(80,944)	(69,641)
City Operations	(159,848)	(111,115)
Council Management	(605,835)	(695,564)
Children & Families	(95,757)	(73,709)
Strategy Equities and Partnerships	(93,464)	(110,348)
Total Directorate Income	(1,268,639)	(1,368,461)
Corporately Managed Budgets	(105,324)	(112,848)
Contingencies	(756)	(533)
Corporate Grants	(338,064)	(370,639)
Total Income from Services	(1,712,783)	(1,852,481)
Corporate Contribution/Use of Reserves	(9,981)	(1,440)
Total General Fund Income	(1,722,764)	(1,853,920)
Housing Revenue Account	(303,594)	(326,994)
Dedicated Schools Grant	(836,283)	(838,008)
Total Gross Income	(2,862,641)	(3,018,922)

Net Expenditure	2023/24 Budget £'000	2024/25 Budget £'000
Directorate		
Adult Social Care	426,367	475,754
City Housing	15,334	33,860
Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	6,693	17,950
City Operations	198,282	209,631
Council Management	36,302	92,272
Children & Families	379,394	384,618
Strategy Equities and Partnerships	8,195	8,034
Total Directorate Net Expenditure	1,070,567	1,222,119
Corporately Managed Budgets	183,494	193,739
Contingencies	595	60,679
Corporate Grants	(338,064)	(370,639)
Total Net Expenditure on Services	916,592	1,105,898
Corporate Use of Reserves	39,138	44,972
Total General Fund Net Expenditure Budget	955,730	1,150,870
Housing Revenue Account	0	0
Dedicated Schools Grant	0	0
City Council Budget	955,730	1,150,870

Directorate Cash Limits

Directorate	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Adult Social Care	426,367	35,409	37,687	(23,709)	475,754	489,856
Children, Young People and Families	379,394	24,837	31,905	(51,518)	384,618	383,275
City Housing	15,334	5,285	19,477	(6,236)	33,860	31,840
City Operations	198,282	23,828	26,789	(39,268)	209,631	197,243
Council Management	36,302	5,862	61,980	(11,872)	92,272	79,041
Place, Prosperity and Sustainability	6,693	5,257	14,365	(8,365)	17,950	21,387
Strategy, Equalities and Partnerships	8,195	237	2,050	(2,447)	8,034	8,044
Total Directorate Net Expenditure	1,070,567	100,715	194,253	(143,415)	1,222,120	1,210,687
Corporately Managed Budgets	(114,837)	(7,708)	53,006	(1,710)	(71,249)	(79,693)
Total General Fund Budget	955,730	93,007	247,259	(145,125)	1,150,870	1,130,993
Funding	(955,730)	0	35,378	(4,640)	(924,992)	(1,063,596)
Net Budget	0	93,007	282,637	(149,765)	225,879	67,397

Notes:

1. Early Intervention & Prevention: £25m has been transferred from Children, Young People & Families (Libraries, Adult Education Services) and City Housing (Neighbourhood Advice, Customer Service Centres) to create a new division, Early Intervention & Prevention, which will be managed within Adults Social Care. This transfer is shown above within the 2023/24 Net Base budget above to give a comparison with the services that remain in this Directorate for the 2024/25 financial year.
2. Place, Prosperity and Sustainability: for this year, the £46m contribution that the Council makes to the West Midlands Combined Authority for the transport levy is now shown within Corporately Managed Budget, hence why the PPS cash limit has fallen for the 2024/25 financial year. This transfer is shown above within the 2023/24 Net Base budget to give a comparison with the services that remain in this Directorate for the 2024/25 financial year.
3. The savings shown above against Council Management and Funding combine to a total of £16.512m which in Appendix 1 is shown together under Council Management for presentation purposes.

On the following pages, a summary is provided to show the movement for each Directorates budget from the 2023/24 base budget to the proposed base budget for the 2024/25 financial year.

Adult Social Care Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
AD Community Services & ED & I Division	25,513	623	(1,107)	(4,911)	20,118	14,566
Adult Care Packages Division	271,266	22,621	35,706	(7,691)	321,902	353,055
Adults Social Care Division	4,703	485	37	(104)	5,121	5,244
Commissioning Division	32,433	6,126	(2,869)	(8,125)	27,565	22,078
Director Community and Operational Services Division	53,771	2,425	4,955	(1,618)	59,533	54,779
Quality and Improvement Division	15,394	149	973	0	16,516	16,560
Early Intervention & Prevention Division	23,287	2,980	(7)	(1,260)	25,000	23,575
Total	426,367	35,409	37,687	(23,709)	475,754	489,856

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

Services transferred to Early, Intervention and Prevention Division relates to Libraries, Adult Education Service, and the Neighbourhood Advice and Information Service.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division

2024/25
£'000

2024/25
£'000

AD Community Services & ED & I Division

Inflation & Pay Award

623

Variations

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets

(1,326)

Adjustment to National Insurance budgets

219

Subtotal Variations

(1,107)

Savings 2024/25

130. Review of Day Centre Model

(1,950)

131. Review of the Enablement Service

(2,351)

134 Review Learning & Development Team external training offer

(211)

137. Review of Social Work teams and improve efficiencies

(229)

232. Review of Bharosa Service

(170)

Subtotal Savings 2024/25

(4,911)

Adult Care Packages Division

Inflation & Pay Award

22,621

Variations

Packages of Care demand pressures

30,206

Reversal of one-off saving - Looking at ways to enhance Integrated Care System / Clinical Commissioning Group partnership to harness pooled resources more efficiently eg Better Care Fund Inflation

1,000

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Case load packages Review.

200

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Adults Change Programme.

3,800

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Special Impact team (SIT) complex case review accelerated and expanded to cover high cost packages.	<u>500</u>	
Subtotal Variations		35,706
<u>Savings 2024/25</u>		
125. Review Care Packages to ensure a strength-based approach	(5,687)	
131. Review of the Enablement Service	596	
138. Grant Maximisation - Adult Social Care	(2,100)	
139. Review of Shared Lived Care Packages	<u>(500)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(7,691)
<u>Adults Social Care Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		485
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	41	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	<u>(4)</u>	
Subtotal Variations		37
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
No 134 Review Learning & Development Team external training offer	(104)	
Subtotal		(104)
<u>Commissioning Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		6,126
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(437)	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	68	
Additional Adult Social Care (ASC) Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	(2,840)	
Additional ASC Discharge Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	(6,290)	
Increase expenditure budgets for additional ASC Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	2,840	
Increase expenditure budgets for Additional ASC Discharge Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	6,290	
Use of additional ASC Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement to fund social worker retention payments.	(500)	
Use of additional ASC Discharge Fund grant from Local Government Financial Settlement to fund social care worker retention payments.	<u>(2,000)</u>	
Subtotal Variations		(2,869)
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
138. Grant Maximisation - Adult Social Care	(1,061)	
140. Review of third sector inflationary uplifts	(4,464)	
141 Review and Recommission third sector contracts	(1,600)	
211. Grant Maximisation- Public Health	<u>(1,000)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(8,125)
<u>Director Community and Operational Services Division</u>		

Inflation & Pay Award		2,425
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(3,340)	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	457	
Unfunded Retention payment to Social Workers	4,988	
Write off current savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)	<u>2,850</u>	
Subtotal Variations		4,955
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
126. Review of Care Centre Model	(346)	
137. Review of Social Work teams and improve efficiencies	<u>(1,272)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,618)
<u>Quality and Improvement Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		149
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(32)	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	5	
Reversal of One off Reserve Releases from 2023/24 base	<u>1,000</u>	
Subtotal Variations		973
<u>Early Intervention & Prevention Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		2,980
<u>Variations</u>		
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	1	
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	<u>(8)</u>	
Subtotal variations		(7)
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
193. NAIS and Community libraries	<u>(1,260)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,260)

Children, Young People and Families Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Children and Families Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT)	245,756	15,318	29,115	(11,476)	278,713	284,759
Children and Families Non-BCT	156,153	9,519	2,790	(40,042)	128,420	121,031
Services transferred to Early, Intervention and Prevention Division	(22,515)	0	0	0	(22,515)	(22,515)
Total	379,394	24,837	31,905	(51,518)	384,618	383,275

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

Services transferred to Early, Intervention and Prevention Division relates to Libraries and Adult Education Service.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
<u>Children and Families Birmingham Children's Trust (BCT)</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		15,318
<u>Variations</u>		
Increase in Demographic Growth for placements and staffing, including Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)	12,829	
Additional pension liability	3,000	
Increments and Market Supplements, previously funded from reserves	4,800	
Impact of cessation of the Household support fund	1,470	
Increase in IT license costs	190	
Additional impact of 2023/24 pay award	826	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme	<u>6,000</u>	
Subtotal Variations		29,115
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
96. Funding to Vulnerable Young People at Risk of Exploitation (Public Health funding switch)	(1,476)	
98. Realigning Dedicated Schools Grant	(1,000)	
185. Reduction of contract sum for Birmingham Children's Trust	<u>(9,000)</u>	
Subtotal Savings 2024/25		(11,476)
<u>Children and Families Non-BCT</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		9,519
<u>Variations</u>		
Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets	(2,633)	
Transformation – removal of one-off transformation budgets	(750)	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	469	
Correction of grant inflation	950	

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Children & Families reduction in Early Retirements pension strain costs	210	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)	1,921	
Contribution to Education PFI reserve	437	
23/24 base budgets adjustment - Pupil Safeguarding (including Exclusions, Pupil Tracking & Attendance)	(158)	
23/24 base budgets adjustment - Workforce Development	(62)	
23/24 base budgets adjustment - Performance, Business & Commissioning Intelligence	(29)	
23/24 base budgets adjustment - Strategic Governance & Planning	(113)	
23/24 base budgets adjustment – Commissioning	(161)	
Existing Early Help Programme – funding of inflation and pay award	948	
Children & Young People Travel Service – demographic growth	2,100	
Special Educational Needs Service / Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Service staffing	1,110	
Removal of temporary funding to cover winding down as Youth Promise Plus grant ceased	<u>(1,449)</u>	
Subtotal Variations		2,790
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
89. Services for young people (including Careers, NEET and targeted focus in youth services on preventing knife crime)	(1,263)	
90. Commissioning of Early Help Contracts for Children, Young People and Families	(8,378)	
93. Children's Travel Transport Contracts Re-procurement	(13,700)	
98. Realigning Dedicated Schools Grant	(627)	
146. Children's Travel Agency Passenger Assistants Reprocurement	(148)	
147. Termination of contract for existing CYPTS database	(253)	
148. Establishment of Permanent Children's Travel Service Structure	(1,066)	
149. Optimisation of Bus Passes	(171)	
150. Review of non-statutory transport packages (Post 16)	(7,066)	
151. Passenger Assistance service re-design	(1,050)	
152. Reviewing transport packages for compulsory school age pupils	(1,963)	
179. Increase to Fees and Charges	(165)	
182. Release Children & Families Transformation Reserve	(992)	
183. Release of centrally held budgets	(726)	
186. Headcount reductions in Children and Families	<u>(2,474)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(40,042)

City Housing Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Housing Services & Support Division	15,706	4,655	19,477	(5,458)	34,380	32,402
Shelforce Division	(372)	630	0	(778)	(520)	(562)
Total	15,334	5,285	19,477	(6,236)	33,860	31,840

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
<u>Housing Services & Support Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		4,655
<u>Variations</u>		
Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets	(860)	
Temporary Accommodation Strategy allocated growth	18,200	
Bed & Breakfast pressure due to Home Office asylum fast track	1,400	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	135	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)	502	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Reducing/ Eradicating Bed & Breakfast Accommodation	<u>100</u>	
Subtotal Variations		19,477
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
84. TA Investment Strategy delays to landlord incentives	(250)	
78. Property Acquisition- HRA	(1,400)	
82. TA investment strategy delays to capacity increases	(350)	
85. Homeless Centre financing	(288)	
86. Income collection and provision improvements	(300)	
87. Public Health grant funding	(200)	
79. Service charge increases to full cost recovery	(600)	
81. Establishment Reduction	(1,650)	
176. B&B Unit cost negotiation	(420)	
Subtotal Savings 2024/25		(5,458)
<u>Shelforce Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		630
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
83. Shelforce Surplus	(778)	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(778)

City Operations Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
City Ops Division	13,544	180	4,133	(925)	16,932	16,883
Community Safety Division	2,831	250	455	(493)	3,043	3,106
Highways & Infrastructure Division	55,121	11,157	2,020	(14,825)	53,473	48,017
Neighbourhoods Division	23,734	4,857	1,162	(5,002)	24,751	20,719
Regulation and Enforcement Services Division	7,110	2,017	2,378	(1,910)	9,595	9,549
Street Scene Division	96,717	5,367	16,641	(16,113)	102,612	99,744
Services transferred to Early, Intervention and Prevention Division	(775)	0	0	0	(775)	(775)
Total	198,282	23,828	26,789	(39,268)	209,631	197,243

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

Services transferred to Early, Intervention and Prevention Division relates to the Neighbourhood Advice and Information Service.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division

2024/25
£'000

2024/25
£'000

City Ops Division

Inflation & Pay Award

180

Variations

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets

(13)

Adjustment to National Insurance budgets

839

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)

3,307

Subtotal Variations

4,133

2024/25 Savings

21. Property licensing - administrative overhead and absorption rate - Recharge Income

(825)

22. Property licensing - optimising council delivery of support, advice and administration activity of property licensing schemes - Recharge Income

(100)

Subtotal Savings 2024/25

(925)

Community Safety Division

Inflation & Pay Award

250

Variations

Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above

(151)

Costs of relocating the CCTV and traffic Control Centre to Priestley Wharf

486

Costs of upgrades and repair to CCTV cameras, progressively upgrading cameras which are up to 30 years old and suffer failures or require repairs

55

Hostile Vehicle Mitigation Revenue Pressure associated with capital bid

65

Subtotal Variations		455
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
49. Amend the Community Safety team	(185)	
75. Restructure Resilience team and Reduce repairs and maintenance budget.	(183)	
154. Resilience - stop volunteering payments and payments to the regional Local Resilience Forum	(25)	
155. Allocation of Public Health funding to support Community Safety - 2 year allocation	<u>(100)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(493)
<u>Highways & Infrastructure Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		11,157
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(529)	
Impact of reduced PFI capital expenditure	18	
Removal of duplication of fees and charges budget.	139	
Parking income pressure following reduced demand	<u>2,392</u>	
Subtotal Variations		2,020
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
13. Street lighting reduce 2m kw hours - dimming and trimming	(900)	
14. School crossing patrols (Non-Statutory Service) - CAZ funding for 3 years	(750)	
15. Local engineering (Non-Statutory Service) - amend delivery model	(316)	
16. Dropped kerbs – redesign to maximise efficiency and group like activity	(100)	
17. Highways specified licenses - 100% self-funding – redesign to maximise efficiency and group like activity	(209)	
18. Reduce spend on Highways maintenance	(12,000)	
19. Reduction in PFI management budget	(500)	
170. Reduce Flood Risk Maintenance Budget	<u>(50)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(14,825)
<u>Neighbourhoods Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		4,857
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(684)	
Neighbourhood Action Coordinators	750	
Sports & Leisure Service - Fall out of temporary corporate support	(24)	
Old Rep Theatre Lease Exit Dilapidations Costs	700	
Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery Income Compensation due to temporary closure for refurbishment.	<u>420</u>	
Subtotal Variations		1,162
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
52. Increase Leisure fees by 5%	(50)	
53. Increase income and reduce expenditure in internal leisure – breakeven budget	(83)	

57. Increase income from commercial events	(75)	
57. Increase income from commercial events (Centenary Square)	(20)	
60. Review Film Birmingham	(89)	
61. Cultural Organisation Grant reductions	(630)	
62. Cease funding for cultural projects	(452)	
63. Restructure culture delivery team	(25)	
64. Neighbourhood Action Coordinators – cease the 22 ward pilot and do not roll out city wide	(1,955)	
67. Reduce Ward Forum meetings to 3 per year and integrate ward planning	(150)	
69. Neighbourhood Development Support Unit (NDSU) Management Restructure	(50)	
70. Changes to Business Improvement District Service	(167)	
73. Delete 4 vacant posts - neighbourhoods division	(170)	
74. Release service prudential borrowing capacity identified for Alexander Stadium	(141)	
76. Align Events & City Centre Teams – Refocus on contracted and commercial events	(400)	
158. Reduce tourism budget	(25)	
163. Increase Public Health Funding of Wellbeing Leisure Centres	(500)	
169. Cease Sports Development Function	<u>(20)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(5,002)
<u>Regulation & Enforcement Services Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		2,017
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(1,287)	
Rag Markets - loss of income	(87)	
St Martins Markets - loss of income	(65)	
Increase in Environmental Health staffing for Sport Ground Safety	65	
Costs associated with a major ongoing inquest.	1,500	
Environmental Health additional staffing request for food inspections and animal welfare due to change in law.	1,160	
Trading Standards additional staffing request due to change in law	500	
Environmental Health Animal Welfare change to contract for housing stray dogs	477	
Bereavement income - fees increase in costs	80	
Review income from registration of marriages costs	<u>35</u>	
Subtotal Variations		2,378
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
21. Property licensing - administrative overhead and absorption rate - Recharge Inc	(75)	
24. Pest control - new charge for domestic rat treatments	(195)	
47. Bereavement income - fees increase	(880)	
48. Review income from registration of marriages	(70)	

156. Public Health funding for Environmental Health and Trading Standards - 3 years only	(690)	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,910)
<u>Street Scene Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		5,367
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(2,935)	
Waste Service - First 5 year Renewal Investment to update infrastructure (increase in contract payment to third party provider)	1,600	
Waste Service - Increased costs of Dry Mixed Recycling	1,000	
Waste Service - Loss of Triads electricity income	700	
Waste Service - other Investment to update third party provider's infrastructure (increase in contract payment)	1,200	
Garage income pressure	919	
Grounds Maintenance shortfall in contract inflation	65	
Additional costs of hire and repair within the Streetscene vehicle fleet.	5,000	
Realignment of the trade waste income target in line with current demand levels for the service.	1,900	
Streetscene unachieved service redesign savings	1,600	
Waste Management Mobilisation costs required to implement and deliver fortnightly residual collection	370	
Streetscene agency & trucks additional pressure	<u>5,222</u>	
Subtotal Variations		16,641
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
25. Additional Bulky waste income and fee increase	(440)	
26. Additional Garden waste income and fee increase	(1,200)	
27. Cease non statutory Waste Prevention activities	(180)	
32. Stop all chemical weed spraying	(200)	
34. Reduce Grounds Maintenance capability	(1,000)	
35. Remove Ranger Patrol and delete vacant posts within the Ranger Service	(807)	
38. End contract with Keep Britain Tidy	(100)	
42. Reduce Graffiti Crews	(200)	
44. Reduction in Street Cleansing posts	(700)	
45. Reduction in managerial posts	(470)	
46. Neighbourhood Waste Enforcement Officers - self financing	(291)	
164. Review non-statutory Love your Street activities	(500)	
225. Additional Income - Birmingham Wildlife and Conservation Centre	(70)	
244. Reduce Mechanical Sweepers	(350)	
245. Reduce agency staff in Waste Collection	(2,100)	
246. Reduce agency resource in Street Cleansing	(600)	
247. Reduce short term vehicle hires	(1,472)	
248. Remove early starts in waste collection	(700)	
233. Redesign Garden Waste collection rounds	(192)	

234. Procurement of Street Scene agency contract	(142)	
235. Commercial Waste income growth	(150)	
237. Reduce cost of Queslett closed Landfill site	(260)	
238. Fuel contract procurement	(190)	
239. Strategic review of fleet	(520)	
240. Redesign Recycling waste collection rounds	(850)	
241. Reduce the Mobile Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) provision	(723)	
242. Remove 'additional' Deep Cleansing Crews	(1,000)	
243. Review of agency staff working arrangements	(600)	
236. Review Grounds Maintenance	(106)	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(16,113)

Council Management Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Council Management Leadership	5,358	114	2,089	0	7,561	7,700
Digital & Customer Services Directorate	29,167	4,044	7,882	(6,845)	34,248	31,756
Finance and Governance Directorate	(7,803)	1,341	39,028	(4,098)	28,468	22,153
HR and Organisation Development Directorate	9,580	363	12,981	(929)	21,995	17,431
Total	36,302	5,862	61,980	(11,872)	92,272	79,041

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

To note that, the Council Management Leadership base budget includes the 2023/24 Pay Award allocation for the Council Management Directorate as a whole.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
<u>Council Management Leadership</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		114
<u>Variations</u>		
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	1,081	
Pay award inflation	159	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Review all Council-leased properties and reduce cost of lease payments for assets	460	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Customer Services Bereavement Improvements in service design to deliver efficiencies	<u>390</u>	
Subtotal Variations		2,089
<u>Digital & Customer Services Directorate</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		4,044
<u>Variations</u>		
Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets	(3,377)	
ICT prudential borrowing shortfalls	(414)	
Benefits Service Budget realignment due to Universal Credit roll out	400	
Postage costs budget increase due to Royal Mail price increase.	223	
Digital Mail Pressure - Request for additional to deal with storing documents electronically.	87	
Decrease in Digital & Technology Service project income	1,900	
Print / stationery pressure as a result of all print being completed at Digital Mail Centre rather than via MFDs.	110	
Costs involved in delivering the Single Person Discount savings	60	
Additional complaint handling staff unless complaint volumes reduce based on 29 FTE additional staff required to process at least 90% of complaints within the 10 and 15 day Service level agreement expected	1,100	

Robotic Process Automation subscription licences	149	
Costs for 5G and small mobile cells	10	
Staff costs for additional revenue recovery	1,100	
Use of directorate reserve to fund staff costs for additional revenue recovery in 2024/25	(1,100)	
Transfer of posts from the DCS division to the SEP Directorate	(105)	
Remove Local Council Tax Support Admin Grant from Revenues and Benefits budget as the grant has been rolled into the Council's core spending power/top up grant as part of the financial settlement.	2,085	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Customer Services	50	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - System Efficiencies	600	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)	1,598	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - IT&D Service Redesign	2,400	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Personal Assistant Allocation - review use of Personal Assistant Support.	200	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Business Support Efficiencies.	50	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Application platform modernisation.	11	
Debt collection costs for Insourcing Enforcement work linked to 2024/25 savings programme (Saving No. 4)	738	
5G Small Cells and Long Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN) costs	<u>7</u>	
Subtotal Variations		7,882
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
3. Review Benefits Advice Team	(122)	
4. Insource Enforcement work	(1,098)	
6. Cease Local Welfare Provision Scheme	(900)	
100. Ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services, by removing telephone lines and mobile phones	(370)	
101. Change service delivery to reduce costs, via third party contracts and greater utilisation of commercial relationship	(220)	
102. Reduction in agency costs	(80)	
103. Voice Automation within Contact Centre Services	(1,490)	
175. 5G Small Cells and Long Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN)	(115)	
177. DTS staffing and licence savings for smaller organisation	(250)	
178. Digital and Technology Services Redesign	<u>(2,200)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(6,845)
<u>Finance and Governance Directorate</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		1,341
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(1,697)	
Millenium Point – realignment of budget	(8)	
Write out of commercialisation savings	116	
Member allowances budget correction	148	
Finance staffing due to Section 114 notice – improvement and financial recovery	436	

Increase in audit costs due to Redmond review	183	
Increase in external audit costs due to additional work required to audit Council-specific issues, such as external auditor statutory recommendations.	1,000	
Procurement additional operating costs	587	
Removal of City Catering income surplus budget relating to Pause Cafes in Lancaster Circus and Woodcock Street as these cafes are no longer open given the change in working patterns post lockdown.	77	
Additional costs of Business Consultancy and records storage	79	
Reduction in budgeted recharge to the Housing Revenue Account for Finance Support	486	
Additional Financial Reporting costs	753	
Transaction Services - Loss of Income.	83	
Oracle programme costs	25,000	
Oracle support costs: Transaction Services staffing for manual work arounds and backfill to support release of SMEs	5,334	
Legal and Governance insourcing of work	51	
External Financial Recovery and Support Costs	1,623	
Loss of Payroll Income due to the change in service offer following Oracle implementation.	300	
Movement of Programme Management Office budget from Council Management to SEP directorate	267	
Write off current savings programme - Legal and Governance maximisation of income	900	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Digital advertising on key assets	300	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management).	2,084	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Development & Commercial Digital advertising income and offer up of growth.	60	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Procurement 2020/21 Expenditure Budget covered by funding.	106	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Audit increase trading opportunities with Police, Housing Associations and Acivico.	60	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - refinancing legacy systems.	<u>700</u>	
Subtotal Variations		39,028
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
1. Traded Services surrender of pay and price increases subsidy (Group & Capital Finance)	(1,500)	
2. Reduction in traded services performance subsidy (Group & Capital Finance)	(799)	
12. Corporate Procurement Service	(240)	
118. In-sourcing	(75)	
119. Counsel Spend Reduction	(118)	
120. Review current contracts to maximise efficiency - subscriptions / case management system.	(6)	
121. Review of election and committee structure	(98)	
123. Transport for Members (Taxi / Rail)	(10)	
144. Restructure and redesign	(835)	

145. Governance efficiencies – fewer meetings/clerking	(57)	
209. Rationalisation of vacant posts and service rationalisation	<u>(360)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(4,098)
<u>HR and Organisation Development Directorate</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		363
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(543)	
HR New Target Operating Model reduction in previous pressures funding (within base budget)	(546)	
Job evaluation and Pay Equity and Pay Compliance Team.	13,333	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Review HR Target Operating Model reduce posts that are vacant.	170	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme – HR reduced growth request	113	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme – 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management).	<u>454</u>	
Subtotal Variations		12,981
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
112. Recruitment Portal review	(30)	
113. Annual Staff Survey review	(50)	
210. Workforce savings	<u>(849)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(929)

Place, Prosperity & Sustainability Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Investment & Valuation / Corporate Landlord Division	(11,963)	2,758	12,207	(1,500)	1,502	5,605
Development Division	47	460	856	(1,500)	(137)	(436)
Housing Development Division	500	95	11	0	606	725
Places, Prosperity & Sustainability Division	10,770	165	1,082	(5,065)	6,952	5,911
Planning Division	3,740	501	702	(300)	4,643	4,744
Route to Zero Carbon	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transportation & Connectivity Division	50,403	1,278	(493)	0	51,188	51,642
Transfer of WMCA Transport Levy to Corporately Managed Budgets	(46,804)	0	0	0	(46,804)	(46,804)
Total	6,693	5,257	14,365	(8,365)	17,950	21,387

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

The Route to Zero Carbon Division has a net zero expenditure budget as the Route to Zero Carbon expenditure is funded from the Clean Air Zone funds.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
<u>Investment & Valuation / Corporate Landlord Division</u>		
<u>Inflation & Pay Award</u>		2,758
<u>Variations</u>		
Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets	(437)	
Removal of temporary budget for Health & Safety Compliance in the corporate estate following completion of the four year review programme	(1,250)	
Reduced income from commercial portfolio due to sale of assets to generate capital receipts to assist in the financial recovery plan	4,000	
Provision for asset valuations to enable statutory accounts production	250	
Reduced interest receivable following loan repayments by creditor	27	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Central Administrative Building (CAB) Premises	3,745	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Council House Commercialisation Income generation saving	50	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Commercial Property Blended Approach Investment and Lease Events saving	3,100	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Commercial Property Active Investment through investment in Public Works Loan Board compliant commercial property to generate additional income	2,250	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Lease events savings (£5-10k leases)	150	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Public Hub savings	<u>322</u>	
Subtotal Variations		12,207
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		

107. Reduction in CAB Premises	(1,000)	
109. Income generation	<u>(500)</u>	
Subtotal Savings 2024/25		(1,500)
<u>Development Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		460
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(344)	
Reduction in planning fee income budget to reflect fall in the number of applications	<u>1,200</u>	
Subtotal Variations		856
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
108. European Affairs and Business Enterprise Teams to be self-financing and funded from external grant	(500)	
109. Income generation (combination of lease and rent reviews for commercial portfolio and increase in planning fee income)	<u>(1,000)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,500)
<u>Housing Development Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		95
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(201)	
Inreach Housing Programme adjustment	<u>212</u>	
Subtotal Variations		11
<u>Places, Prosperity & Sustainability Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		165
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(37)	
Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)	666	
Adjustment to National Insurance budgets	279	
Temporary Funding required for update of the Local Plan (Planning Requirement).	<u>174</u>	
Subtotal Variations		1,082
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
106. Service re-design and restructure	(4,365)	
110. Reduction in supplies	<u>(700)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(5,065)
<u>Planning Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		501
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	(213)	
Adjustment to Workplace Parking Levy budget funding from reserve	<u>915</u>	
Subtotal Variations		702
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		

108. European Affairs and Business Enterprise Teams to be self-financing and funded from external grant	<u>(300)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(300)
<u>Transportation & Connectivity Division</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		1,278
<u>Variations</u>		
Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above	<u>(493)</u>	
Subtotal Variations		(493)

Strategy, Equalities & Partnerships Directorate – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24	Inflation &	Variations	Savings	2024/25 Net	2025/26 Net
	Original Net Base Budget £'000	Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	+/- £'000	2024/25 £'000	Base Budget £'000	Base Budget £'000
Corporate Communications Division	1,815	58	(89)	(468)	1,316	1,351
Public Health Division Division	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strategy, Equalities & Partnerships Division	6,380	179	2,139	(1,979)	6,718	6,693
Total	8,195	237	2,050	(2,447)	8,034	8,044

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

The Public Health Division has a net zero expenditure budget as Public Health expenditure is funded by the Public Health grant. In 2024/25 Birmingham City Council will receive a Public Health grant of £101.3m.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division

	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
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Corporate Communications Division

Inflation & Pay Award		58
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Variations

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - reduction in superannuation budget (due to reduced pension contributions) that should have been factored into 23/24 base budgets but was held centrally in contingency budgets

(89)

Subtotal Variations		(89)
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2024/25 Savings

142. Review of spans and layers and reorganisation of services within the directorate

(366)

143. Return non-pay inflation and other budget efficiencies

(102)

Subtotal Savings 2024/25		(468)
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Strategy, Equalities & Partnerships Division

Inflation & Pay Award		179
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Variations

Superannuation budget adjustment - as described above

(343)

Cost of Commissioners

1,535

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - Movement Council Management to SEP of Programme Management Office

(267)

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - Transfer of posts between Digital and Customer Services Division in Council Management to SEP

105

Adjustment to National Insurance budgets

31

Realignment of pay budgets

22

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Operational hub programme

(54)

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Operational Hub Programme.

215

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - 3% Turnover factor (Vacancy management)

245

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Efficiencies amongst non-staffing budgets.

50

Write off 2023/24 savings programme - Customer Services	<u>600</u>	
Subtotal Variations		2,139
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
142. Review of spans and layers and reorganisation of services within the directorate	(1,414)	
143. Return non-pay inflation and other budget efficiencies	<u>(566)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,979)

Corporately Managed Budgets – 2024/25 and 2025/26 Base Budgets

Division	2023/24 Original Net Base Budget £'000	Inflation & Pay Award 2024/25 £'000	Variations +/- £'000	Savings 2024/25 £'000	2024/25 Net Base Budget £'000	2025/26 Net Base Budget £'000
Treasury Management	23,853	0	9,906	(710)	33,049	33,308
Reserves Contributions/(Uses)	39,138	0	5,834	0	44,972	15,849
Corporate Grants	(338,064)	0	(32,575)	0	(370,639)	(366,199)
Contingency	(783)	(9,798)	72,260	(1,000)	60,679	79,886
WMCA Transport Levy transferred to Corporately Managed Budgets	46,804	1,404	0	0	48,208	49,172
Other Corporately Managed Budgets	114,214	686	(2,418)	0	112,482	108,291
Total	(114,838)	(7,708)	53,007	(1,710)	(71,249)	(79,693)

Inflation and pay award is calculated based on the assumptions included in Section 8 of this report. The table below highlights variations (demand pressures, write-off of existing savings programme) and savings (new savings programme as laid out in Appendix 1 of this report).

Other Corporately Managed Budgets includes annual revenue costs of previous equal pay liabilities, insurance budgets, Environment Agency levy, annual pension early retirement costs, bank charges, Business Rates growth contribution to the West Midlands Combined Authority.

The analysis of movements in base budgets for the 2024/25 financial year is shown below:

Analysis of Variations and Savings by Division	2024/25 £'000	2024/25 £'000
<u>Treasury Management</u>		
<u>Variations</u>		
Movement in Treasury Management Revenue Costs	<u>9,906</u>	
Subtotal Variations		9,906
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
88. Saving on the cost of Prudential Borrowing for Schools Basic Need Projects	<u>(710)</u>	
Subtotal Savings 2024/25		(710)
<u>Reserves Contributions/(Uses)</u>		
<u>Variations</u>		
Movement in corporate reserves (see Section 11 of this report)	<u>5,834</u>	
Subtotal Variations		5,834
<u>Corporate Grants</u>		
<u>Variations</u>		
Removal of one-off National Levy account surplus grant	3,004	
Change in Multiplier Business Rates Grant	(6,105)	
Change in Small Business Rate Relief Grant	(7,852)	
Additional Social Care grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	(32,155)	
Additional New Homes Bonus from Local Government Financial Settlement.	(1,656)	
Reduction in Service Grant from Local Government Financial Settlement.	<u>12,188</u>	
Subtotal Variations		(32,575)
<u>Contingency</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		(9,798)
<u>Variations</u>		
Write-off of 2023/24 savings programme within contingency budget	21,360	

Budget adjustment from 23/24 base budgets - Reversal of the superannuation budget reduction (due to reduced pensions contributions from 2023/24	21,641	
Other Contingency budget changes	<u>29,259</u>	
Subtotal Variations		72,260
<u>2024/25 Savings</u>		
188. Procurement Contract Savings	<u>(1,000)</u>	
Subtotal 2024/25 Savings		(1,000)
<u>Other Corporately Managed Budgets</u>		
Inflation & Pay Award		686
<u>Variations</u>		
Other changes in Corporately Managed Budgets	<u>(2,418)</u>	
Subtotal Variations		(2,418)

Appendix 2B – Council Tax Requirement

1. The Council Tax requirement of £480.4m (excluding parish precepts and Enterprise Zone growth) is divided by the Council Taxbase for the year of 267,940 to give a Band D Council Tax for Birmingham Council of £1,793.01 (excluding Police, parish, and Fire precepts). This figure is converted to the amount payable by properties in other valuation bands by applying a set multiplier, to arrive at the charge citizens will pay for Council services. These calculations are shown below:

Table 1 – summary of Council Tax Requirement.

	City Council Services £	Incl. Parish Precepts and Enterprise Zone Growth £
Total Net Expenditure Budget	1,150,870,262	1,170,026,053
Parish Precepts		1,930,010
Council Resource Requirement	1,150,870,262	1,171,956,063
Less:		
Exceptional Financial Support request	(225,879,359)	(225,879,359)
Business Rates	(435,576,738)	(452,952,991)
Business Rates (surplus)/deficit	60,106,000	58,326,461
Revenue Support Grant	0	0
Top Up Grant	(73,322,603)	(73,322,603)
Council Tax Collection Fund (surplus)/deficit	4,221,000	4,221,000
Council Tax Requirement	480,418,561	482,348,571
Divided by taxbase (no. of Band D homes)	267,940	267,940
Band D Council Tax	1,793.01	1,800.21

2. Beyond 2024/25, this budget assumes a 9.99% increase in Council Tax for 2025/26, as noted in Section 12. This is a planning assumption; the actual tax rises will need to be formally approved by Full Council each year.

Precepts

3. The Council also collects the precepts on behalf of other organisations and the impact of these on Council Tax is as outlined in the Table 2 below.

Table 2 – Summary of Precepts for the 2024/25 financial year

	Band D Council Tax 2023/24 £	Band D Council Tax 2024/25 £	Increase/ (Decrease) £	Date Precept Agreed
Birmingham City Council	1,630.16	1,793.01	162.85	
Fire and Rescue Authority	73.02	75.20	2.18	19 February 2024
West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner	202.55	215.55	13.00	9 February 2024
New Frankley in Birmingham	43.52	43.20	(0.32)	29 January 2024
Royal Sutton Coldfield	49.96	49.96	0.00	31 January 2024

4. Further details of the individual precepts that make up the total proposed Council tax charges for the 2024/25 financial year are provided in Table 3 below:

Table 3 – Impact of Precepts on the proposed Council Tax charge for the 2024/25 financial year

	City Council £'000	Fire and Rescue Authority £'000	West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner £'000	New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Precept £'000	Royal Sutton Coldfield Town Precept £'000
City Council Resources (Note 1)	924,991				
Less: Business Rates and Top-Up Grant	(508,899)				
Equals: amount required from Collection Fund	416,092				
Plus: estimated deficit in Collection Fund	64,327				
Equals: amount required from Council Tax payers	480,419	20,149	57,754	59	1,871
Divided by taxbase (Band D equivalent properties)	267,940	267,940	267,940	1,373	37,444
Equals: Band D Council Tax (Note 2)	1,793.01	75.20	215.55	43.20	49.96
Percentage Change in each element of Council Tax	9.99%	2.99%	6.42%	-0.74%	0.00%
Total Band D Council Tax			2,083.76	2,126.96	2,133.72

Note 1: This is the total forecast Council Tax and Business Rates income forecast for the 2024/25 financial year, see Table 1 in the main report.

Note 2: The Council Tax attributable to the Council includes a 2% precept to fund adult social care.

5. Based on the precepts calculated in Table 3 calculations, this leads to the following proposed Council Tax charges for the 2024/25 financial year, in Table 4 below.

Table 4 – Summary of proposed Council Tax charges for the 2024/25 financial year

					New Frankley in Birmingham		Royal Sutton Coldfield	
Band	City Council £	Fire and Rescue Authority £	West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner £	Total excl. Parish Precept £	Parish Precept £	Parish Total £	Town Precept £	Town Total £
A	1,195.34	50.13	143.70	1,389.17	28.80	1,417.97	33.31	1,422.48
B	1,394.56	58.49	167.65	1,620.70	33.60	1,654.30	38.86	1,659.56
C	1,593.79	66.84	191.60	1,852.23	38.40	1,890.63	44.41	1,896.64
D	1,793.01	75.20	215.55	2,083.76	43.20	2,126.96	49.96	2,133.72
E	2,191.46	91.91	263.45	2,546.82	52.80	2,599.62	61.06	2,607.88
F	2,589.90	108.62	311.35	3,009.87	62.40	3,072.27	72.17	3,082.04
G	2,988.35	125.33	359.25	3,472.93	72.00	3,544.93	83.27	3,556.20
H	3,586.02	150.40	431.10	4,167.52	86.40	4,253.92	99.92	4,267.44

Appendix 3 – Reserves & Balances Policy

Introduction

1. This policy is based on the latest CIPFA guidance ([Bulletin 13 – Local Authority Reserves and Balances](#), updated March 2023).

Reasons for holding reserves

2. Council maintains reserves for a variety of reasons. These include:
 - a) A working balance to help cushion the impact of uneven cash flows and avoid unnecessary temporary borrowing – this forms part of general reserves;
 - b) A contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies – this also forms part of general reserves;
 - c) A means of building up funds, often referred to as earmarked reserves to meet known or predicted requirements; earmarked reserves are accounted for separately but remain legally part of the General Fund.
3. As CIPFA Bulletin 13 notes, separate reporting of earmarked reserves has no financial reporting or legislative necessity though they are used extensively by local authorities and as such the Code requires separate disclosure of material earmarked reserves. As the statutory reserve is the General Fund Balance, it is possible within this balance for earmarked reserves to have debit balances. For example, where a reserve held for a specific service activity may have overspent and an authority requires that this balance is made good from next year's budget with such balances offsetting against general reserves in the calculation of the overall General Fund Balance.
4. The Council's policy on reserves is that reserves are not to be used to avoid the necessity to make ongoing savings or meet budget pressures other than in exceptional circumstances.
5. Reserves can only be used on a one-off basis, which means that their application does not offer a permanent solution.

Types of Reserve

6. For statutory purposes, there is a single revenue reserve, the General Fund Balance. When reviewing their medium-term financial plans and preparing their annual budgets local authorities should consider the establishment of sub reserves

(known as earmarked reserves) within the General Fund Balance and maintenance of general reserves.

7. The Section 151 Officer proposes to hold the General Fund Balance at 5% of net expenditure for each financial year.
8. The Council's reserves can be split into the following categories:
 - a) General Reserves and Balances
 - b) Earmarked Reserves
 - c) Revenue Grant Related Reserves
 - d) Ringfenced Reserves
 - e) Capital Reserves
9. Within Earmarked Reserves, the Strategic Reserve is to be held as a contingency to cushion the impact of unexpected events or emergencies (as per paragraph 2 above). To access the Strategic Reserve, any request will have to be formally approved by the Section 151 Office and approved at Cabinet. It should be noted that any reserve spending for future years, even if it has received prior approval (through 151 board or previously) will need to come back the Section 151 Officer for approval within the 2024/25 financial year.

Legislative Framework

10. The requirement for financial reserves is acknowledged in statute. Sections 31A, 32, 42A and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require billing and precepting authorities in England and Wales to have regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the budget requirement.
11. The council is required to set a balanced budget each year under Section 31A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which includes having regard to the level of reserves needed for meeting estimated future expenditure when calculating the council tax requirement
12. Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires each local authority to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs and that the chief finance officer (also referred to as the section 151 officer) has responsibility for the administration of those affairs.

13. Under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, the S151 officer has a duty to report on the robustness of estimates and adequacy of reserves when the authority is considering its council tax requirement
14. Section 114 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 requires the S151 officer to report to all the authority's councillors if there is or is likely to be unlawful expenditure or an unbalanced budget. This would include situations where reserves have become seriously depleted and it is forecast that the authority will not have the resources to meet its expenditure in a particular financial year.
15. Section 26 of the Local Government Act 2003 gives the Secretary of State a general power to set a minimum level of reserves for local authorities. However, the government has undertaken to apply this only to individual authorities in the circumstances where an authority does not act prudently, disregards the advice of its chief finance officer and is heading for serious financial difficulty.

Appendix 4 – Grants appendix (summary of government income from grants)

Grant	2023/24 Budget £m	2024/25 Budget £m	Variation £m	2025/26 Budget £m
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund	21.631	24.471	2.840	24.471
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	9.522	15.812	6.290	15.810
Pure - ESF	1.690	0.000	(1.690)	0.000
Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Grant	0.195	0.018	(0.178)	0.000
Housing First Grant	0.775	0.000	(0.775)	0.000
Asylum Migration and Integration Fund	0.168	0.000	(0.168)	0.000
Local Reform and Community Voices Grant	0.803	0.803	0.000	0.803
UKRS Resettlement	0.270	0.333	0.063	0.191
Afghan Interpreters	1.338	2.832	1.494	1.676
Community Discharge Grant	0.517	0.000	(0.517)	0.000
Social Care in Prisons	0.168	0.168	0.000	0.168
War Pensions	0.094	0.094	0.000	0.094
MILE Project	0.010	0.000	(0.010)	0.000
Homes For Ukraine	0.000	0.708	0.708	0.000
DA	0.000	3.337	3.337	0.000
UK Shared Prosperity Fund	0.000	2.500	2.500	0.000
GBSLEP Skills fund ESF	1.039	0.000	(1.039)	0.000
Food Trials Horizon	0.199	0.128	(0.071)	0.128
Highways Management and Maintenance PFI Grant	50.311	0.000	(50.311)	0.000
Home Office - Prevent Projects Grant Stream	0.712	0.651	(0.061)	0.651
Illegal Money Lending	5.039	5.039	0.000	5.039
Scambusters (RIT)	0.552	0.552	0.000	0.552
Sutton Park Stewardship	0.098	0.098	0.000	0.098
Community Safety Fund	0.660	0.660	0.000	0.660
Nature Conservation	0.025	0.025	0.000	0.025
Lickey CP Ranger Hub	0.009	0.009	0.000	0.009
Housing Benefit Admin Grant	5.001	5.230	0.229	5.230
DWP - New Burdens Housing Benefit Admin Grant	0.572	0.503	(0.069)	0.503
Home Office Police & Crime Panel Grant 18-19	0.067	0.067	0.000	0.067
DCLG Transparency Grant	0.000	0.013	0.013	0.013
UC Implementation Support - Support for Complex Housing Cases	0.110	0.110	0.000	0.110
Maintain & or Increase Resources to Combat Income Related Fraud & Error	0.000	0.094	0.094	0.094
Verify Earnings & Pension Alerts Service 2018	0.461	0.461	0.000	0.461
MHCLG Local Council Tax Support Admin Grant	2.085	0.000	(2.085)	0.000
Public Health Grant	99.100	101.256	2.156	101.256
DCLG - Preventing Homelessness Grant	4.675	4.675	0.000	4.675
New Burdens - Homelessness Grant	2.706	2.801	0.095	2.801
Rough Sleeping Initiative	1.740	2.066	0.325	2.066
Schools PFI Grant	18.232	18.232	0.000	18.232
Youth Promise	2.054	0.000	(2.054)	0.000
Asylum Seekers	6.783	2.364	(4.419)	2.364
MOJ Turnaround Programme	0.661	0.000	(0.661)	0.000
Supported Accommodation Reforms	0.620	0.000	(0.620)	0.000

Grant	2023/24 Budget £m	2024/25 Budget £m	Variation £m	2025/26 Budget £m
GBSLEP Flexible Impact Fund	0.377	0.000	(0.377)	0.000
Strengthening Multi-Agency Leadership Grant	0.047	0.000	(0.047)	0.000
NDTI Supporting Internships	0.060	0.060	0.000	0.000
Extension of the Role of Virtual School Heads to certain Previously Looked After Children	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.077
UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)	0.000	4.603	4.603	0.000
Commonwealth Games Legacy Fund (CWGLF)	0.255	0.547	0.292	0.000
Wraparound Childcare Programme Costs	0.063	5.051	4.988	2.325
Family Finding, Befriending and Mentoring Programme Funding	0.118	0.491	0.373	0.000
Rough Sleepers	0.094	0.094	0.000	0.094
Virtual School Head	0.152	0.152	0.000	0.000
Troubled Families	5.009	5.009	0.000	0.000
Youth Justice Good Practice Grant	2.439	2.439	0.000	2.439
New Remands Framework	1.525	1.525	0.000	1.525
Extended Rights to Free Travel	0.272	0.272	0.000	0.000
KS2 Moderation & Phonics Grant	0.027	0.027	0.000	0.000
Family Hubs & Start for Life	3.744	3.058	(0.686)	0.000
Holiday Activity & Food Programme	8.169	7.947	(0.221)	0.000
Cadet Funding	3.909	3.909	0.000	3.909
Early Career Framework	0.121	0.121	0.000	0.121
Early career framework (ECF) mentor training (NQT back funding)	4.043	4.043	0.000	4.043
Home to School Transport	0.038	0.038	0.000	0.038
National Professional Qualification (NPQ) (summer24)	0.523	0.523	0.000	0.523
National Tutoring Programme	0.229	0.229	0.000	0.229
Schools Supplementary Fund (MSAG)	43.739	43.739	0.000	43.739
Senior Mental Health Lead	4.586	4.586	0.000	4.586
Virtual School Head (children with social worker)	0.152	0.152	0.000	0.152
New Burdens	0.313	0.313	0.000	0.313
Staying Put Grant	0.734	0.734	0.000	0.734
Directorate Grants	321.506	285.848	(35.658)	253.093
Expenditure Reimbursement Grants				
Rent Allowance Grant	404.362	408.406	4.044	408.406
HRA Rent Rebates Grant	116.802	113.298	(3.504)	113.298
DWP - Discretionary Housing Grant	2.689	2.689	0.000	2.689
Higher Education Funding Council (HEFC)	0.501	0.422	(0.079)	0.391
Sub-total Expenditure Reimbursement Grants	524.355	524.815	0.460	524.784
Direct Schools Funding Grants				
Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)	720.617	796.635	76.018	828.500
Coronavirus (COVID-19) Recovery Premium	1.656	1.656	(0.000)	1.656
Pupil Premium Grant	43.739	38.500	(5.239)	38.500
Primary PE and Sport Grant	3.129	3.616	0.487	3.761
Teachers Pay Grant	3.909	3.900	(0.009)	3.900
Teachers Pensions Grant	0.861	1.104	0.243	1.104

Education Funding Agency - Grant for Post 16 Provision	8.700	9.500	0.800	9.880
Grant	2023/24 Budget £m	2024/25 Budget £m	Variation £m	2025/26 Budget £m
Universal Infant Free School Meals	6.601	7.000	0.399	7.000
Sub-total Direct Schools Funding Grants	789.212	861.910	72.699	894.300
Small Business Rate Relief Grant	91.801	99.653	7.852	102.941
Mag. Courts - LCD Grant Re. Debt Charges	0.059	0.059	0.000	0.059
Improved Better Care Fund	67.915	67.915	0.000	67.915
Top Up Grant	69.302	73.323	4.021	73.323
Social Care Support Grant	106.475	138.630	32.155	127.000
Service Grant	14.488	2.300	(12.188)	2.300
Business Rates Multiplier Cap Grant	59.744	65.849	6.105	69.750
New Homes Bonus	1.350	3.006	1.656	3.006
National Levy Surplus	3.004	0.000	(3.004)	0.000
Corporate Grants	414.138	450.735	36.597	446.294
Total Grants	2,049.211	2,123.309	74.098	2,118.472

Appendix 5 – Housing Revenue Account

Strategic Overview and HRA Business Plan

1. The HRA Business Plan sets out a strategic long-term investment plan that supports the management, maintenance, and investment in Birmingham City Council homes and other commercial assets where relevant. The Council have always operated a 30-year, long-term approach to investment and direct delivery of affordable homes through the HRA.
2. However, changes to the regulatory landscape, responding to challenges post Grenfell and the impact of these decisions on Decent Homes Standards, means we have needed to review our approach and invest differently
3. The plan sets out investment in the Council's existing stock portfolio, as well as investment in direct delivery of new homes; given the nature of the regulatory environment, we have reviewed our investment approach to strike the right balance, making sure residents live in high-quality homes, whilst continuing to contribute to the supply of affordable housing.
4. Most notably to this new plan is the step-change in planned investment in existing stock; increasing our total investment over the next 30 years from the £2.264bn that was agreed in the 23/24 financial plan, to £4.581bn proposed in the new plan.
5. The plan includes £4.326bn of investment needed to ensure all our homes meet statutory and compliance obligations; £0.554bn of investment to develop a direct delivery pipeline of affordable homes and estate regeneration; £0.255bn of investment towards decarbonisation; and c£0.100bn of revenue to deliver quality services to our residents.

HRA Budget 2024/25

6. The HRA Self Financing Business Plan 2024+ was approved by Cabinet in January 2024. A summary is included below.
7. The comparison of the HRA budget for 2023/24 and the proposed budget for 2024/25 is set out in Table 7.1 below

Table 7.1 HRA Budget 2023/24 and 2024/25

	2023/24	2024/25	Change	Change
	£m	£m	£m	%
Repairs	79.093	97.943	18.85	23.8%
Management	105.29	101.719	(3.571)	(3.4%)
Bad Debt Provision	5.558	5.647	0.089	1.6%
Debt Financing Costs	49.825	54.153	4.328	8.7%
Contributions for Capital Investment	63.828	67.281	3.453	5.4%
Contribution to Reserve	0	0.251	0.251	
Total Expenditure	303.594	326.994	23.4	7.7%
Rental Income (net of Voids)	(275.878)	(300.884)	(25.006)	9.1%

Other Income/Service Charges	(27.716)	(26.110)	1.606	(5.8%)
Total Income	(303.594)	(326.994)	(23.400)	7.7%

HRA Business Plan 2024+ – Short Term and Long-Term Financial

8. The revenue aspects of the HRA Business Plan 2024+ are summarised below:

Table 7.2 HRA Business Plan 2024+

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Year 1-10
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Repairs & maintenance	97.943	99.858	88.099	89.995	91.899	961.024
Management	101.719	101.814	103.545	105.217	106.265	1,085.434
Bad debts	5.647	5.297	4.044	4.298	4.565	51.176
Capital Financing Capital Programme Funding	54.153	61.993	69.174	75.843	83.018	826.478
Minimum reserve build	0.251	2.666	2.920	3.191	2.663	17.692
Total Revenue	326.994	337.292	347.381	358.199	368.994	3,761.646
Expenditure						
Rental Income	(300.884)	(309.011)	(318.624)	(328.996)	(339.380)	(3,466.538)
Service Charge	(20.950)	(23.093)	(23.490)	(23.896)	(24.247)	(243.573)
Other Income	(5.160)	(5.189)	(5.267)	(5.308)	(5.367)	(51.535)
Total Revenue Income	(326.994)	(337.292)	(347.381)	(358.199)	(368.994)	(3,761.646)

Capital Programme

9. The capital expenditure plans for the council housing stock are set out in below (including the major programmes and the financing of the expenditure).

Table 7.3 Capital Expenditure

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	Year 1-10
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Housing Improvement Programme	215.533	218,529	221,751	225,143	228,608	1,884.947
Clearance	6.267					6.267
Development/Acquisition	46.286	67,609	45,306	41,714	40,497	477.712
Total Investment	268.086	286,138	267,057	266,857	269,105	2,368.926
Major Repairs Reserve	(59.192)	(60.530)	(62.137)	(63.687)	(65.301)	(664.790)
RTB Receipts	(19.424)	(12.075)	(26.905)	(18.041)	(17.672)	(150.332)
1-4-1 Receipts	(15.399)	(16.915)	(10.844)	(4.901)	(6.097)	(100.577)
Other Receipts, reserves and grants	(13.653)	(6.366)	(2.800)	(2.027)	(1.670)	(31.266)
Revenue Contributions	(8.089)	(5.133)	(17.462)	(15.969)	(15.284)	(155.052)
HRA Borrowing	(152.329)	(185.119)	(146.910)	(162.232)	(163.082)	(1,266.909)
Total Financing	(268.086)	(286.138)	(267.057)	(266.857)	(269.105)	(2,368.926)

Appendix 6 – Schools & Dedicated Schools Grant

Dedicated Schools Grant Conditions

1. The Dedicated Schools Grant is a ringfenced specific grant and it must be used in support of the school's budget as defined in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2023. It can be used for no other purpose.
2. At the end of each financial year the Chief Finance Officer (CFO) of the local authority is required to append an additional note to the statement of accounts confirming the deployment of the DSG in support of the schools budget as required by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015.
3. The Secretary of State reserves the right to recover the grant where there is evidence that a local authority has used it for any purpose other than to support the school's budget or has failed to comply with any other condition of grant.
4. The allocation of DSG funding is governed and managed in conjunction with the Schools' Forum.
5. The basis of allocation to schools and other providers is underpinned by national funding regulations and is different for each of the blocks of the DSG.

Summary of Funding

6. The total DSG funding for Birmingham in 2024/25 of £1,574million comes through four blocks of funding.
7. The ESFA currently recoups an amount from the DSG allocation to directly passport to academies and free schools and the Council is then responsible for the remaining budget. At the time of writing this report, the schools recoupment amount has not been announced by DfE/ESFA, but for scale purposes £694.0m was recouped in 2023/24 and has been used as a draft figure.
8. ESFA also recoup £7.8million from BCC to fund National Non-Domestic Rates for Schools.
9. A summary of funding is set out in the tables below. The comparable year on year increase/(decrease) in DSG by individual blocks is shown in Table 8.1:

Table 8.1: Dedicated Schools Grant Funding (for all schools)

Block	Gross Allocation 24/25	Recoupment	Allocation after Recoupment 24/25	Increase from 2023/24
Schools Block	1,147,185,334	701,802,312	445,383,022	5.66%
High Needs Block	283,571,566	34,988,739	248,582,827	4.99%
Early Years Block	135,744,519	0	135,744,519	48.66%
Central Schools Services Block	8,297,720	0	8,297,720	0.64%

Total DSG	1,574,799,139	736,791,051	838,008,088
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*** Schools recoupment for 2024/25 will not be known until March 2024 so the latest 2023/24 recoupment figure has been shown for illustrative purposes*

10. In addition, for maintained schools in Birmingham (academy schools receive their funding direct from ESFA) there should be the following additional funding streams (figures based on 2023/24 allocations as DfE/ESFA have not finalised 2024/25 allocations at the time of writing).

Table 8.2: Other School Funding for Maintained Schools (based on 2023/24 allocations)

Grant	£m
Pupil Premium Grant	43.7
Sixth Form Funding	8.1
Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) Grant	7.5
PE & Sports Premium	3.2

Schools Block

11. Each year local authorities are required to detail their Schools Block Funding formulae in accordance with the arrangements set out by the Secretary of State for Education. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) has developed the Authority Proforma Tool (APT) to assist local authorities to model, and then confirm how they plan to do this for the funding year.
12. The total allocation as at 19th December 2023 for Birmingham's Schools Block is £1,147m.
13. Final allocations of mainstream schools and central schools services funding for 2024-25 has been calculated based on the latest pupil data at that point (October 2023).
14. The final version of the APT was released in December 2023 and was returned to the ESFA on 19 January 2024. On 18 January 2024, the Schools Forum agreed and approved the principles on which Birmingham's APT submission was to be based.

Central Schools Services Block

15. The Central School Services block (CSSB) was established by the DfE in 2018/19 with the aim of funding Local Authorities for statutory duties they hold for both maintained schools and academies. It brings together:
 - a. Funding for ongoing responsibilities, such as admissions
 - b. Funding previously allocated through the retained duties element of the education services grant (ESG)
 - c. Residual agreed funding for historic commitments

16. The CSSB covers funding allocated to LAs to carry out central functions on behalf of pupils in maintained schools and academies in England. CSSB funding is split into two elements: funding for ongoing responsibilities and funding for historic commitments, and LAs' total CSSB NFF funding is the sum of these two values.

17. The Total CSSB 2024/25 Allocation is confirmed as £8,297,720, which is an overall increase of £52.3k compared to 2023/24.

18. This overall change disguises two important factors, regarding DfE's overall calculation:

(i) for 2024/25 Birmingham Council has lost 20% of its funding for historical commitments

(ii) has gained 3% for its other responsibilities

	Historical Commitments	Ongoing Commitments	Total CSSB
23/24	922,420	7,322,927	8,245,347
24/25	737,936	7,559,784	8,297,720
Variance	-184,484	236,857	52,373
Percentage Change	-20%	3%	1%

Early Years Block

19. Within the framework for the Early Years block of the DSG there are several requirements for LA's which are intended to ensure that funding is fairly distributed to providers. These are:

- a. A minimum amount of funding that must be passed through to providers (95%)
- b. A universal base rate for all types of provider
- c. Supplementary funding for Maintained Nursery Schools (ringfenced to MNS only)
- d. A maximum cap of 10% on the amount of funding that can be used for the mandatory and discretionary supplements
- e. A Disability Access Fund linked to children that access Disability Living Allowance
- f. A requirement for a SEND inclusion fund (in Birmingham this is known as ISEY – Inclusion Support in Early Years)

20. The Early Years Block 2024/25 Allocation was confirmed as £135,744,519, an increase of over £35million compared to 2023/24. This was due to the reforms within the Early Years Sector being phased in nationally from April 2024.

21. At the Spring Budget in March 2023 the Government set out large scale childcare reforms to increase availability, reduce costs and increase the number of parents

using it by helping working families with their childcare costs. The new entitlements will be introduced in phases from April 2024 as follows:

- a. from April 2024, eligible working parents of 2-year-olds can access 15 hours per week;
- b. from September 2024, eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3-years-old can access 15 hours per week;
- c. from September 2025, eligible working parents of children aged 9 months up to 3-years-old can access 30 hours free childcare per week.

22. The current reserve figure for the Early Years Block is a balance of £6.5million. Out of this balance £1.5million is to be earmarked to cover any historical discrepancies that have arisen over the last two financial years and are currently being resolved with the sector.

High Needs Block and SEND

23. The confirmed 2024/25 High Needs Allocation is £283million before recoupment and £248million after recoupment. The recoupment represents the Special School Academies who receive their Place Funding directly from ESFA and not via the Local Authority.

24. Details of the proposed High Needs budget will be taken to Schools Forum in March 2024 and reported to Cabinet through the budget monitoring cycle throughout 2024/25.

25. Birmingham have received an increase of 4.99% on their High Needs Allocation compared to 2023/24.

26. In previous financial years a repayment plan has been set up to clear the deficit on the High Needs Block. In 2022/23 the final repayment was made and these repayments are no longer required and the reserve balance of the High Needs Block is now in Surplus.

Appendix 7 – Capital Strategy

Introduction

1. The purpose of the Capital Strategy is to set out how the Council aims to use its resources to support corporate priorities and objectives. It identifies the main influences for the capital programme, the key resources that are likely to be available to fund capital investment and the effect of that investment on the revenue budget and borrowing and treasury management activity.
2. The capital strategy has been prepared having regard to CIPFA's Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code.

Objectives

3. The main objectives for the Capital Strategy are to:
 - a) Support the Council's vision and priorities.
 - b) Support service delivery strategies;
 - c) Support asset management plans for Council assets;
 - d) Ensure that investments are affordable and sustainable;
 - e) Ensure use of resources and value for money is maximised; and
 - f) Support and encourage inward investment in Birmingham.
4. Since the issue of the s114 notice in September 2023 and in recognition of the financial situation of the Council the scope for council funded capital investment is extremely restricted. The overall objective of this Capital Strategy is for capital investment to support the Council's Financial Recovery Plan. This will be achieved by:
 - a. Ensuring capital investment is prudent, sustainable, and affordable in the context of the Council's overall finances;
 - b. Keeping borrowing and revenue costs of the capital programme to the absolute minimum, effectively for Statutory or Regulatory compliance or where it produces revenue savings to the Council;
 - c. Integrating capital budget decisions into the Council's annual, medium- and long-term planning process, so that capital investment decisions are prioritised alongside plans for revenue income and expenditure;

- d. Ensuring stewardship of assets including the Council's land and buildings and generating cash receipts from the Council's asset base thereby minimising impact on frontline service delivery;
 - e. Co-ordinating the management of capital through the Capital Board, which oversees a 'one Council' strategic approach to capital management, evaluation and prioritisation potential capital projects; and
 - f. Ensuring effective programme, project, and procurement management in delivering the capital programme alongside corporate monitoring control and scrutiny.
5. It is important to note that the Capital programme is a resource and expenditure planning tool and does not confer approval for individual budget items to proceed. Individual budgets will not proceed to spend until there has been an executive decision which would normally include 'Gateway' business case appraisals at Strategic Outline Case (capital budget proposal stage), Outline Business Case, and Full Business Case.

The Council's Priorities

6. The Council faces exceptional financial, governance, and cultural challenges that must be addressed to deliver the services that our citizens need, expect, and deserve. The Council's Corporate Plan which sets out the vision and strategic priorities of the Council is currently being reviewed and refreshed to reset its relationships with residents, businesses, and all communities in Birmingham, as well as resetting the council's finances.
7. An Improvement and Recovery Plan (IRP) will describe the actions necessary to bring about change and restore public trust across the authority's functions.
8. The IRP will be focussed on three key themes:
- a. Financial sustainability – This theme is focussed on financial recovery and achieving a stable and sustainable budget position and medium-term financial plan. It includes the workstreams set out in the Financial Recovery Plan and will address the exceptional financial challenges and risks facing the council.
 - b. A well-run council – This theme is focussed on the internal services and functions that enable and support the council to deliver services to citizens. Key programmes and projects include Oracle stabilisation, reviews of key

corporate functions, and activity to respond to the recommendations of the governance review.

- c. Delivering good services – This theme is focussed on improving key services delivered to citizens. It will include improvement of services, and a programme of service reviews to secure consistency and value for money in our service delivery, and achieve better outcomes for citizens.

- 9. The Council works with a wide range of partners from the public, private, voluntary and community sectors, all of which have an influence over its spending priorities. In relation to its capital investment plans, efforts will be made to work effectively with partners to maximise and bring in external investment and resources to deliver investments needed in light of the reduced capacity of the Council to directly fund capital investment in future.

Key drivers and influences on the Capital Programme

- 10. Key drivers and influences for the Council's capital programme include:
 - a. The Council's property, plant and equipment is valued at approximately £7 billion. Reforming this portfolio to be fit for the Council's future needs and service delivery models is a key focus and support delivery of the Council's recovery plan.
 - b. The Council's school's estate continues to evolve under the influence of academisation and other national policies, but it remains a sizeable asset portfolio, and the Council has a duty to ensure there are sufficient school places.
 - c. Economic regeneration and transport remain key priorities for the city's future prosperity including driving sustainable inclusive growth and tackling externalities as part of our net zero and air quality agendas. The HS2 rail terminal at Curzon Street station represents a major regeneration and connectivity opportunity, which forms part of the city's Enterprise Zone.
 - d. Aside from Enterprise Zone resources, delivery in respect of regeneration and transport including the tackling of externalities should maximise external grant funding available from Government, the West Midlands Combined Authority (current City Regional Sustainable Transport Settlement and Single Settlement commencing from 2027) and the use of ringfenced income such as

the Clean Air Zone net proceeds set in the context of eligible application in accordance with the Transport Act 2000 and associated statutory instruments.

- e. Meeting the housing needs of Birmingham remains a major priority, both within the Council's HRA, and through its support for other housing development both for sale and for private rented accommodation.
 - f. It is anticipated that Government will confirm Investment Zone (IZ) and Growth Zone (GZ) designations during 2024/25. The Investment Zone will provide WMCA with a total government grant package of £160m over ten years. £12m of this grant has been provisionally allocated to projects in Birmingham, and it is expected that further allocations will be made subject to agreement through an IZ Joint Committee. The IZ and GZ designations will also provide the Council with a 25-year business rate retention (BRR) facility over an area of 310 hectares with an estimated total uplift value of £1.1 billion above the 2023 baseline.
 - g. Value for money initiatives where capital investment can drive revenue savings either now or in the future. Such initiatives will require credible business cases before proceeding.
11. These key capital and infrastructure needs for the coming years cannot be delivered by the Council on its own. Partnership working is an essential part of addressing these needs and is reflected in many of the Council's capital plans.
12. A key element of financial recovery, outside of the Revenue savings referred to in Section 9 of this report, has been a review and assessment of the existing capital programme and assets within the Council. This has resulted in a significant reduction in the previous capital programme that is not funded by external resources (i.e., that is not cost neutral to Council resources). The asset review is intended to generate capital receipts for the Council in order to support the formal application for a Capitalisation Direction towards the Council's potential Equal Pay accounting liability; the costs involved in the redundancy scheme; and support to deliver a balanced budget for the 2024/25 financial years.
13. Following a recent review, the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts programme has been reduced significantly and the use of Prudential Borrowing has been restricted to the HRA, Enterprise Zone (cost neutral to the General Fund), revenue saving or capital receipt generating initiatives such as Temporary Accommodation and Perry

Barr Regeneration. A small amount of essential or contractually committed projects will continue in the short term but in future all essential projects will need to be funded from sources other than borrowing. By 2027/28 borrowing for projects other than the HRA and the Enterprise Zone is projected to be nil.

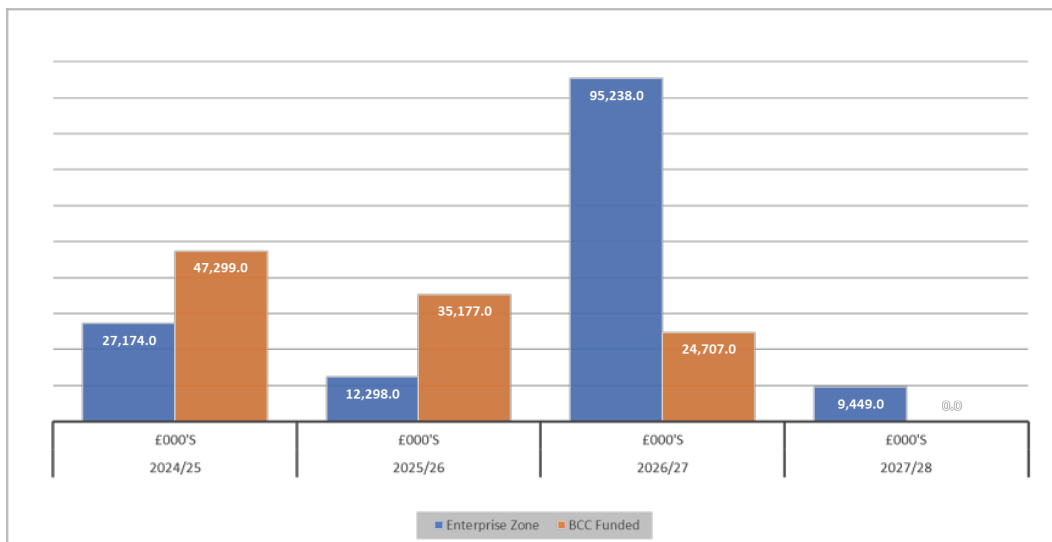
Capital Resources

14. The Council's capital programme is approved as part of the annual budget setting process, and is funded from a range of sources which principally include:
 - a. Grants and Contributions;
 - b. Capital receipts;
 - c. Revenue and reserves; and
 - d. Prudential borrowing.
15. Grants and Contributions – Grants from external sources are a valuable source of capital funding for the Council and have enabled the Council to realise a substantial number of capital developments that it would not otherwise have been able to progress. Some capital projects are financed wholly or partly through external grants and contributions that are specific to projects and cannot be used for other purposes. Significant developments across the city are often liable for contributions to the Council in the form of section 106 or a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) which are also included in this category.
16. Capital Receipts – Capital receipts come from the sale of the Council's assets, usually land and buildings. The Council's general policy is to treat all capital receipts as a corporate resource, enabling the funds from all asset disposals to be used to support the priorities identified by the Council through the capital programme. All previous capital receipt earmarking policies are to be discontinued unless covered by specific agreements with other organisations.
17. To support the Council's financial recovery plan, a programme of asset disposals has been developed to generate additional capital receipts to prioritise funding of any capitalisation directions granted by the Government under its Exceptional Financial Support programme.
18. Revenue and Reserves – The Council may choose to utilise revenue contributions to capital to finance its capital investment. This would be through contributions from

the Council’s revenue budget or from reserves. In light of the Council’s current financial position, funding from this source will be limited. The HRA Capital Investment Programme is entirely funded from the ring fenced HRA account. The investment programme is driven by a long term HRA Business Plan.

19. Prudential Borrowing – Local authorities may borrow to finance capital expenditure, and the affordability of debt is the key constraint. The Council has used the prudential borrowing freedoms actively and successfully to deliver key outcomes for the Council, including investment in regeneration (e.g., Grand Central and the EZ), housing, and wellbeing facilities.
20. Prudential borrowing continues to be an important way to fund the Council’s own priorities where external funding cannot be obtained. However, considering the Council’s financial situation it will keep borrowing to an absolute minimum and with a view of making this nil over the medium term (except for Enterprise Zone funding). This policy requires careful prioritisation of projects reliant on debt finance, which will be carried out as part of the annual financial planning process.
21. The graph below shows planned Prudential Borrowing for the General Fund split between Enterprise Zone and Birmingham City Council funded projects for the periods 2024/25 to 2027/28. It demonstrates how prudential borrowing falls from £47.3m in 2024/25 to nil in 2027/28 (non EZ related programmes).

Figure 1 – General Fund Prudential Borrowing



22. The cost of borrowing will be recharged to the service concerned, where the Council is under a statutory obligation to do so (e.g. the HRA); where the Council has agreed with its partners to do so (e.g. the Enterprise Zone); and where it is good

management for borrowing costs to be accounted for as part of an overall project (e.g. where financial or property investments are funded from borrowing). This recognises that borrowing is not a free resource but has a revenue cost.

Overview of the Capital Programme

23. Based on the above strategy to support the delivery of the Council’s priorities, the proposed Capital Programme totals **£534.1m** in 2024/25 and **£1,797.7m** on an indicative basis over the four-year period, shown as follows:

Table 1 – Summary Capital Programme by Directorate

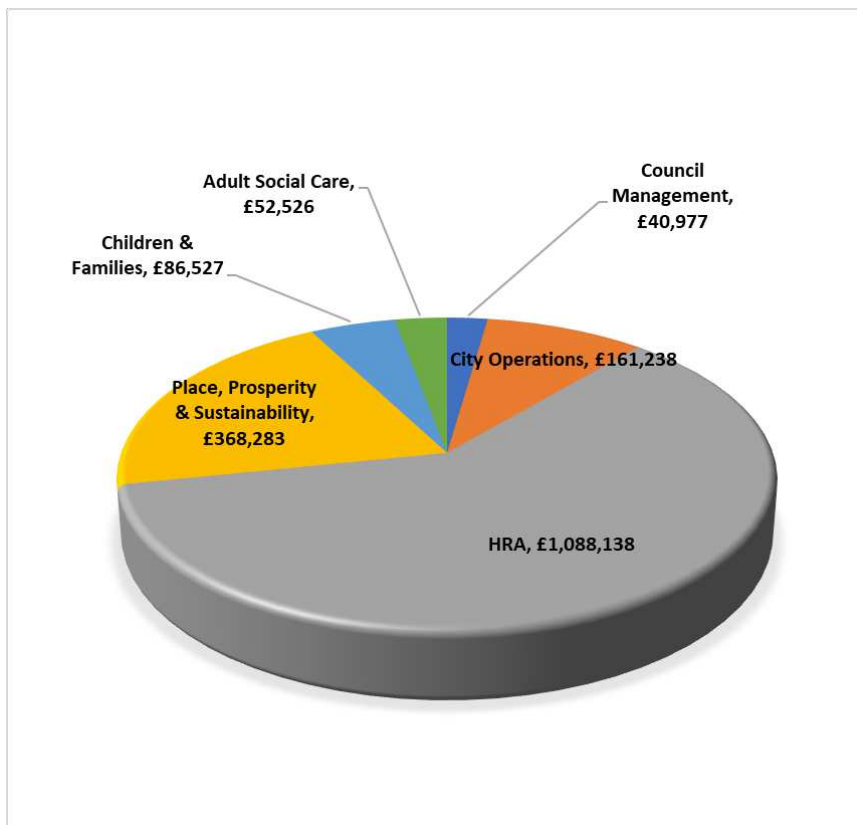
Directorate	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000	TOTAL £'000
Council Management	29,134	6,843	2,500	2,500	40,977
City Operations	78,728	45,877	32,185	4,448	161,238
City Housing	-	-	-	-	-
Place, Prosperity & Sustainability	102,613	75,801	168,983	20,886	368,283
Childrens and Families	41,980	44,547	0.0	0.0	86,527
Adult Social Care	13,597	13,043	12,943	12,943	52,526
General Fund Capital Programme	266,052	186,111	216,611	40,777	709,551
HRA Capital Programme	268,086	286,138	267,057	266,857	1,088,138
Total Capital Programme	534,138	472,249	483,668	307,634	1,797,689

24. The programme includes provision for:
- a. Investment in Council housing through the HRA of £1,088.1m;
 - b. £350.8m on roads and transport infrastructure;
 - c. £8.0m investment in Digital and Customer Services;
 - d. Continuing commitment to the funding of development in the Enterprise Zone totalling £137.2m over the next four years, including investment to enable Birmingham to get the most out of the HS2 Curzon railway station;
 - e. £70.2m for the Waste Management Service Strategy including replacement vehicles, depot refurbishment and weekly food collection infrastructure;
 - f. £52.5m in Adult Social Care including Independent Living; and

g. Major investment in Education and Skills of £86.5m

- 25. Table 7.1 below provides further details of the capital programme, including a summary of the projects included.
- 26. New projects have been identified through the Council's financial planning process and added to the capital programme. These total £41.8m including additional investment in Waste Management services, critical investment in Digital and Customer Services and remedial works to Bordesley Park. Further details are shown in Table 7.1 below.
- 27. Further pressures totalling £59.1m have also been identified for additional critical investment in Digital & Customer Services and car park charging in parks across Birmingham. These proposals are however subject to further review and will only be included in the capital programme once the relevant approvals are in place. Further details are provided in Table 7.2 below.
- 28. The updated Capital Programme for £1,797.7m for the next four years is therefore shown as follows in chart format:

Figure 2 – Capital Programme split (all figures in £'000s)



29. A General Fund capital policy contingency of £19.2m has been included in this budget to manage potential or unexpected needs over the medium term. The use of the contingency will be managed by the Capital Board and approved in accordance with the Council's constitution.
30. Much of the capital programme is delivered through partnership working, especially with the WMCA and the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP). The Council acts as Accountable Body for the GBSLEP, and carries out significant prudential borrowing in support of the Enterprise Zone (EZ), with financing costs being funded by Business Rates growth within the EZ. This is controlled through Financial Principles agreed by the LEP with the Council.

Overview of the Funding of the Capital Programme

31. Resources of £1,797.7m have been identified to fund the four-year capital programme from 2024/25 to 2027/28. The following graphs show the resources available for the General Fund and HRA separately:

Figure 3 – Capital Financing – General Fund (all figures in £'000s)

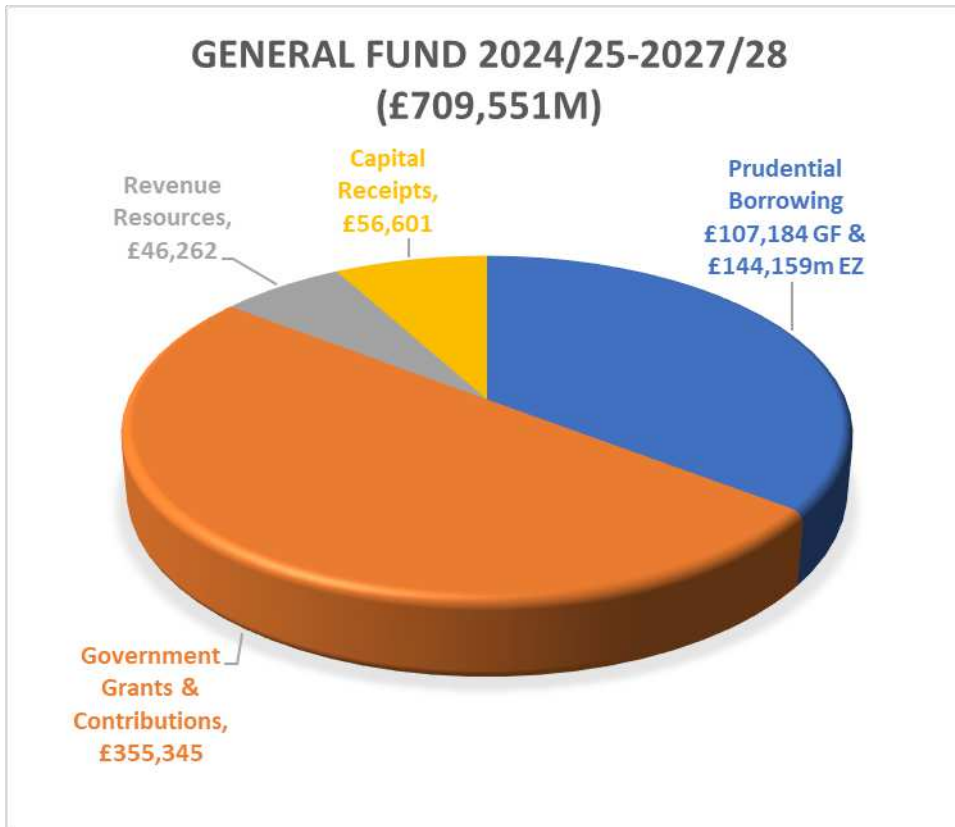
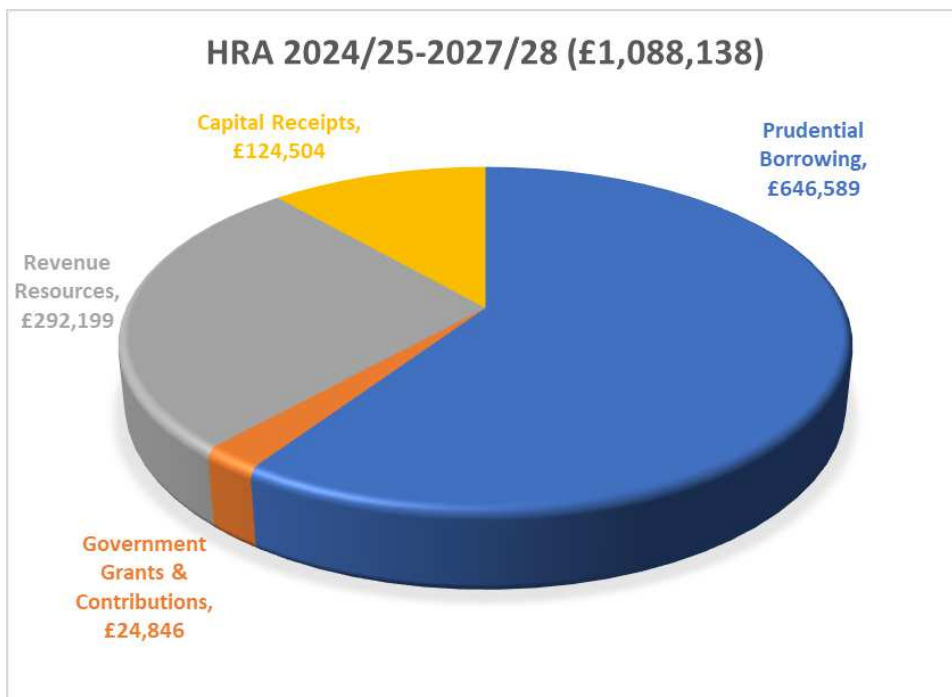


Figure 4 – Capital Financing – HRA (all figures in £'000s)



32. A significant part of the Council’s capital resources can only be used for specific and designated purposes. These are referred to as specific resources. This includes

capital grants and contributions of £380.2m, revenue resources of £338.5m and HRA capital receipts of £124.5m. Cabinet during the year may, if required, approve additional budgets funded by additional external resources.

33. Some capital resources are available without significant restrictions, and the Council has more freedom to allocate these towards its own priorities as set out in the Council Plan. These are referred to as corporate resources and comprise mainly capital receipts from asset sales and borrowing under the prudential system of capital finance for local authorities.
34. Corporate resources of £954.5m have been budgeted for use to finance the capital programme over the coming four years. £646.6m of this relates to the HRA Capital programme. This includes the use of prudential borrowing and capital receipts from asset sales. Revised or additional capital budgets funded from corporate resources may be approved by Cabinet, however additional prudential borrowing must be approved by full Council if the borrowing costs are not funded by additional income, savings or budget virements. No substantial increases in prudential borrowing or the use of capital receipts will be agreed outside of the annual budget process.
35. The Council's capital financing plans seek to make use of available resources in the most efficient way, including borrowing in accordance with the Prudential Code for local authority capital finance. £887.9m of prudential borrowing is included in the four-year capital plans, within the framework and policies set out in this capital strategy, further described below.
36. Revenue reserves associated with net surplus income from the Clean Air Zone and Bus Lane Enforcement form an important part of the capital programme, providing additionality and helping lever other funding by forming a local funding contribution to match other grant resources. Resources have been allocated to ensure delivery of key public transport infrastructure (bus and rail) as part of strong partnership working with Transport for West Midlands as an example.
37. Final decisions on the funding of the capital programme will be taken by Cabinet in the Outturn report after the end of each financial year.
38. A breakdown of the resources used in financing the capital programme is at Table 7.3 below.

Prudential Borrowing

39. The Council will manage its use of borrowing in accordance with CIPFA's Prudential Code. A prudent policy for debt repayment is set out in the Minimum Revenue Provision policy at Appendix 8C. General Fund borrowing costs (including interest and repayment charges) in 2024/25 represent 22.1% of the net revenue budget, which reflects a substantial investment in capital but reduces the resources which would be otherwise available for other revenue priorities. The Council will aim to keep future borrowing to a minimum and only where it is absolutely necessary.
40. Local authorities are required by law to set an overall limit on their debt outstanding, including loans and other long-term liabilities. This 'prudential limit' may not be exceeded, so the Council's proposed limit allows for risks, uncertainties, and potential changes during the year which may need to be accommodated within this overall limit. On this basis, the Prudential Limit for Debt has been set at £4,800.0m for 2024/25, £5,000.0m in 2025/26, £5,000.0m in 2026/27 and £5,000.0m in 2027/28.
41. The authorised prudential limit is calculated as follows:

Table 2 – Forecast Debt and Authorised Prudential Limit Based on the Current Capital Programme

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Forecast opening gross loan debt	3,483,700	3,605,500	3,727,800	3,812,300
Capital expenditure financed from borrowing				
- Self Funded	198,100	204,100	263,800	171,700
- Requiring budget support	28,700	28,500	3,100	0
Other cash flows	16,000	16,500	(50,400)	52,900
Less loan debt revenue repayment provision	(121,000)	(126,800)	(132,000)	(132,500)
Forecast closing gross loan debt	3,605,500	3,727,800	3,812,300	3,904,400
Closing PFI and similar debt liabilities	324,000	297,000	275,400	252,400
Forecast closing debt (loans, PFI, etc)	3,929,500	4,024,800	4,087,700	4,156,800
Allowance for planned cashflows, day to day fluctuations and other potential borrowing	870,500	975,200	912,400	843,200
Authorised Prudential Limit for Debt	4,800,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Analysis of forecast closing debt:				
General Fund Debt	2,642,400	2,550,800	2,466,700	2,373,600
HRA Debt	1,287,100	1,474,000	1,620,900	1,783,200

42. Table 7.4 below analyses planned prudential borrowing between projects which are self-financed through additional income or savings, and projects whose borrowing

requires additional budget support. The Council's revenue budget includes provision to meet the net cost of all the above borrowing.

43. The CIPFA Prudential Code expects local authorities to consider and approve a number of 'prudential indicators'. These relate to the capital programme generally as well as borrowing, and are set out in Appendix 8D.
44. The Council's debt liabilities and its investments arising from day-to-day cashflows need careful management in order to manage the costs and risks. This is the subject of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Policies, which are set out at Appendix 8.

Managing the Capital Programme

45. The Council maintains comprehensive and robust policies and procedures for managing and monitoring its Capital Programme. Briefly, this comprises the following:
 - a. The Capital Strategy is agreed annually. The Capital Programme is agreed annually by City Council as part of the budget setting process. Variations to the Capital Programme or in-year additions – subject to delegation – will be agreed by Cabinet.
 - b. The Capital programme is a resource and expenditure planning tool and does not confer approval for individual budget items to proceed. Individual budgets will not proceed to spend until there has been an executive decision which would normally include 'Gateway' business case appraisals at Strategic Outline Case (capital budget proposal stage), Outline Business Case, and Full Business Case. They must support good decision making and provide adequate justification for the proposal being put forward.
 - c. This process appraises options to deliver desired outputs, sets out the rationale to support the recommended solution, and identifies capital and revenue implications and funding. Account is also taken of the outcome of consultations, equality and risk assessments, and contribution to the Council's strategic objectives.
 - d. Capital priorities for new projects and programmes will be focussed on the following areas:
 - i. Statutory requirements and other legal commitments

- ii. Proposals which support revenue savings, income or service modernisation
 - iii. Council Plan driven expenditure funded from external grants and contributions, especially where it supports key priorities.
 - iv. Projects also need to demonstrate that they represent value for money and are deliverable at an appropriate risk.
 - v. Maximizing external funding which supports the Council's priorities, and supplement this with the Council's own resources where appropriate.
- e. Revised or additional capital budgets may be approved by Cabinet, within the constraints of the Constitution regarding additional borrowing and the Council's Prudential borrowing limit. This includes Cabinet approval to additional external resources allocated to the Council. It is intended that no substantial increases in prudential borrowing or the use of capital receipts will be agreed outside of the annual budget process.
- f. Regular reviews of the capital programme are carried out to ensure the capital programme remains current, given that projects typically extend over several years from initiation. These reviews include scrutinising projects where contracts have not begun or spend is slower than anticipated, to ensure that the capital programme remains current, and that prudential borrowing is not unnecessarily committed. Going forward we will ensure that all approved capital projects will have a two-year longstop date. This means that a new, updated approval will be required where it has not been possible to enter contract within two years of approval.
- g. Each project has a nominated project manager who is responsible for the successful completion of the scheme against factors such as time, budget, quality, scope, and benefit.
- h. The management of capital will be overseen by the Capital Board, through strong governance and assurance processes for capital planning, capital appraisal and approval, project management, and capital monitoring and review. Executive decisions will be made in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

- i. Capital receipts are treated as a corporate resource. All use of capital resources that are not statutorily or contractually ring-fenced, including capital receipts, will be prioritised across the Council as a whole in relation to the Council's key priorities.
- j. The disposal of the Council's land and buildings as part of the Financial Recovery Plan will be managed by the Cabinet Property Committee.
- k. The Council will encourage community engagement in the operation of properties in support of specific key priorities and will commission community asset transfers where appropriate.

Flexibility to Use Capital Receipts for Revenue Reform Projects Strategy

- 46. In the Spending Review 2015, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced that to support local authorities to deliver more efficient and sustainable services, the government will allow local authorities to spend up to 100% of their fixed asset receipts (excluding Right to Buy (RTB) receipts) on the revenue costs of reform projects. This flexibility is offered for expenditure on any project that is designed to generate ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services and/or change service delivery to reduce costs or to improve the quality-of-service delivery in future years.
- 47. DLUHC issued revised guidance on the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts on 4 April 2022 and the flexibility was extended to 31 March 2025. The Provisional Settlement December 2023 indicated extending this to March 2030.
- 48. Only the revenue costs of projects designed to reduce future revenue costs and/or change service delivery can qualify for this source of funding. The Department has not issued an exhaustive list of qualifying projects to allow authorities because, as the government Guidance states, 'individual authorities who have projects that will generate ongoing savings that are not included in the list provided in the guidance can apply the flexibility to fund those projects.'
- 49. Local authorities can only use capital receipts from the sale of property, plant and equipment received in the years in which this flexibility is offered (i.e., from 2016). RTB receipts cannot be used, and disposals must be to an entity outside the local authority's group structure.

50. For each financial year, a local authority should ensure it prepares at least one Flexible use of Capital Receipts Strategy (“the Strategy”), which this is. The Strategy should be presented to full council before the start of the year. This Strategy can be within the Annual Budget documents or as part of the Mid-Term Financial Plan (or equivalent).
51. The Council’s capital financing plans seek to fund the capitalisation of revenue reform costs under the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts legislation. £13.8m has been included in the plans for 2024/25 (£14.4m identified for financial year 2023/24). Projects may be accelerated or slipped between financial years. A breakdown of these schemes can be found at Table 7.5 below) lists each project that plans to make use of the capital receipts flexibility and details the expected savings / service changes. The Appendix also contains details on projects approved in previous years, including a commentary on whether the planned savings or service changes have been/are being realised in line with the initial analysis.
52. The Strategy may be revised in year if further eligible projects are identified, and sufficient capital receipts are available for funding such costs. In this circumstance the revised projects will be approved by Full Council and a revised strategy submitted to DLUHC.

Property – Assets and Disposal Strategy

53. To support the Council’s Financial Recovery Plan a programme of rationalisation of the Council’s assets will be required. The portfolio in scope of the rationalisation is initially comprised of the commercial portfolio, development sites and strategic assets, industrial premises, retail premises, operational and miscellaneous assets located across the city.
54. Available capital receipts from asset disposals will be earmarked to support the Council’s potential equal pay liability and help to achieve revenue sustainability under the Financial Recovery Plan.
55. A new Cabinet Property Committee has been established to approve proposed sales of council property and assets as part of the Council wide Asset Strategy. The Committee will have delegated powers from the Cabinet to declare land and property surplus to requirements. It will have the power to determine property sales, the means of disposal and the acceptance of offers. The Property Committees main

purpose will be to deliver the capital receipts programme without delays. It will have these powers for both General Fund Assets and Housing Revenue Account Assets.

56. It is recognised that there is a need for a more sustainable approach to the management of the Council's land and property assets. An independent review of how the Council manages its land and property assets recommended it move to a corporate landlord model ensuring a more joined up approach throughout the organisation.

Community Asset Transfers

57. The Council will encourage community engagement in the operation of properties in support of specific key priorities and may commission Community Asset Transfers (CATs) where appropriate. Third sector organisations will need to have the capabilities to use the assets to provide agreed services, in accordance with arrangements for CATs of property. Sales at less than best price will however reduce the capital receipts available to fund other Council needs and policies. Accordingly, proposed land sale discounts including CATs will be reviewed by the Property and Assets Board before proceeding for formal decision, to ensure that proposals have a strong fit with the Council's key strategic priorities, represent good value for money, and have a good prospect of success. Other properties, and CAT proposals which have been unsuccessful, will proceed for sale on the open market.

Table 7.1 Capital Programmes by Scheme

GENERAL FUND	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	TOTAL
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>COUNCIL MANAGEMENT</u>					
Corporately Held Funds					
Revenue Reform Projects - (Flexible Use of Capital Receipts)	13,807	0	0	0	13,807
Corporate Capital Contingency	8,351	5,801	2,500	2,500	19,152
Total Corporately Held Funds	22,158	5,801	2,500	2,500	32,959
<u>ICT & Digital Services</u>					
ICT & Digital	3,194	0	0	0	3,194
Technology Roadmap - Critical Investment	3,782	1,042	0	0	4,824
Total Digital & Customer Services	6,976	1,042	0	0	8,018
TOTAL COUNCIL MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE	29,134	6,843	2,500	2,500	40,977
<u>CITY OPERATIONS</u>					
<u>Street Scene</u>					
Waste Management Depots	9,350	0	0	0	9,350
WM Vehicles	5,000	19,000	179	0	24,179
New Project - Lifford / Kings Norton ERF Approved June 2023	1,490	6,704	21,602	0	29,796
New DefRA Grant - Weekly Food Waste Collection	6,825	0	0	0	6,825
Safety Works to Parks Pools	700	700	667	0	2,067
Ward End Park - Lakeside (Dolphin Centre)	0	0	0	0	0
Tyburn POS Improvements	0	0	0	0	0
Parks & Nature Conservation	100	100	100	0	300
Total Street Scene	23,465	26,504	22,548	0	72,517
Private Sector Housing					
Private Sector Housing	500	0	0	0	500
Total Private Sector Housing	500	0	0	0	500
<u>Neighbourhoods</u>					
Moseley Road Baths	9,251	2,861	2,861	3,098	18,071
Former Erdington Baths Community Hub	0	0	0	0	0
Basketball Legacy Court Refurbishment	0	0	0	0	0
Alexander Stadium Legacy Project	15,032	0	0	0	15,032
Total Neighbourhoods	24,283	2,861	2,861	3,098	33,103
<u>Regulation & Enforcement</u>					
Bereavement	2,250	0	0	0	2,250
Markets	0	250	0	0	250
Total Regulation & Enforcement	2,250	250	0	0	2,500
<u>Highways Infrastructure</u>					
Highways/Flood Management	2,025	1,350	1,350	1,350	6,075
Tame Valley Viaduct Phase 3	26,205	14,912	5,426	0	46,543
Highways Infrastructure	28,230	16,262	6,776	1,350	52,618
TOTAL CITY OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE	78,728	45,877	32,185	4,448	161,238

GENERAL FUND	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	TOTAL
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>PLACE, PROSPERITY & SUSTAINABILITY</u>					
<u>Planning & Development</u>					
Major Projects					
Enterprise Zone - Paradise Circus	3,439	0	0	0	3,439
Enterprise Zone - Other	25,700	7,048	14,238	9,449	56,435
Bordesley Park Remedial Works	7,206	0	0	0	7,206
Total Major Projects	36,345	7,048	14,238	9,449	67,080
Total Planning & Development	36,345	7,048	14,238	9,449	67,080
<u>Transport Connectivity</u>					
Major Schemes					
A457 Dudley Road	250	2,000	0	0	2,250
Birmingham City Centre Retail Core Public Realm	3,447	1,234	2,494	2,033	9,208
Digbeth Active Travel & Streets Programme	7,083	5,100	40,000	0	52,183
HS2 Readiness - One Station & Smallbrook Queensway	1,550	2,500	44,900	0	48,950
Sutton Gateway (CRSTS)	2,200	10,000	12,800	0	25,000
Westside Metro Extension - Engie Works	933	0	0	0	933
Other (Major Schemes)	6,001	6,129	6,181	2,000	20,311
Total Major Schemes	21,464	26,963	106,375	4,033	158,835
Brum Breathes & Route To Zero	1,450	1,400	400	250	3,500
Active Travel	26,178	26,589	40,741	2,000	95,508
Public Transport	5,163	6,277	100	100	11,640
Infrastructure Development	3,680	3,729	3,879	2,704	13,992
Places for People (Local Neighbourhoods)	5,330	3,795	3,250	2,350	14,725
Total Transport Connectivity	63,265	68,753	154,745	11,437	298,200
<u>Property Services</u>					
Perry Barr Residential Scheme	3,003	0	0	0	3,003
Total Property Services	3,003	0	0	0	3,003
TOTAL PLACE, PROSPERITY & SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTORATE	102,613	75,801	168,983	20,886	368,283
<u>CHILDREN & FAMILIES</u>					
<u>Education & Early Years</u>					
Devolved Capital Allocation to Schools	0	0	0	0	0
School Condition Allocations	14,325	11,084	0	0	25,409
Basic Need - Additional School Places	26,691	33,463	0	0	60,154
IT Investment	964	0	0	0	964
Total Education & Early Years	41,980	44,547	0	0	86,527
TOTAL CHILDREN & FAMILIES DIRECTORATE	41,980	44,547	0	0	86,527
<u>ADULT SOCIAL CARE DIRECTORATE</u>					
<u>Adult Care & Health</u>					
Property Schemes	0	0	0	0	0
Adults IT	150	100	0	0	250
Telecare / TEC	504	0	0	0	504
Independent Living	12,943	12,943	12,943	12,943	51,772
TOTAL ADULT SOCIAL CARE DIRECTORATE	13,597	13,043	12,943	12,943	52,526
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME - GENERAL FUND	266,052	186,111	216,611	40,777	709,551

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	TOTAL
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<u>HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT</u>					
Housing Revenue Account					
Housing Improvement Programme	215,533	218,529	221,751	225,143	880,956
Development / Acquisitions	46,286	67,609	45,306	41,714	200,915
Clearance	6,267	0	0	0	6,267
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME - HRA	268,086	286,138	267,057	266,857	1,088,138
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME	534,138	472,249	483,668	307,634	1,797,689

Table 7.2 New Capital Schemes & Pressures

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
APPROVED PROJECTS - INCLUDED IN THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME					
<u>CITY OPERATIONS</u>					
Lifford /Kings Norton ERF Depot	1,490	6,704	21,602	0	29,796
Bordesley Park - Remedial Works	7,206	0	0	0	7,206
Total City Operations Directorate	8,696	6,704	21,602	0	37,002
<u>COUNCIL MANAGEMENT</u>					
Technology Roadmap - Critical Investment	3,782	1,042	0	0	4,824
Total Council Management Directorate	3,782	1,042	0	0	4,824
Total New Approved Projects	12,478	7,746	21,602	0	41,826
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
PRESSURES TO BE APPROVED - NOT YET IN CAPITAL PROGRAMME					
ICT Critical Investment & Infrastructure	8,500	16,000	16,000	16,000	56,500
Parks - Car Park Charging	824	1,761	0	0	2,585
Total Pressures to be Approved	9,324	17,761	16,000	16,000	59,085
Total New Approvals & Pressures	21,802	25,507	37,602	16,000	100,911

Table 7.3 Capital Resources

GENERAL FUND	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Specific Resources					
Government Grants & Contributions	146,850	106,500	80,587	21,408	355,345
Revenue Resources & Reserves - General Func	11,794	18,620	10,765	5,083	46,262
Total Specific Resources	158,644	125,120	91,352	26,491	401,607
Corporate Resources					
Prudential Borrowing -General Fund	47,299	35,177	24,708	0	107,184
Prudential Borrowing - Enterprise Zone	27,174	12,298	95,238	9,449	144,159
Earmarked Capital Receipts	32,935	13,516	5,313	4,837	56,601
Total Corporate Resources	107,408	60,991	125,259	14,286	307,944
Total Resources	266,052	186,111	216,611	40,777	709,551
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT					
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	
Specific Resources					
Government Grants & Contributions	13,653	6,366	2,800	2,027	24,846
Revenue Resources & Reserves - HRA	67,281	65,663	79,599	79,656	292,199
Capital Receipts - HRA	34,823	28,990	37,749	22,942	124,504
Total Specific Resources	115,757	101,019	120,148	104,625	441,549
Corporate Resources					
Prudential Borrowing - HRA	152,329	185,119	146,909	162,232	646,589
Earmarked Capital Receipts - General Fund	0	0	0	0	0
Total Corporate Resources	152,329	185,119	146,909	162,232	646,589
Total Resources	268,086	286,138	267,057	266,857	1,088,138
TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME					
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	
Specific Resources					
Government Grants & Contributions	160,503	112,866	83,387	23,435	380,191
Revenue Resources & Reserves	79,075	84,283	90,364	84,739	338,461
Capital Receipts - HRA	34,823	28,990	37,749	22,942	124,504
Total Specific Resources	274,401	226,139	211,500	131,116	843,156
Corporate Resources					
Prudential Borrowing	226,802	232,594	266,855	171,681	897,932
Earmarked Capital Receipts - General Fund	32,935	13,516	5,313	4,837	56,601
Total Corporate Resources	259,737	246,110	272,168	176,518	954,533
Total Resources	534,138	472,249	483,668	307,634	1,797,689

Table 7.4 Analysis of Prudential Borrowing

GENERAL FUND	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Major Self Financed Prudential Borrowing					
Fleet & Waste Management - Depots	9,150	0	0	0	9,150
Perry Barr Residential Scheme	3,003	0	0	0	3,003
ICT & Digital Services	2,749	0	0	0	2,749
Bereavement Services	2,250	0	0	0	2,250
Lifford Lane Depot Refurbishment	1,490	6,704	21,602	0	29,796
Total Capital Projects Self Financed	18,642	6,704	21,602	0	46,948
Major Prudential Borrowing with net impact on Council revenue resources					
Fleet & Waste Management - Vehicles	5,000	19,000	179	0	24,179
Fleet & Waste Management - Depots	200	0	0	0	200
Alexander Stadium Legacy Project	8,532	0	0	0	8,532
Corporate Capital Contingency	8,351	5,801	0	0	14,152
Moseley Road Baths	1,374	1,930	2,259	0	5,563
ICT & Digital Services	223	0	0	0	223
Parks Reservoirs & Pools	700	700	667	0	2,067
Bordesley Park Remedial Works	495	0	0	0	495
ICT Critical Investment	3,782	1,042	0	0	4,824
Total Capital Projects requiring revenue resources	28,657	28,473	3,105	0	60,235
Enterprise Zone					
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Enterprise Zone	27,174	7,298	14,238	9,449	58,159
Enterprise Zone - Transport projects	0	5,000	81,000	0	86,000
Total Prudential Borrowing - EZ	27,174	12,298	95,238	9,449	144,159
Total Prudential Borrowing - GENERAL FUND	74,473	47,475	119,945	9,449	251,342
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT					
	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Housing Revenue Account	152,329	185,119	146,910	162,232	646,590
Total Prudential Borrowing - HRA	152,329	185,119	146,910	162,232	646,590
Total Prudential Borrowing	226,802	232,594	266,855	171,681	897,932

Table 7.5 Capital Receipt Flexibility 2023/24 and 2024/25

	Revised Forecast Spend 2023/24	Original Budget 2024/25	TOTAL 23/24 TO 25/26	Anticipated Revenue Savings	Impact of Spend (i.e. how will this project save money / transform service delivery?)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Revenue Reform Projects					
Corporate Controlled					
Redundancy & Pension Fund Strain	608	0	608		Redundancy costs of posts no longer required
Workforce for the Future project - Centres of Expertise	100	300	400	800	Realignment of budgets and creation of centres of expertise.
Maximising income	42	62	104	196	Review low value leases of between £5-£10k in annual value.
Digitally Enabled Council: RPA	700	800	1,500	2,600	Automation and Digitisation of services.
Digitally Enabled Council: Voice Automation	250	1,500	1,750	2,600	Voice automation to reduce duplication.
Council Management					
Cyber Security	3,928	6,701	10,629	0	Improving the Council's Cyber security. No saving quantifiable but will prevent fraud and
Customer Programme	2,287	2,094	4,381	1,700	The Customer Service programme will bring together, build upon and accelerate existing work, whilst identifying and implementing the required activities to ensure BCC is a truly customer centric organisation.
Council Man - ITDS - BEP reserve & Tech refresh	200	0	200	100	Introduction of immutable hardware backup technology simplifying the operational deployment and management of new back up activities. Reduced data centre running and wider support costs. Move to a new management
Adults					
Early Interventions Transformation	500	500	1,000	1,881	Working in partnership with health to transform the way care is delivered, to prevent hospital admissions and to ensure appropriate care on hospital discharge.
ADC - Specialist Impact Team	500	500	1,000	3,845	Review of complex high cost cases to ensure packages meet client needs
Place, Prosperity & Sustainability					
Inclusive Growth Delivery Plan	2,200	950	3,150	1,950	Various regeneration activities within PPS to stimulate growth
Birmingham Children's Trust					
BCT Social Worker Practice Transformation	300	0	0		The Practice Hub operates as a centre of excellence for social work practice to research and develop new and innovate ways of working. Achieving manageable caseloads in social work and exploring alternative approaches to how we deliver safeguarding of children. The Practice Hub also provides assurance on the quality of social work.
BCT Children in Care Panel	300	0	3,000		The reintroduction of Children in Care Panels and fixed term resource to challenge care planning and packages in order to deliver better outcomes for children and a more affordable cost.
BCT Child's Journey Project	300	0			The Child's Journey Project aim is to consider how we work with children and families to help deliver efficiencies across social work and implementing leaner and more thematic
Children & Families					
SENAR - Children's	1,800	0	1,800	0	Improving SEND provision for children and young people in Birmingham through transformational change within the service, with schools and partner organisations and in further developing engagement with parents.
CYP - Schools PFI Contract Review	400	400	800		Staffing costs (internal and external) associated with the review of the Schools PFI contracts are transforming the way the contract will be managed and delivered moving forwards. This is expected to generate savings already built into the LTFFP.
Total Revenue Reform Projects	14,415	13,807	30,322	15,847	

Appendix 8 – Treasury Management Strategy

1. Summary

- 1.1. This appendix sets out the proposed Treasury Management Strategy for 2024/25 given the Council's current financial position, its treasury needs for the year and the interest rate outlook, and in accordance with the Treasury Management Policy at Appendix 8A.
- 1.2. On 5 September 2023 the Council's Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) issued a notice under Section 114(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988. The Council is in a challenging financial position and has made an application to the Government for Exceptional Financial Support. Its planned Financial Recovery will have a significant impact on the Council's treasury management strategy for 2024/25. (see paragraph 7.3).
- 1.3. Previously the Council used a balanced borrowing strategy that maintained a proportion of short term or variable rate loan debt (under 12 months) with long term or fixed rate borrowing in order to seek an appropriate balance between the risks of variable rate and fixed rate borrowing. However, within the context of Financial Recovery and the general availability of short term loans, the Council is likely be restricted to longer term fixed rate loan debt to meet its borrowing requirements as part of this strategy (see paragraph 5.6). Any short term loans will be maintained within the prudential limit for variable rate exposures.
- 1.4. Separate loan portfolios are maintained for the General Fund and the HRA; therefore, separate treasury strategies are set out below where relevant¹.
- 1.5. Externally, a weaker economic outlook for the UK with uncertainty around inflation and interest rate expectations, uncertain government policy with an upcoming general election and geopolitical risk from the conflict in Ukraine and the Middle East will also have a major influence on the Council's treasury management strategy for 2024/25.

2. Treasury Management Policy and Objectives

- 2.1. The Treasury Management Policy (Appendix 8A) sets the Council's objectives and provides a management and control framework for its Treasury Management activities, in accordance with CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services.
- 2.2. For the Council, the achievement of high returns from treasury activities is of secondary importance compared with the need to limit the exposure of public

¹ This Strategy relates to loan debt only. Other debt liabilities relating to PFI and finance leases are not considered in this Strategy and are managed separately. Throughout these budget papers, debt and investments are expressed at nominal value, which may be different from the valuation basis used in the statutory accounts.

funds to the risk of loss. The Strategy will aim to minimise the cost of borrowing to the Council whilst balancing its security and liquidity risks.

- 2.3. Due to the importance of environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues including climate emergency agendas, the Council will continue to consider ESG factors in the context of its treasury activities.
- 2.4. These objectives must be implemented flexibly in the light of changing market circumstances.

3. Council Borrowing Requirement

- 3.1. The Council's forecast of its required gross loan debt is set out in the Capital Strategy (Appendix 8) and is a combination of its forecast capital expenditure funded from borrowing, reduced by the amounts set aside to repay debt, and short term cashflows. Although borrowing for General Fund capital projects is restricted to the minimum, the Council's gross loan debt is forecast to increase in forthcoming years due to significant investments required for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA - see paragraph 9.2 below). The gross loan debt may increase further for any borrowing undertaken as part of Exceptional Financial Support.

Table 8.1 Forecast Borrowing Requirement

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Forecast gross loan debt	3,605,500	3,727,800	3,812,300	3,904,400
Forecast treasury investments	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
Forecast net loan debt	3,505,500	3,627,008	3,712,300	3,804,400
of which:				
Existing loans outstanding	3,243,500	3,124,700	2,967,900	2,741,900
Short term investments working balance	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)
Required new/ replacement loan balance (cumulative)	362,000	603,200	844,300	1,162,500
Forecast net loan debt	3,505,500	3,627,800	3,712,300	3,804,400

- 3.2. Most of the Council's loan debt is funded from existing long term loans which mature over periods of up to 40 years or more. Table 8.1 above shows that the Council's outstanding long term loans decrease over the next few years as they are repaid upon maturity. This means that its new loans requirement will increase in order to meet the forecast net loan debt.
- 3.3. This strategy sets out how the Council plans to obtain the required new borrowing shown above, mainly through long term borrowing, and through short term borrowing where short term lenders are available (see paragraph 5.6 below).

- 3.4. The Council currently has £61.1m of Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans outstanding. For these loans, the lender has the right to increase the interest rate at certain dates during the loan term; in this event the Council has the option to accept the rate increase or repay the loan immediately without penalty. In May 2023, a £10m LOBO loan held with Dexia was repaid after the bank exercised its option to raise the interest rate. In November 2023 the Council chose to accept a rate increase on a £10m LOBO loan held with Erste as the new rate was well below forecast market rates at the time.
- 3.5. During 2024/25, £41.1m of the Council's LOBO loans have the potential to be exercised. As market interest rates remain relatively high, further LOBO lenders may choose to exercise their option. If LOBO loan options are exercised, the Council will look to repay these loans through refinancing where this is financially viable.
- 3.6. In previous years the Council has repaid some of its LOBO loans early. In May 2019, £30m of LOBO loans held with Commerzbank were repaid early following negotiations with the bank. The repayments resulted in a significant saving for the Council and it removed a substantial amount of LOBO loans from its loans portfolio. The Council will consider further loan restructuring opportunities for its entire loans portfolio if they become available and where they provide a cost saving or a reduction in risk.

4. Interest Rate and Credit Outlook

- 4.1. UK Bank Rate is fundamental for the Council's treasury management activity, in terms of expenditure on loan interest where new loans are taken out and on income received from investments. UK Bank Rate is set by the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) and their interest rate outlook is influenced by domestic and international economic and political developments.
- 4.2. To combat high and persistent inflation in the UK, the Bank of England made consecutive increases to Bank Rate from December 2021 to reach 5.25% by September 2023. Monetary policy appears to have had the desired effect with UK inflation, measured by the Consumer Prices Index (CPI), falling to 4.0% in December 2023, down from a high of 11.1% observed in October 2022.
- 4.3. With the decreasing inflation numbers, the MPC has paused further Bank Rate rises. Financial markets seem to indicate that rates have peaked and have priced in rate cuts from Q1 2024/25. The impact of interest rate rises is already being felt in the UK with GDP growth remaining below pre-pandemic rates in the medium term. GDP is forecast to rise by 0.6% in 2023 and by 0.7% in 2024. However, the MPC continues to warn about retaining tight financial conditions in the UK whilst service inflation and wage growth remain elevated. Continued economic uncertainty means the MPC is prepared to

maintain Bank Rate at the current level in order to return inflation to its target of 2%.

4.4. Arlingclose, the Council's treasury advisor, has forecast the Bank Rate to have peaked at 5.25% and do not expect rate cuts until Q2 2024/25 and only when the MPC are confident that risks of 'second round' effects of inflation (e.g. on wage growth) are diminished. Given the level of uncertainty over economic growth and interest rates the Council has taken a prudent view on Bank Rate for the treasury budget by the end of 2024/25.

4.5. Upside risks to UK interest rates in 2024/25 include:

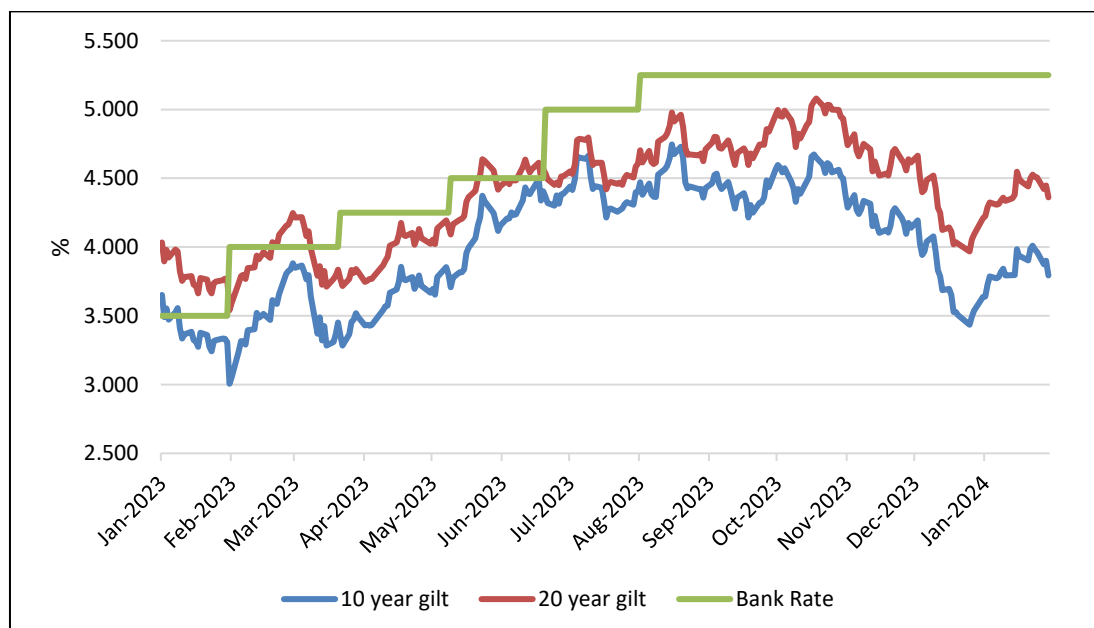
- Persistence of inflation where the UK economy remains resilient to the recent rate hikes
- Continued wage growth and high vacancies in the UK labour market
- Increased energy prices due to continued geo-political risks from the conflict in Ukraine, the Middle East and elsewhere

4.6. Downside risks to UK interest rates include:

- Impact of UK recession causes UK GDP to fall by more than expected with inflation falling below the target of 2%.
- Higher than expected falls in the level of unemployment
- Risks of economic downturns in the US and China causing a global slump

4.7. Longer term interest rates are typically represented by UK Government Gilt yields. Figure 8.2 below charts Gilt yields and Bank Rate over the past year.

Figure 8.2 Bank Rate and Gilt Yields



- 4.8. Gilt yields increased significantly during 2023 in line with interest rate increases and expectations for interest rates. Since October 2023 gilt yields have fallen sharply as the market currently expects Bank Rate to have peaked with rate cuts expected from the middle of next year. However, considerable uncertainty remains around future Bank of England monetary policy as shown by the increase in yields since January 2024.
- 4.9. Gilt yields are still near the higher levels seen before the financial crisis of 2008 and are no longer at the historically low levels seen in the last decade. The Council expects long-term gilt yields to remain relatively higher than in the past, partly due to quantitative tightening, with periodic volatility arising from both economic and political events.
- 4.10. The credit outlook for banks relates to their risks for default and became more significant following the 2015 Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD). Here a failing bank would need to be 'bailed in' by current investors instead of being 'bailed out' by the Government, thus increasing the risk of loss for local authorities holding unsecured bank deposits.
- 4.11. With the UK economy expected to experience a downturn due to the effects of higher interest rates, the risks for UK banks could be heightened as shown by some recent volatility in UK bank Credit Default Swap (CDS) prices during Quarter 3 of the 2023/24 financial year. However, the banking sector is generally better positioned to withstand shocks to the economy due to their required capital positions. The Council will continue to monitor bank credit worthiness and seek the advice of its treasury advisor, Arlingclose.

5. Borrowing Strategy

- 5.1. The Council's capital investment programme allows it to deliver key priorities such as economic regeneration, transport, housing and school improvements, and to support service change. The capital investment programme can be funded from government grants, revenue resources, capital receipts from asset sales and prudential borrowing.
- 5.2. It can be appropriate for the Council to borrow to fund its capital expenditure. The Council will receive long term service benefit over a number of years so it should be able to fund the capital expenditure over the years benefits are received.
- 5.3. Although borrowing costs (including interest costs and repayment charges) reflect a substantial investment in capital, the Council will ensure borrowing for the capital programme remains at an affordable and sustainable level. The Council periodically reviews its capital programme and associated prudential borrowing requirements and will reduce this where it can as long as it does not impede the Council's key priorities.

- 5.4. The Council's capital programme has been subject to a review in the context of the Financial Recovery Plan to support the General Fund budget savings and pressures highlighted as part of this Financial Plan by keeping borrowing to a minimum.
- 5.5. Borrowing costs are also managed by the type of loans the Council takes. As part of its borrowing strategy, the Council has previously targeted a short term or variable rate loans balance (less than 12 months) of around £600m, to take advantage of lower short term borrowing rates.
- 5.6. During 2023-24 there has been a notable reduction in the supply of short-term local authority lenders. In addition, the Council's issuance of a Section 114 Notice has meant the number of lenders willing to lend to the Council has considerably reduced. Both of these factors are likely to impact on the Council's ability to source new short term funding. Therefore the Council is likely to source the majority of funding for its borrowing requirements from longer term borrowing.
- 5.7. Based on this strategy, the following table summarises, for the Council as a whole, the new long term and short term borrowing proposed to fund the required new or replacement borrowing each year:

Table 8.3 Proposed Borrowing Strategy

Cumulative new borrowing:	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Total long term loans	361,000	603,000	843,000	1,112,000
Total short term loans	1,000	200	1,300	50,500
Required new/ replacement loan balance	362,000	603,200	844,300	1,162,500

- 5.8. This strategy results in a forecast for new long term loans in the next four years to meet the required loan balance. The Council may still reprofile new long term loans during this period depending on market conditions. Although future borrowing rates are not forecast to be significantly higher than current rates, the outlook is uncertain and taking some long term loans earlier may remove some refinancing risk.

6. Short Term Borrowing

- 6.1. The Council's short term borrowing needs are largely met through other local authorities who lend their surplus cash balances at comparatively low rates. Loans from local authorities are deemed to meet the Council's ESG considerations as surplus funds will have been obtained from sources with public service objectives.
- 6.2. As mentioned in paragraph 5.6 above, the Council has experienced limited availability of loans from local authority lenders since it issued its Section 114

notice and this may continue during 2024/25. The Council has sought to diversify its sources of short term borrowing from reliance on the local authority lending market. The Council does have access to a Working Capital Facility with its bankers should it require loans for very short periods. However this Facility would only meet a small portion of the Council's total requirements for borrowing.

- 6.3. Short term and variable rate exposures remain within the 30% prudential limit set out in Appendix 8D.
- 6.4. It should be noted that a possible scenario is that short term and long term interest rates may rise (or are expected to rise) more sharply than currently forecast. A higher level of long term borrowing may be taken if appropriate to protect future years' borrowing costs.

7. Long Term Borrowing

Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)

- 7.1. The main source of long term borrowing for local authorities has been the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), managed by HM Treasury. At the end of November 2020, the Treasury returned PWLB rates to 0.8% above gilts with the condition that local authorities would not be able to access PWLB loans if their three year capital programme included capital expenditure primarily for yield. The Council has not undertaken, nor has plans to undertake any investments primarily for yield.
- 7.2. The consequence of the PWLB rate decrease is that it is likely to offer a cheaper and quicker route to borrowing than alternative sources of borrowing. For value for money, it is important that the Council continues to meet the PWLB's lending criteria.

Capitalisation Direction

- 7.3. As part of its Financial Recovery, the Council has made an application to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS). Approval has been sought for a capitalisation direction to fund revenue expenditure to cover provisions for Equal Pay, capitalisation costs involved in a redundancy scheme, and the forecast budget deficit for 2024/25.
- 7.4. The Council is expected to raise capital receipts for the whole of the capitalisation direction. The likely conditions of EFS will be that any further borrowing must be obtained from the PWLB and will be subject to a premium above the rate the loan would otherwise be subject to, for as long as the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) includes amounts related to the capitalisation direction. These conditions are not likely to be required for borrowing in relation to the HRA. In addition, the Council will need to make annual provisions for the repayment of any borrowed amounts, in line with its MRP policy or further Government directions, if any.

- 7.5. The 1 percentage point premium is likely to be added to the Council's non-capitalisation borrowings. From forecasts for General Fund planned borrowing this may increase interest costs by an additional £4.1m over the four year period.

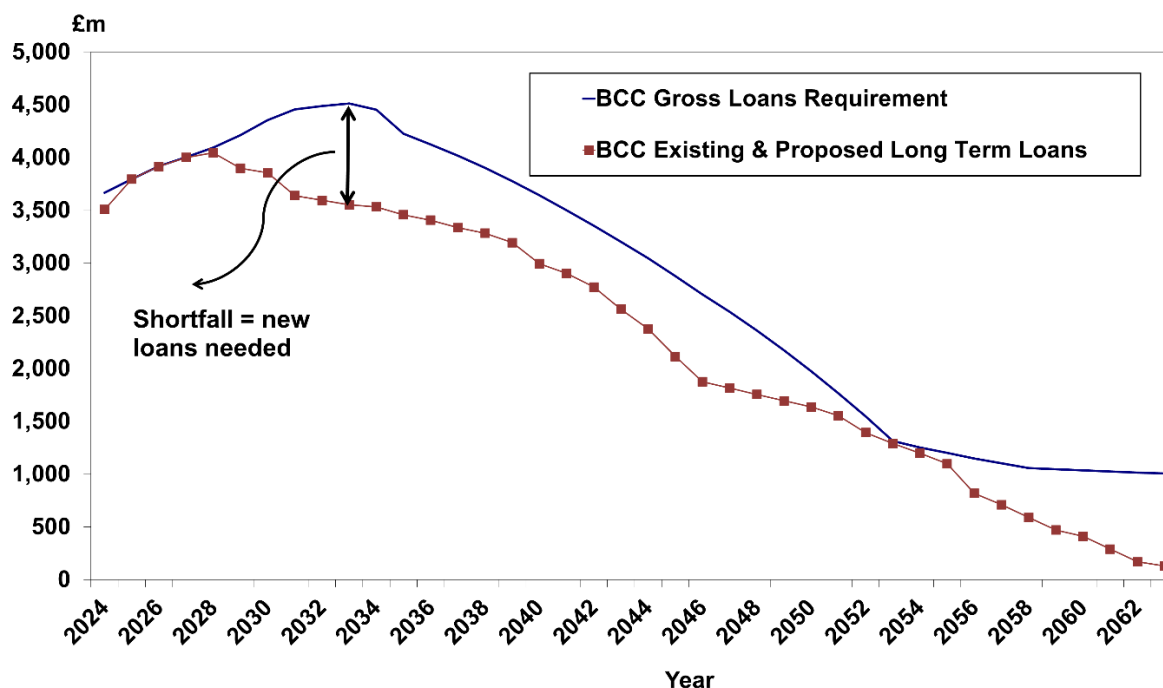
Other Sources

- 7.6. The Council will continue to monitor market developments and will seek to use and develop other funding solutions if better value may be delivered. The EFS from DLHUC is likely to have an impact on the Council's ability to source long term funding from other sources alternate to the PWLB.
- 7.7. Other sources of long term borrowing which could be considered if available and the terms are suitable, include listed and private placements, bilateral loans from banks, local authorities or others, Islamic forms of finance and sale and leaseback arrangements.
- 7.8. The Council may consider forward starting loans from capital markets, where the interest rate is fixed in advance, but the cash is received in later years. This would be beneficial when interest rates are forecast to rise in later years and the Council has a future borrowing requirement.
- 7.9. Debt capital markets have indicated ESG bonds or ESG private placements could be competitive when compared to the PWLB, due to a lack of supply and increasing demand from institutional investors. ESG bonds are used to finance projects that support environmental and social goals. Most local authority capital schemes, including significant aspects of Birmingham's capital programme, could be linked to ESG objectives and fit the criteria for an ESG bond. The Council may consider the use of ESG bonds in sourcing long term borrowing, should they be available and if they provide better value through lower costs and rates when compared to PWLB borrowing.
- 7.10. The Council may also restructure existing loans and other long term liabilities e.g. by premature repayment and replacement with new loans.

8. Liability Benchmark

- 8.1. The Council's loan maturity profile can be compared with the level of loan debt outstanding required by this budget report, as follows:

Figure 8.4 BCC Loans Outstanding vs. Gross Loans Requirement (excluding EFS)



- 8.2. The Gross Loans Requirement in Figure 8.4 represents the level of outstanding loan debt required by this Budget Plan. It takes account of existing loans outstanding plus planned prudential borrowing; this reduces over time as a result of the Minimum Repayment Provision (MRP) for debt. The difference between the Gross Loans Requirement and Existing and Proposed long term loans represents forecast long term and short term borrowing or investments. The Gross Loans Requirement represents a liability benchmark against which to measure the amount and maturity of required borrowing. In practice, future borrowings would never allow the outstanding loans to reach nil as matured debt is replaced by debt for new capital projects.
- 8.3. The shortfall in the medium term as shown in the chart could be met by a short term loans portfolio although this could still be restricted by the availability of local authority lenders following the Council's issuance of its Section 114 notice (see paragraph 5.6 above).
- 8.4. The Treasury Management Prudential Limits and Indicators consistent with the above strategy are set out in Appendix 8D, including a summary loan debt maturity profile.
- 8.5. The Treasury Management Strategy must be flexible to adapt to changing risks and circumstances. The strategy will be kept under review by the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer, in accordance with treasury management delegations.

9. HRA and General Fund Treasury Strategies

- 9.1. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) inherited a largely long term fixed rate debt portfolio at the start of the current HRA finance system in 2012. As a

result, the Council has previously looked to increase the HRA's exposure to short term loans whenever possible.

- 9.2. The current HRA Business Plan has substantial investment plans for its existing housing stock in order to achieve compliance with Decent Homes Standards. As the HRA seeks to increase its prudential borrowing levels significantly in the next few years, the Council will supplement the HRA with further long term loans, a significant factor in the Council's overall net loan debt increasing over the next few years.
- 9.3. The following table shows how net loan debt for the HRA increases as a result of forecast new long term debt. Conversely net loan debt for the General Fund reduces over the same period although some new debt will be required:

Table 8.5 Forecast net loan debt for the HRA and General Fund based on the Proposed Borrowing Strategy

Cumulative debt <i>(taking account of debt maturities and proposed long term borrowing)</i>	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Housing Revenue Account				
Year end net exposure to variable rates	3,000	14,800	7,100	11,100
Existing HRA long term debt	1,102,100	1,087,300	1,080,800	1,070,100
Forecast HRA new long term debt	182,000	372,000	533,000	702,000
Closing HRA net loan debt	1,287,100	1,474,000	1,620,900	1,783,200
General Fund				
Year end net exposure to variable rates	16,800	41,900	120,200	33,400
Existing GF long term debt	2,072,600	1,930,900	1,711,100	1,627,800
Forecast GF new long term debt	129,000	181,000	260,000	360,000
Closing General Fund net loan debt	2,218,400	2,153,800	2,091,300	2,021,200
Year end variable interest rate assumption	5.50%	4.25%	4.00%	4.00%
Year end fixed interest rate assumption	4.50%	4.25%	4.00%	4.00%

Note: the variable rate figures above include long term loans maturing in less than a year net of short term investments.

- 9.4. Variable rate exposure means that a 1% rise in variable rates at the end of 2024/25 would cost an estimated £0.03m per annum for the HRA and £0.2m for the General Fund. The budget provides for a potential increase in variable rates (as shown above), which is considered to be prudent in this context. Variable rate exposure for the HRA and General Fund are likely to be lower than previous years due to the limited availability of local authority lenders since the Council issued its Section 114 notice.

9.5. The Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer will keep the strategy under close review during the year, in light of the Council's financial position and the outlook for interest rates.

10. Treasury Management Revenue Budget

10.1. Based on this strategy the proposed budget figures are as follows:

Table 8.6 Treasury Management Revenue Budget

	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Net interest costs	141,800	148,800	151,400	151,600
Revenue charge for loan debt repayment	121,000	126,800	132,000	132,500
Other charges	5,800	5,300	5,300	5,300
Total	268,600	280,900	288,700	289,400
Met by the HRA	58,800	65,900	72,500	77,600
Met by the General Fund	209,800	215,000	216,200	211,800
Total	268,600	280,900	288,700	289,400

10.2. The budgeted interest cost in each year reflects a prudent view of borrowing costs and the cost of the additional borrowing in this budget report. Actual interest costs will be affected not only by future interest rates, but also by the Council's cash flows, the level of its revenue reserves and provisions, and any debt restructuring. Earlier Table 8.3 reflected additional capitalisation costs to be met by the General Fund should EFS be granted.

11. Investment Strategy

11.1. The Council has surplus cash to lend only for short periods, as part of day-to-day cashflow management and to maintain appropriate cash liquidity. Previously a month end investment balance of £40m in deposits was used as guidance to maintain adequate liquidity. This strategy will aim to have a month end investment balance of £100m to maintain liquidity and meet uncertain cashflows, in light of the Council's restricted access to short term borrowing.

11.2. Any such surplus cash is invested in high credit quality institutions and pooled investment funds such as Money Market Funds (MMFs). MMFs are expected to continue to form a major part of the cash investment portfolio, as they are able to reduce credit risks in a way the Council cannot do independently, by accessing high quality institutions and spreading the risk more widely.

- 11.3. In terms of the Council's ESG considerations for its investment strategy, MMFs are not typically managed with the explicit or implicit aim of being an ESG or 'ethical' product. MMF managers have varying approaches to ESG incorporation with many preferring active engagement, using their shareholding and voting rights to influence and improve corporate behaviour and responsibility.
- 11.4. The ESG credentials of the MMFs that the Council invests in have been reviewed, based on information provided by individual MMFs. All MMF managers have engaged with ESG as an issue for their investors and the Council will consider those MMFs that show a genuine commitment to incorporate ESG as a source of enhanced financial risk management.
- 11.5. Long term investments of one year or more are not currently expected to be appropriate for treasury management purposes, as the Council does not expect to have temporary surplus cash to invest for that length of time.

12. Other Treasury Management Activities and Exposures

- 12.1. The Council has a Treasury Management Panel consisting of senior Finance Officers and treasury officers at the Council. The Council's Treasury Management Panel meets regularly and acts as an advisory body, providing guidance, support and scrutiny to decisions made by treasury officers.
- 12.2. The Council has guaranteed the £73m loan debt issued by NEC (Developments) Plc, which since the sale of the NEC Group has been a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council. The value of this liability, due to mature in 2027, is reflected in the Council's own debt and is managed as part of treasury activity.
- 12.3. The Council is a constituent member of the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). Participating authorities share an exposure to any unfinanced revenue losses of WMCA, including debt finance costs. The Council and other member authorities support WMCA's capital investment plans, which include substantial prudential borrowing (subject to revenue funding support). This exposure is managed through the authorities' voting rights in WMCA including approval to its annual revenue and capital budget.

13. Advisers

- 13.1. Arlingclose Limited are appointed to provide treasury management advice to the Council, including the provision of credit rating and other investment information. Advisers are a useful support in view of the size of the Council's transactions and the pressures on staff time. Arlingclose were reappointed as the Council's treasury management advisor following a competitive tender exercise during 2022/23.

14. Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management

- 14.1. The Council is required under the Local Government Act 2003 and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code to set Prudential Indicators for treasury management. These are presented in Appendix 8D.

Appendix 8A: Treasury Management Policy

1. Overview

- 1.1 This appendix sets out the Council's proposed Treasury Management Policy. The policy sets the overall framework and risk management controls which are used in carrying out the Council's borrowing, lending and other treasury activities.

2. Statutory Guidance

- 2.1 This Treasury Management Policy, the Treasury Strategy at Appendix 8, and the Service and Commercial Investment Strategy at Appendix 8B, comply with the statutory requirement to have regard to the following Codes and Guidance:

- CIPFA's Code of practice for Treasury management in the public services (2021)
- CIPFA's Prudential Code for capital finance in local authorities (2021)
- The Government's Statutory Guidance on Local Authority Investments (2018)

- 2.2 The Council has adopted the above Codes.

3. The Council's Treasury Management Objectives

- 3.1 The Council's treasury management objectives and activities are defined as:

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

- 3.2 Effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of the Council's business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable comprehensive performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management².

Treasury Management Risks

- 3.3 The Council attaches a high priority to a stable and predictable charge to revenue from treasury management activities, because borrowing costs form a significant part of the Council's revenue budget. The Council's objectives in relation to debt and investment can be stated more specifically as follows:

² Paragraphs 3.1, 3.2, 3.6 and the final sentence of 4.5 are required by the CIPFA Treasury Management Code

“To assist the achievement of the Council’s service objectives by obtaining funding and managing the Council’s debt and treasury investments at a net cost which is as low as possible, consistent with a high degree of interest cost stability and a very low risk to sums invested.”

- 3.4 This does not mean that it is possible to avoid all treasury risks, and a balance has to be struck. The main treasury risks which the Council is exposed to include:
- Interest rate risk - the risk that future borrowing costs rise
 - Credit risk - the risk of default in a Council investment
 - Liquidity and refinancing risks - the risk that the Council cannot obtain funds when needed
 - Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks – the risk that the Council’s treasury activities negatively impact sustainability and climate change.
- 3.5 The Treasury Management team has suitably qualified and trained staff to actively manage treasury risks within this Policy framework. However, staff resources are limited, and this may constrain the Council’s ability to respond to market opportunities or take advantage of more highly structured financing arrangements. External advice and support may also be required. The following activities may for example be appropriate based on an assessment at the time, to the extent that skills and resources are available:
- the refinancing of existing debt
 - borrowing in advance of need, and forward-starting loans
 - leasing and hire purchase
 - use of innovative or more complex sources of funding such as listed bond issues, private placements, ESG bond issues and private placements, commercial paper, Islamic finance, and sale and leaseback structures
 - investing surplus cash in institutions or funds with a high level of creditworthiness, rather than placing all deposits with the Government
- 3.6 The successful identification, monitoring and control of risk are the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of the Council’s treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the organisation, and any financial instruments entered into to manage these risks.
- 3.7 The Council’s approach to the management of treasury risks is set out in the rest of this Treasury Management Policy.

4. Managing Treasury Risks³

Interest Rate Exposures

- 4.1 It is important for the Council to manage its interest rate exposure due to the risk that changes in the level of interest rates leads to an unexpected burden on the Council's finances. As the Council has and expects to have significant loan balances, rather than investment balances, a rise in interest rates poses greater risks for the Council.
- 4.2 The stability of the Council's interest costs is affected by the level of borrowing exposed to short term or variable interest rates. Short term interest rates are typically lower, so there can be a trade-off between short term savings and long term budget stability. The Council will therefore limit the amount of short term debt it holds in order to manage its variable interest rate exposure. The Council will monitor the impact of a 1% interest rate rise on the General Fund, to ensure that it can adequately protect itself should this or a similar scenario occur:

Table 8A.1 Prudential Limits - Interest Rate Exposure

	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
General Fund impact of an unbudgeted 1% rise in interest rates	£200,000	£400,000	£1,200,000	£800,000
Upper limit on net variable rate exposures	30%	30%	30%	30%

- 4.3 The above table shows variable rate exposure for the General Fund is expected to be considerably lower than previous years. This is due to lower planned short term borrowing as a result of a generally more restrictive local authority lending market and more restrictive specifically for the Council since the issuance of its Section 114 notices. The current planned variable rate exposure is set out in the Treasury Management Strategy Appendix 8.
- 4.4 Decisions taken to borrow in advance of need will consider all treasury risks together, including interest rate risk and investment risk (credit risk). Such decisions need to weigh the financial implications and risks of deferring borrowing until it is needed (by which time fixed interest rates may have risen), against the cost of carry and financial implications of reinvesting the cash proceeds until required. The Council will only borrow in advance of need where there is a clear business case for doing so and will only do so for the

³ Throughout this budget report, debt and investments are expressed at nominal value, which may be different from the amortised cost value required in the statutory accounts.

forecast capital programme, to replace maturing loans, or to meet other expected cashflows.

Maturity Profile

- 4.5 The Council will have regard to forecast Gross Loan Debt in managing the maturity profile. This takes account of forecast cashflows and the effect of MRP (minimum revenue provision for debt repayment) to produce a liability benchmark against which the Council's actual debt maturity profile is managed. Taking this into account the proposed limits are as follows:

Table 8A.2 Prudential Limits - Maturity Structure of Fixed Rate Borrowing

	lower and upper limits:
under 12 months	0% to 30% of gross loan debt
12 to 24 months	0% to 30%
24 months to 5 years	0% to 30%
5 to 10 years	0% to 30%
10 to 20 years	5% to 40%
20 to 40 years	10% to 60%
40 years and above	0% to 40%

- 4.6 These limits may need to be adjusted for any borrowings and conditions as part of Exceptional Financial Support.

5. Investment Policy: All Investments

- 5.1 The CIPFA Prudential and Treasury Codes recommend that authorities' capital strategies should include a policy and risk management framework for all investments. The Codes identify three types of local authority investment:

- Treasury management investments, which are taken to manage cashflows and as part of the Council's debt and financing activity
- Commercial investments (including investment properties), which are taken mainly to earn a positive net financial return
- Service investments, which are taken mainly to support service outcomes

- 5.2. The Government's investment guidance strengthens the management and reporting framework relating to commercial and service investments.

6. Investment Policy: Service and Commercial Investments

6.1 Service and commercial investments are taken out for different reasons from treasury management investments. The Council's strategy for such investments, including commercial property investments, is set out in Appendix 8B.

7. Investment Policy: Treasury Management Investments

7.1 The Council is a substantial net borrower and only has cash to invest for relatively short periods as a result of positive cashflow or borrowing in advance of expenditure.

7.2 The Council's cashflows and treasury management activity will generally result in temporarily surplus cash to be invested. The following paragraphs set out the Council's policy for these 'treasury management' investments.

7.3 The investment of temporarily surplus cash results in credit risk, i.e. the risk of loss if an investment defaults. In accordance with Government investment guidance, the Council distinguishes between:

- 'Specified Investments' which mature within 12 months and have a 'high credit quality' in the opinion of the authority
- 'Non-specified Investments' which are long term investments (i.e. maturing in 12 months or more), or which do not have such high credit quality. The Government views these as riskier. Such investments require more care, and are limited to the areas set out in the policy for Non-specified Investments below

7.4 Low investment risk is a key treasury objective, and in accordance with Government and CIPFA guidance, the Council will seek a balance between investment risk and return that prioritises security and liquidity as more important than achieving a high return. The Council will also consider secured forms of lending such as covered bonds, but these instruments are not generally available for short term and smaller size deposits.

7.5 The Council seeks to be a responsible investor and will consider ESG factors within the relatively narrow scope of its investments. The Council makes few if any investments in listed equities or bonds and will seek to avoid investment in companies whose business do not have regard to ESG objectives.

7.6 The Council will continue to make deposits only with institutions having high credit quality as set out in the Lending Criteria table below. The main criteria and processes which deliver this are set out in the following paragraphs.

8. Specified Investments

- 8.1 The Council will limit risks by applying lending limits and criteria for 'high credit quality' as shown in Table 8A.3; these limits have been set by the Council in consultation with Treasury advisors.

Table 8A.3 Lending Criteria

'Specified' short term loan investments (all in Sterling)	Minimum Short term rating*	Minimum Long term rating*	Maximum investment per counterparty
Banks (including overseas banks) and Building Societies	F1+ /A1+ /P1	AA- /AA- /Aa3	£25m
	F1+ /A1+ /P1	A- / A- /A3	£20m
	F1 /A1 /P1	A- / A- /A3	£15m
	F2 /A2 /P2	BBB+ /BBB+ /Baa1	£10m
Sterling commercial paper and corporate bonds	F1+ /A1+ /P1	A- / A- /A3	£15m
Sterling Money Market Funds (short term and Enhanced)	AAA (with rating indicating lowest level of volatility where applicable)		£40m
Local authorities	n/a	n/a	£25m
UK Government and supranational bonds	n/a	n/a	None
UK Nationalised Banks and Government controlled agencies	n/a	n/a	£25m
Secured investments including repo and covered bonds	Lending limits determined as for banks (above) using the rating of the collateral or individual investment		

* Fitch / S&P / and Moody's rating Agencies respectively. Institutions must be rated by at least two of the Agencies, and the lowest rating will be taken into account.

- 8.2 Money may be lent to the Council's own banker, in accordance with the above lending limits. However, if the Council's banker does not meet the above criteria, money may only be lent overnight (or over the weekend), and these balances will be minimised.
- 8.3 Credit ratings are monitored on a real-time basis as provided via the Council's Treasury Management advisers, Arlingclose, and the Council's lending list is updated accordingly, when a rating changes. Other information is taken into account when deciding whether to lend. This may include the ratings of other rating agencies; commentary in the financial press; analysis of country, sector and group exposures; and the portfolio make up of Money Market Funds (MMFs). The use of particular permitted counterparties may be restricted if this is considered appropriate.

8.4 Credit rating methodologies and credit limit requirements may change as the circumstances demand: in this event the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) may determine revised and practicable criteria seeking similarly high credit quality, pending the next annual review of this treasury management policy.

9. Non-specified Investments and Limit

9.1 For treasury management investment purposes, the Council will limit non-specified investments to £400m (there are presently none), and will use only the following categories of non-specified investments:

- Government stocks (or “Gilts”) and other supranational bonds, with a maturity of less than five years: up to 100% of non-specified investments
- Covered bonds and repo where the security meets the Council’s credit criteria set out above: up to 50% of non-specified investments
- Unsecured corporate bonds, Certificates of Deposit (CD) or Commercial Paper (CP) with a maturity of less than three years, subject to the Lending Criteria in the table above: up to 20% of non-specified investments

9.2 Other categories of non-specified investments will not be used for treasury management purposes.

10. Investments of Group Companies

10.1 The Council participates in a range of joint ventures and companies. The Treasury Management team maintains a group Treasury Policy for group entities with significant investment balances, with the objective that the treasury investments of the companies are invested consistently with the Council’s own treasury investment criteria. This is generally achieved by the Council taking deposits at a commercial rate from the companies.

11. Investment Maturity

11.1. Temporarily surplus cash will be invested having regard to the period of time for which the cash is expected to be surplus. The CIPFA Prudential Code envisages that authorities will not borrow more than three years in advance, so it is unlikely that the Council will plan to have surplus cash for longer than three years. However, where surplus cash for over 12 months is envisaged, it may be appropriate to include some longer term (non-specified) investments within a balanced risk portfolio. The following limits will be applied:

Table 8A.4 Prudential Limits on Long-term treasury management investments:

1-2 years	£400m
2-3 years	£100m
3-5 years	£100m

- 11.2. In making investments in accordance with the criteria set out in this section, the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer will seek to spread risk (for example, across different types of investment and to avoid concentration on lower credit quality). This may result in lower interest earnings, as safer investments will usually earn less than riskier ones.
- 11.3. Where the Council deals with financial firms under the MiFID II regulations⁴, it has requested to be opted up to ‘professional’ status. This means that the Council does not receive the level of investment advice and information which firms are required to provide to retail investors. Professional status is essential to an organisation of the Council’s size, to give it access to appropriate low-risk investments available only to investors classed as professional, and to ensure that it is able to act quickly to invest Council funds safely and to earn a good return.
- 11.4. The Council does not currently use investment managers (other than through the use of pooled investment vehicles such as Money Market Funds). However, if investment managers are appointed, their lending of Council funds would not be subject to the above restrictions, provided that their arrangements for assessing credit quality and exposure limits have been agreed by the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer.

12. Policy for HRA Loans Accounting

- 12.1. The Council attributes debt and debt revenue consequences to the HRA using the ‘two pool’ method set out in the CIPFA Treasury Management Code. This method attributes a share of all pre-April 2012 long term loans to the HRA. Any new long term loans for HRA purposes from April 2012 are separately identified. The detailed accounting policy arising from the ‘two pool’ method is maintained by the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer.

13. The Council Acting as Agent

- 13.1. The Council acts as intermediary in its role as agent for a number of external bodies. This includes roles as accountable body, trustee, and custodian, and these may require the Council to carry out treasury management operations as agent. The Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer will exercise the

⁴ The Markets in Financial Instruments Directive 2 (MiFID II) regulates, amongst other things, the way that financial firms provide advice to various categories of client.

Council's treasury responsibilities in accordance with the Council's treasury delegations and relevant legislation and will apply any specific treasury policies and requirements of the external body. In relation to the short term cash funds invested as accountable body, the Council expects to apply the investment policy set out above.

14. Reporting and Delegation

- 14.1. A Treasury Management Strategy report is presented as part of the annual budget to the Council before the start of each financial year. Monitoring reports are prepared monthly, and presented quarterly to Cabinet, including an Annual Report after the year end.
- 14.2. The management of borrowings, loans, debts, investments and other assets has been delegated to the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer acting in accordance with this Treasury Management Policy Statement. This encompasses the investment of trust funds where the Council is sole trustee, and other investments for which the Council is responsible such as accountable body funds. The Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer reports during the year to Cabinet on the decisions taken under delegated treasury management powers.
- 14.3. In exercising this delegation, the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer may procure, appoint and dismiss brokers, arranging and dealer banks, investment managers, issuing and paying agents, treasury consultants and other providers in relation to the Council's borrowing, investments, and other treasury instruments and financing arrangements, and in relation to funds and instruments where the Council acts as agent.
- 14.4. The Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer maintains statements of Treasury Management Practices in accordance with the Code:

TMP1	Treasury risk management
TMP2	Performance measurement
TMP3	Decision-making and analysis
TMP4	Approved instruments, methods and techniques
TMP5	Treasury management organisation, clarity and segregation of responsibilities, and dealing arrangements
TMP6	Reporting requirements and management information arrangements
TMP7	Budgeting, accounting and audit arrangements
TMP8	Cash and cash flow management
TMP9	Money laundering
TMP10	Training and qualifications
TMP11	Use of external service providers
TMP12	Corporate governance

14.5. Similarly, Investment Management Practices for service and commercial investments are prepared in accordance with the Treasury Management Code.

15. Training

15.1. Planned and regular training for appropriate treasury management staff is essential to ensure that they have the skills and up to date knowledge to manage treasury activities and risks and achieve good value for the Council. Staff training will be planned primarily through the Council's performance and development review process, and in accordance with Treasury Management Practice 10. Training and briefings for Councillors are also held as appropriate.

Appendix 8B: Service & Commercial Investment Strategy

Compliance with the main requirements of the Government's Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments is shown by cross reference in square brackets to the relevant paragraph of the Guidance.

1. Scope and Purpose of Strategy

- 1.1. The word "Investments" in this strategy covers financial investments, including loans and equity, which are made to support service objectives and historically have supported commercial objectives. Examples of service investments include loans to InReach, Warwickshire County Cricket Club and the Council's investment in Birmingham Airport. Non-financial investments such as commercial property are included where the main objective had previously been for financial return [4]. Any such property investments are historic and the Council does not now invest primarily for yield. Investments taken for treasury management reasons are considered in the Treasury Management Strategy and Policy, which are separate appendices in this Financial Plan.
- 1.2. This strategy sets out the Council's approach to such investments, including risk management, appraisal, monitoring, governance and procedures. In doing this it addresses the requirements of the 2018 Statutory Guidance on Local Government Investments.
- 1.3. Due to the Council's current challenging financial situation, as set out in the S114 notice issued in September 2023, the scope for any new investments is limited. Any proposed investments will need to be in the context of Financial Recovery, support the delivery of budget savings and the reduction of pressures highlighted in the wider Budget papers, without unduly exposing the Council to financial risks.
- 1.4. A key element of Financial Recovery, outside of the revenue savings above, will be a review and assessment of the capital programme and assets owned by the Council. This is necessary in order to deliver capital receipts to support the formal application for Exceptional Financial Support to help with the financing of the Council's potential Equal Pay liability, the costs involved in a redundancy scheme and support to deliver a balanced budget. As a result, the Council will need to carefully manage its use of internal resources and external borrowing for investment purposes.
- 1.5. Investment values provided in this appendix are the book values in the Council's accounts (generally historic cost), unless otherwise stated.

2. Objectives of the Strategy:

- 2.1. To use investments where appropriate to support the Council's financial recovery, service delivery and corporate priorities, within prudent financial limits.

- 2.2. To ensure that investment decisions and portfolio management are joined up with the Council's overall business and financial planning and considered in accordance with statutory guidance.
- 2.3. To deliver value for money to meet service objectives on commercial or less than commercial terms.
- 2.4. To manage risks in accordance with the Council's risk appetite and financial circumstances (including due diligence when making investment decisions).

3. Existing Financial Investment Portfolio

- 3.1. The Council's service and commercial investments are extremely diverse, given their very different service motives and applications. The estimated book value of financial investments at 31 March 2023 is £114.6m. This value is a largely historic cost and may vary substantially from the value that may be realised if investments were disposed in the current market (either upwards or downwards for individual investments).
- 3.2. The investment portfolio's budgeted net income for 2024/25 is £18m.
- 3.3. Table 8B.3 at the end of this appendix shows the main contribution of the Council's service and commercial investments to Council objectives. [22]

4. Investment Policy and Strategy 2024+

- 4.1. The key priority for the Council is Financial Recovery. Joint working, partnerships and joint delivery arrangements are also important to the effective and efficient provision of Council and wider public services. Financial and property investments may be an ongoing element of the Council's partnership working.
- 4.2. In the context of the current Financial Recovery and priorities, investments may feature in arrangements for:
 - Supporting specific policy priorities in the Council Plan or policy frameworks, e.g. housing, regeneration or preventative action
 - Supporting partnership working, including with the voluntary sector
 - Supporting the Council's savings proposals by providing a direct and indirect financial return within the constraints of the revised Prudential Code and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) guidelines.
- 4.3. The Council recognises that all investments carry varying risks of financial loss. The risk of losses may seem distant or not be apparent at the time an investment decision is made, but an estimate of the risk of loss is considered from the outset. Financial gains and losses from investments will be managed by the service to which the investment relates.

- 4.4. The Council will continue to be prudent where investments are funded wholly or partly from borrowing, these will be kept to a minimum. Borrowing creates additional costs of interest and repayment. It produces a fixed liability and a fixed repayment obligation, whilst the investment's value and income may be at risk of change. The scope to borrow to fund investments is also limited by the already relatively high level of Council debt and the request for Exceptional Financial Support to the Councils financial position and fund its liabilities.
- 4.5. The Council's risk appetite in relation to new financial investments will be low, given the high level of financial pressures the Council is already exposed to, including the need to balance the revenue budget and manage the level of Council debt. Any new investments will be required to:
- Show a compelling positive contribution to the Council's financial recovery and planned service strategies and must be prioritised within the Council's available resources.
 - Evidence a low financial risk with a commensurate financial return, or if direct financial returns are below commercial levels, provide clear non-financial benefits to the Council which demonstrate strong value for money, and comply with Subsidy Control requirements⁵.
 - Be prioritised within the investment limits set out below, to ensure that investment activity remains proportionate to the Council's overall finances.
 - Strike a prudent balance between security, liquidity and yield (whilst recognising that the delivery of particularly strong service benefits may sometimes justify a higher financial risk) [29]
 - Meet the Council's Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations
- 4.6. The Council is mindful of Government and CIPFA advice that commercial investments including property must be proportionate to the resources of the authority [34]. The Council will avoid becoming over-reliant on risky investment income to support core service obligations, especially given its low investment risk appetite set out in 4.5 above.
- 4.7. In line with Government Guidance the Council will not borrow to invest purely for financial gain [46]. This principle does not prevent the Council from borrowing for the prudent management of its financial affairs or protection of its existing financial and property investment portfolios in its financial best interests.
- 4.8. Public Works Loans Board (PWLB) lending terms confirm local authorities would not be able to access PWLB loans if they invest in investment assets primarily for yield, after 26 November 2020. The Council has been compliant with this requirement and is not planning any investments primarily for yield.

⁵ Following the UK's exit from the European Union (EU), The EU State Aid regime has been replaced by the broadly similar UK Subsidy Control regime from January 2023.

All service and commercial investments will have regard to the guidance and lending terms issued by HM Treasury.

- 4.9. Budgeted net income from service and commercial investments (including property) represents 1.9% of the net revenue budget in 2024/25 [44]. This investment income exposure represents a manageable financial risk and will be monitored as part of the Council's normal revenue monitoring as well as through the investment indicators (paragraph 7.1 below).
- 4.10. Any shortfall in budgeted net income from service and commercial investments will be managed through the Council's regular budget monitoring and mitigation processes, and through the investment governance arrangements described in paragraph 8.1 below [44].
- 4.11. The arrangements for realising investments and managing liquidity risk will depend on the purpose and nature of the investment in each case. Where investments are funded by borrowing, the Council's MRP Policy (Appendix 8C) sets out the arrangements to repay debt without resorting to a sale of the investments [42-43].

5. Financial Investment Plans and Limits for 2024+

- 5.1. The main financial risk when investing in loans and equity is that the loan repayments are not made and that shares lose value. In order to limit the financial impact of investment risks, an overall limit for the Council's service and commercial investments over the next three years (excluding the property investment portfolio) is proposed as follows:

Table 8B.1 Service and Commercial Investment Strategy

Financial Investments	estimated value at 31.03.23	Planned Changes	total value	limit
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Loans to subsidiaries	36,400	(4,900)	31,500	
Loans to businesses	32,100	(7,900)	24,200	
Other loans	8,600	(200)	8,400	
Shares in subsidiaries	8,400	0	8,400	
Shares in businesses	27,400	0	27,400	
other shares	1,700	0	1,700	
Total	114,600	(13,000)	101,600	501,600
The figures above are the estimated book value in the Council's accounts				

- 5.2. The planned changes reflect the proposals described above, over the medium term to 2027/28. The limit has been set with a view to allowing scope for further investment of £400m during this period. The investment over the medium term is mainly related to the Enterprise Zone (EZ), made on behalf of

the Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP). Investments are supported by additional Business Rates from the EZ or from other EZ income where borrowing will be repaid within the lifetime of the EZ. Any new EZ investments are subject to robust financial evaluation and affordability testing, with any investment that is reliant on borrowing only approved if funding can be achieved through business rates growth in accordance with agreed and prudent financial approval principles.

- 5.3. These investments would be subject to resource prioritisation and business case approval. Cabinet may approve a reallocation of individual limits within the total limit above. The limit applies to the Council's own investments and not to investments which it holds as accountable body or on behalf of others [34, 36].
- 5.4. InReach, the Council's wholly owned housing company, continues to explore opportunities to acquire or develop further schemes to increase its housing supply, with a particular focus on the market rented sector. This may include a role in relation to some of the new housing being delivered as part of the Perry Barr Regeneration Scheme. Any additional schemes will be subject to individual appraisals, and where significant capital investment is required, it is likely that the provision of funding to InReach will be in the form of a blend of additional equity investment and secured loans.
- 5.5. Investments may also carry liquidity risk, which is the risk that funds may be tied up in investments and not available if needed for other purposes. The Council's due diligence procedures for investments review liquidity risk, including how exit routes have been considered and the appropriate maximum period for investments to be committed [42].

6. Property Investment Portfolio Plans and Limits for 2024+

- 6.1. To support the approach to capital assets as part of Financial Recovery (see paragraph 1.4 above), a programme of rationalisation and re-gearing of the property investment portfolio has been agreed. The property investment portfolio in scope for this Strategy is comprised of development sites and strategic assets, industrial premises, retail premises and miscellaneous assets located across the city.
- 6.2. To oversee this property strategy, the Council has set up the new Cabinet Property Committee, where the terms of reference are to approve proposed sales of council property and assets as part of the Council wide Asset Strategy. The Committee will have delegated powers from Cabinet to declare land and property surplus to requirements. It will have the power to determine high value property sales, the means of disposal and the acceptance of offers. The Property Committee's main purpose will be to deliver the capital receipts programme without delays. It will have these powers for both General Fund Assets and Housing Revenue Account Assets.

7. Investment Indicators

- 7.1. The Council will use the following investment indicators to strengthen its investment risk management framework, as recommended by the Government Guidance [23]:

Table 8B.2 Service and Commercial Investment Indicators

Service and commercial investment indicators	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Financial investments				
planned value	109,000	106,400	104,200	101,600
borrowing to fund investments	50,900	49,300	48,100	46,500
% investments financed by borrowing	46.7%	46.3%	46.2%	45.8%
secured investments	62,300	60,000	57,800	55,300
% investments secured	57.2%	56.4%	55.5%	54.4%
Budgeted investment income (financial and property)				
Net investment income	18,000	18,500	20,500	22,700
Council net revenue budget	1,150,870	1,130,995	1,116,626	1,183,502
Investment income as % of net revenue budget	1.6%	1.6%	1.8%	1.9%
Financial investment limit (cumulative)	206,600	296,600	373,600	466,600

8. Governance

- 8.1. The Capital Board will review new investment proposals and programmes prior to approval and will monitor existing investments and risks. The Group and Capital Finance Team and the Treasury Management team will exercise Council-wide oversight and co-ordination of service and commercial investments.
- 8.2. Financial and property investment decision making will follow the Council's Business Case governance requirements, with particular attention to expert due diligence, robust financial appraisal and taking external advice in consultation with the Section 151 Officer. Procedures and checklists for investment appraisal and management are set out in the Council's financial procedures (the Loans, shares, investments and guarantees for service purposes document on the Council's Intranet) [41,50].
- 8.3. Market understanding and analysis will be the responsibility of the relevant service supported by their Finance Business Partner and the Treasury

Management team, but it is recognised that for complex investments, external advice is likely to be needed [41]. New investments must reflect the Council's core priorities and must be agreed by the Section 151 Officer via the Assistant Director, Financial Strategy and the Council's Treasury team before presentation of any executive decision report.

- 8.4. Individual investment monitoring is the responsibility of the service holding the income budget, as part of normal budget monitoring, with overall co-ordination and oversight from Finance staff.
- 8.5. Investment Management Practices are required by the CIPFA Treasury Management Code to support strong and sound financial management in this specialist area. These will be maintained for each type of investment by the service budget-holder responsible, with support from Development and Commercial Finance, and will include appropriate income collection and credit control arrangements [41]. Investment Management Practices will be reviewed annually.
- 8.6. Advisers will be used where necessary to achieve sufficient skills and understanding. In particular, the Council's treasury management adviser (Arlingclose) can provide support in relation to financial investments. These appointments are monitored and assessed by treasury and property officers [41]. The Council's business loans and investments portfolio is managed by Finance Birmingham, the Council's wholly owned fund management company.
- 8.7. Officer and Member training will be available through the Council's treasury advisers, alongside other treasury management training opportunities. Information relevant to investment decisions will form part of executive decision reports to members [48]. Cabinet Committee – Group Company Governance and relevant officers also receive training on companies. Due diligence requirements for investments will ensure that officers are aware of the core principles of the prudential framework and local authority regulatory requirements [49]. These arrangements will support the capacity, skills and culture of the Council in making and managing investments for service and commercial purposes [48-49].

Table 8B.3 Contribution of Investments to Council Outcomes

Financial Investments	main contribution	other contribution
Loans		
InReach Ltd - housing developments	housing	profit
Birmingham Propco (NEC Hotels)	economy	profit
Performances Birmingham Ltd	economy	arts
Millennium Point	economy	arts
Business loans portfolio	economy	-
Warwickshire County Cricket Club	economy	-
Acivico ICT Loan	economy	-
BLLP	education	-
Kick Start loans	housing	-
Other commercial loans	various	-
Loans to non-BCC schools	education	-
Birmingham Childrens Trust	children	-
Other small loans	various	-
loans to employees	management	employees
Wholesale Markets	economy	profit
Shares		
Birmingham Airport Holdings	economy	profit
InReach Ltd	housing	-
Birmingham Propco (NEC Hotels)	economy	profit
Business share portfolio	economy	-
Financial vehicle shareholdings	financial mgt	economy
Other small share holdings	various	-

Appendix 8C: Debt Repayment Policy

Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2024/25

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Government's Capital Finance and Accounting Regulations require local authorities to make 'prudent annual provision' in relation to capital expenditure financed from borrowing or credit arrangements. This is known as Minimum Revenue Provision or MRP, but it is often referred in shorthand as "debt repayment". Local authorities are required to have regard to the Government's statutory guidance on MRP.
- 1.2 This policy applies to the financial year 2024/25. Any interpretation of the statutory guidance or this policy will be determined by the Section 151 Officer (currently the Director of Finance).

2. Principles of Debt Repayment Provision

- 2.1 The term 'prudent annual provision' is not defined by the Regulations. However, the statutory guidance says:

"the broad aim of prudent provision is to ensure that debt is repaid over a period that is either reasonably commensurate with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits, or, in the case of borrowing supported by Government Revenue Support Grant, reasonably commensurate with the period implicit in the determination of that grant".

- 2.2 The guidance does not prescribe the annual repayment profile to achieve this aim but suggests four methods for making MRP which it considers prudent, and notes that other methods are not ruled out. The Council regards the broad aim of MRP as set out above as the primary indicator of prudent provision, whilst recognising the flexibilities which exist in determining an appropriate annual repayment profile.
- 2.3 The Council considers that the above definition of 'prudent' does not mean the quickest possible repayment period but has regard to the prudent financial planning of the authority overall, the flow of benefits from the capital expenditure, and other relevant factors.
- 2.4 Consistent with the statutory guidance, the Council will not review the individual asset lives used for MRP as a result of any changes in the expected life of the asset or its actual write off. Some assets will last longer than their initially estimated life, and others will not; the important thing is the reasonableness of the estimate.

3. General Fund MRP Policy: Borrowing pre 31 March 2008

- 3.1 The Council's policy is to charge MRP on the pre-2008/09 borrowing at 2% of the balance at 31 March 2008, fixed at the same cash value so that the whole debt is repaid after 50 years.

4. General Fund MRP Policy: Prudential Borrowing from 1 April 2008

- 4.1 The general repayment policy for prudential borrowing from 1 April 2008 is to repay borrowing within the expected life of the asset being financed, subject to a maximum period of 50 years.

- 4.2 The Council's policy is in accordance with the "Asset Life" method in the guidance. The repayment profile will follow an annuity repayment method (like many domestic mortgages) which is one of the options set out in the guidance. This is subject to the following details:

- An average asset life for each project will normally be used. This will be based on the asset life normally used for depreciation accounting purposes (recognising that MRP is estimated at the start of the project, whereas depreciation is not determined until the project has finished, so there may be estimation differences).
- There will not be separate MRP schedules for the components of a building (e.g. plant, roof etc.).
- A standard schedule of asset lives will generally be used, but where borrowing on a project exceeds £10m, expert property advice may also be taken into account.
- Asset life will be determined by the Section 151 Officer.

- 4.3 MRP will commence in the year following the year in which capital expenditure financed from borrowing is incurred, except for single assets where over £1m financed from borrowing is planned, where MRP may be deferred until the year after the asset becomes operational.

- 4.4 Other methods to provide for debt repayment may occasionally be used in individual cases where this is consistent with the statutory duty to be prudent, as justified by the circumstances of the case, at the discretion of the Section 151 Officer.

- 4.5 If appropriate, shorter repayment periods (i.e. less than the asset life) may be used for some or all new borrowing.

5. Housing Revenue Account MRP Policy

- 5.1 The statutory MRP Guidance states that the duty to make MRP does not extend to cover borrowing or credit arrangements used to finance capital expenditure on HRA assets. This is because of the different financial structure of the HRA, in which depreciation charges have a similar effect to MRP.

5.2 The Council's current HRA Business Plan allows for net HRA debt to increase significantly over the next few years. This is in order to meet the investments required for the Council's existing housing stock and for the supply of new homes. Net HRA debt is then forecast to reduce over time with planned repayment of debt. Additional voluntary HRA debt repayment provision may be made from revenue or capital resources.

6. Concession Agreements and Finance Leases

6.1 MRP in relation to concession agreements (e.g. PFI contracts) and finance leases will continue to be calculated on an asset life method for assets under contracts in place before 1 April 2018, using an annuity repayment profile, consistent with the method for prudential borrowing in paragraph 8 above. For assets under contracts entered into from 1 April 2018, the annual MRP charge will match the element of the rent/charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability, to reflect accounting changes under IFRS16. The Section 151 Officer will determine the appropriate treatment, having regard to the MRP Guidance, in complex cases.

6.2 Where former operating leases have been brought onto the balance sheet due to the adoption of the IFRS 16 Leases accounting standard, and the asset values have been adjusted for accruals, prepayments, premiums and/or incentives, then the annual MRP charges will be adjusted so that the total charge to revenue remains unaffected by the new standard.

7. Transferred Debt

7.1 Transferred Debt is debt held by another local authority whose costs are recharged to the Council (usually as a result of earlier reorganisations, such as the abolition of the former County Council). MRP in relation to Transferred Debt will be charged in line with the MRP policy for borrowings pre 31 March 2008, as described in paragraph 3.1, as the transferred debt relates to that period.

SPECIFIC SITUATIONS

8. Statutory capitalisations

8.1 Expenditure which does not create a fixed asset, but is statutorily capitalised, will follow the MRP treatment in the Government guidance or any approved capitalisation direction, apart from any exceptions provided for below.

9. Capitalised loans to others

9.1 MRP on capitalised loan advances to other organisations or individuals will not usually be required; instead, the capital receipts arising from the loan principal repayments will be used as provision to repay debt. Where principal repayments are not broadly spread over the life of the loan, the Section 151 Officer may determine that annual Revenue MRP must be made for reasons

of prudence. Revenue MRP contributions would still be required equal to the amount of any default on the repayment of the loan advanced, or the expected credit loss where this is required by government guidance.

10. Enterprise Zone (EZ)

- 10.1 Borrowing by the Council related to the Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP), and which is supported by additional Business Rates from the EZ or from other GBSLEP income, will be repaid within the lifetime of the EZ or other associated income stream (or the estimated life of the assets being funded, if shorter). This was originally 2038 but has been extended to 2046. This means that the repayment period for EZ-supported borrowing will reduce each year so that all EZ debt can be repaid by 2046.

11. Voluntary repayment of debt

- 11.1 The Council may make additional voluntary debt repayment provision from revenue or capital resources. In this case, the Section 151 Officer may make an appropriate reduction in later years' levels of MRP.
- 11.2 Where it is proposed to make a voluntary debt repayment provision in relation to prudential borrowing from 2008/09 under the asset life method, it may be necessary to decide which assets the debt repayment relates to, in order to determine the reduction in subsequent MRP. The following principles will be applied by the Section 151 Officer in reaching a prudent decision:
- where the rationale for debt repayment is based on specific assets or programmes, any debt associated with those assets or programmes will be repaid
 - where the rationale for debt repayment is not based on specific assets, debt representative of the service will be repaid, with a maturity reflecting the range of associated debt outstanding
- 11.3 Subject to the above two bullet points, debt with the shortest period before repayment will not be favoured above longer MRP maturities, in the interests of prudence, to ensure that capital resources are not applied for purely short term benefits.
- 11.4 Based on this policy, the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) will be fully repaid by no longer than 50 years after any prudential borrowing is incurred (including PFI). Existing PFI contracts will be fully repaid 40 years after the final capital expenditure under the Council's PFI contracts. On new PFI / finance lease contracts it will be repaid in line with the contractual payments as set out in paragraph 6.1.

Appendix 8D: Prudential Indicators

Chart 8D.1

WHOLE COUNCIL		24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
		Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Finance					
1	Capital Expenditure - Capital Programme	534.1	472.2	483.7	307.6
2	Capital Expenditure - other long term liabilities	37.7	39.3	38.0	38.3
3	Capital Expenditure	571.8	511.5	521.7	345.9
4	Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	4,970.1	5082.7	5,149.2	5,142.9
Planned Debt					
5	Peak loan debt in year	3,625.8	3,748.2	3,833.0	3,925.0
6	+ Other long term liabilities (peak in year)	324.0	297.0	275.4	252.4
7	= Peak debt in year	3,949.8	4,045.2	4,108.4	4,177.4
8	does peak debt exceed year 3 CFR?	no	no	no	no
Prudential limit for debt					
9	Gross loan debt	4,476.0	4,703.0	4,724.6	4,747.6
10	+ other long term liabilities	324.0	297.0	275.4	252.4
11	= Total debt	4,800.0	5,000.0	5,000.0	5,000.0
Notes					
4	The Capital Financing Requirement represents the underlying level of borrowing needed to finance historic capital expenditure (after deducting debt repayment charges). This includes all elements of the CFR including Transferred Debt.				
5-7	These figures represent the forecast peak debt (which may not occur at the year end). The Prudential Code calls these indicators the Operational Boundary.				
8	It would be a cause for concern if the Council's loan debt exceeded the CFR, but this is not the case due to positive cashflows, reserves and balances.				
11	The Authorised limit for debt is the statutory debt limit. The City Council may not breach the limit it has set, so it includes allowance for uncertain cashflow movements and potential borrowing in advance for future needs.				

Chart 8D.2

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT		24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Finance					
1	Capital expenditure	268.1	286.1	267.1	266.9
HRA Debt					
2	Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	1,287.1	1,474.0	1,620.9	1,783.2
Affordability					
3	HRA financing costs	117.4	125.6	133.7	140.3
4	HRA revenues	322.8	334.1	348.0	363.9
5	HRA financing costs as % of revenues	36.4%	37.6%	38.4%	38.6%
6	HRA debt: revenues	4.0	4.4	4.7	4.9
7	Forecast Housing debt per dwelling	£22,266	£25,568	£28,082	£30,773

Notes

- 3 Financing costs include interest and depreciation rather than Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) in the HRA.
- 6 This indicator is not in the Prudential Code but is a measure of long term sustainability.
- 7 This indicator is not in the Prudential Code but is a measure of affordability.

Chart 8D.3

GENERAL FUND		24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
		Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
		£m	£m	£m	£m
Capital Finance					
1	Capital expenditure (including other long term liabilities)	303.8	225.5	254.6	79.1
2	Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	3,683.0	3,608.7	3,528.3	3,359.7
General Fund debt					
3	Peak loan debt in year	2,338.7	2,274.2	2,212.1	2,141.8
4	+ Other long term liabilities (peak in year)	324.0	297.0	275.4	252.4
5	= Peak General Fund debt in year	2,662.7	2,571.2	2,487.5	2,394.2
General Fund Affordability					
6	Total General Fund financing costs	254.1	258.1	258.1	252.8
7	General Fund net revenues	1,150.870	1,130.995	1,116.626	1,183.502
8	General Fund financing costs (% of net revenues)	22.1%	22.8%	23.1%	21.4%

Notes

- 4 Other long term liabilities include PFI, finance lease liabilities, and transferred debt liabilities.
- 6 Financing costs include interest and MRP (in the General Fund), for loan debt, transferred debt, PFI and finance leases.
- 8 This indicator includes the revenue cost of borrowing and other finance, including borrowing for the Enterprise Zone and other self-supported borrowing.

Chart 8D.4

TREASURY MANAGEMENT		24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
		Indicators	Indicators	Indicators	Indicators
1	General Fund impact of an unbudgeted 1% rise in interest rates	£0.2m	£0.4m	£1.2m	£0.3m
2	Variable rate exposures vs upper limit 30%	5%	4%	7%	5%
Maturity structure of borrowing (lower limit and upper limit)		Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
		Year End	Year End	Year End	Year End
3	under 12 months	3%	4%	6%	4%
4	12 months to within 24 months	4%	6%	2%	1%
5	24 months to within 5 years	10%	9%	8%	8%
6	5 years to within 10 years	11%	7%	7%	9%
7	10 years to within 20 years	25%	31%	36%	40%
8	20 years to within 40 years	44%	41%	39%	36%
9	40 years and above	3%	2%	2%	2%
Investments longer than 364 days upper limit on amounts maturing in:		Forecast	Forecast	Forecast	Forecast
10	1-2 years	0	0	0	0
11	2-3 years	0	0	0	0
12	3-5 years	0	0	0	0
13	Later	0	0	0	0

Notes

- 1 Based on year end debt borrowing less investments, with less than one year to maturity.
- 2-9 These indicators assume that LOBO loan options are exercised at the earliest possibility and are calculated as a % of net loan debt.
- 2 The limit on variable rate exposures is a local indicator.

Appendix 9: Fees & Charges

1. The Council has been working to improve its commercial performance and drive innovation by increasing income and generating efficiencies across all services to improve its financial position.
2. A commercial approach has been employed across appropriate service areas, including the continued use of trading accounts to ensure that local fees and charges are market driven and move towards covering the cost of provision.
3. The Council's Corporate Charging Policy states that net income maximisation should be the ultimate aim of "charged for services" and recognises that price setting should seek to optimise both financial and policy objectives. The policy also states that unless there is an explicit policy objective to subsidise delivery of a specific service, fees and charges should achieve a minimum of full cost recovery in the delivery of discretionary services. Where full cost recovery is not achievable, consideration will be given to withdrawing from or reducing the delivery of discretionary services.
4. Revised charges will come into effect from 1 April 2024.

2024/25 Process

5. Trading account analysis continues to be used to better inform the relationship between cost and income and understand the level of cost recovery being achieved. This supports services to review their fees and charges and enhance the decision-making process to add insight on the commercial and social value.
6. The Council has, like citizens and businesses, seen costs hit by high levels of inflation due to the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. As part of the ongoing efforts to find significant savings to bridge the Councils budget deficit, the decision was made to seek a 10% increase to fees and charges where possible. Services have made a concerted effort to do so and the fees presented were subject to review, including in some cases a detailed commercial assessment and benchmarking against comparable councils.
7. This excludes charges for statutory services which are set nationally. Services prepared cost analysis and benchmarking comparison with neighbouring authorities to set fees and charges at the appropriate level to ensure that costs

are met and provide value for money to Council Taxpayers. Some new charges have been introduced and are set out below. The full schedule of proposals is included in this Appendix.

Legal Powers

8. The legal powers that the Council has in respect of fees and charges are contained in a number of statutes, including the following pieces of legislation which include:
 - a. Localism Act 2011: General power of competence available to local authorities to do “anything that individuals generally do.”
 - b. Local Government Act 1972, s111: A local authority shall have the power to do anything (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions.
 - c. Local Government Act 2003, s.93: Power to charge for discretionary services. “A relevant authority may charge a person for providing a service to him if (a) the authority is authorised, but not required, by an enactment to provide services to him, and (b) he has agreed to its provision.”
 - d. Local Authorities (Goods and Services) Act 1970 Supply of goods and services by local authorities and ability of parties to enter into an agreement to include terms as to payments.

Approvals

9. According to the Council’s Fees and Charges Guidance, included as a background paper to this report, all fees and charges should form part of an annual fees and charges report, to be presented to Cabinet and reported to Full Council as part of the budget process.
10. The majority of charges need to be approved by Cabinet. However, it should be noted that there are a number of fees and charges that are subject to legislative provisions and are set by Government. Further, other fees and

charges are subject to stringent criteria about how they can be increased or the level and type of fees and charges that can apply.

Licensing and Public Protection Committee

11. Fees and Charges in respect of Trading Standards, Environmental Health, Licensing, Highways Skip Permits, Street Trading, Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages (all services) are considered by the Licensing and Public Protection Committee (LPPC). Reports of 2024/25 fees and charges and the decisions taken with respect to these can be found in the background documents to this report.
12. Minutes of 17th January 2024 LPPC are not currently available on CMIS at the time of publishing this report. Minutes will be available in the document pack for next LPPC meeting of 13th March 2024.
13. At the Licensing and Public Protection Committee meeting of 14th January 2024, members resolved that in respect of the proposed new fee relating to the domestic service to treat rats in house or garden, that this service should be provided free rather than at £24 per treatment inclusive of VAT proposed in the Officers report of 14th January 2024. This proposed fee of £24 (inclusive of VAT) has been included in this appendix of this budget report for consideration and approval by City Council as part of the budget setting process.
14. While the constitution has delegated powers for the setting of Pest Control fees and charges to LPPC, with respect to the contributory charge for domestic rats in house/garden this fee is part of the budget setting proposals overseen by Cabinet. Whilst Cabinet cannot reverse a decision made by LPPC, City Council can use its powers to make another decision. As such this matter will be put before City Council as part of the 2024/25 budget setting process.
15. Highways Fees and Charges in relation to specified licences and permits are due to be considered by Licensing and Public Protection Committee on 13th March 2024.

Commercially Confidential

16. For some services that operate in competitive traded environments, it is inappropriate to publish prices as part of a report, as they require flexibility to

negotiate with customers, provide bespoke packages and respond to market conditions (e.g. Trade Waste, Schools Financial Services)

Value Added Tax

17. Value Added Tax (“VAT”) is a transaction-based tax. Every transaction entered by the Council is subject to VAT. Transactions are either “business” or “non-business”. Non-business transactions include services that the Council provides under statute, i.e. under legislation governing service provision and/or charging, e.g. planning. Business transactions are those that the Council undertakes “actually or potentially” in competition with the private sector, e.g. crematoria services, land transactions, supplies of staff, and catering, etc.
18. Non-business transactions are outside of the scope of VAT (also described as non-business) whilst business transactions are standard rated, reduced rated, zero rated or exempt. Reduced rated, zero rated and exempt transactions are defined in VAT law.

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Adult Social Care				
Weekly Residential Care for Adults - short stay - including External, all client groups				
Residents – all age groups – Short Stay (capital savings over £23,250)	Full Cost	Full Cost		
Residents Age 18 to 59 – Short Stay (capital savings under £23,250)	£122.80	£131.03	£8.23	6.70%
Residents Age over 60 – Short Stay (capital savings under £23,250)	£165.59	£176.68	£11.09	6.70%
Personal Allowance	£28.25	£30.15	£1.90	6.73%
<i>These rates are based on guidance from DOH and DWP. In order to determine the contribution, we use the age-related minimum level of income guarantee that DWP would pay less personal allowance to set the rate.</i>				
Standard Charge – Older People - Weekly	£928.20	£990.39	£62.19	6.70%
<i>Note this rate is used for in house care centers in exceptional circumstances.</i>				
Care Act - New Charges in accordance with Act - charges per care package				
Brokerage Fee (one off admin fee if BCC arranges care for self-funders)	£342.30	£376.50	£34.20	9.99%
Deferred Payment Fee (one off admin fee if BCC agrees to secure charges against property)	£749.70	£824.00	£74.30	9.91%
Deferred charge interest rate	3.18%	3.43%		0.25%
Residential Charge to Other Local Authorities charges per Care Package				
Day Care for Adults – Charges for Refreshments				
Toast per slice	£0.77	£0.50	-£0.27	-35.06%
Cereal and Milk	£1.24	£1.00	-£0.24	-19.35%
Lunch	£4.59	£4.10	-£0.49	-10.68%
Sweet	£1.60	£1.10	-£0.50	-31.25%
Packed Lunch	£5.26	£4.75	-£0.51	-9.70%
Baguettes (Various Fillings)	£3.20	£2.70	-£0.50	-15.63%
Jacket Potato with Filling	£3.20	£2.70	-£0.50	-15.63%
Sandwiches	£2.11	£2.00	-£0.11	-5.21%
Portion of Chips	£2.01	£1.50	-£0.51	-25.37%
Evening Meal	£3.25	£2.75	-£0.50	-15.38%
Slice of Cake or Similar	£1.13	£0.65	-£0.48	-42.48%
Fruit	£0.62	£0.50	-£0.12	-19.35%
Adult Social Care				
Internal Day Care for Adults – Standard Daily Charge (Exclusive of Meals)				
No changes are proposed to existing internal day care charges				
Home Care - Hourly Rate				
Average Hourly Blended Rate for all clients	N/A			
Hourly rate all clients (external provision only)	£17.19	£17.79	£0.60	3.49%
Travel				
Travel Passes – Full Validity	£73.50	£75.00	£1.50	2.04%
Blue badges – (New & Renewal) - maximum allowable (Must keep at £10)	£10.00	£10.00	£0.00	0.00%
Room Hire – for 4 hours or part thereof				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Hire of Rooms – Org “A” – large hall	£70.35	£77.00	£6.65	9.45%
Hire of Rooms – Org “A” – large room	£63.00	£69.00	£6.00	9.52%
Hire of Rooms – Org “A” – small room	£42.00	£46.00	£4.00	9.52%
Hire of Rooms – Org “C” – large hall	£117.60	£129.00	£11.40	9.69%
Hire of Rooms – Org “C” – large room	£90.30	£99.00	£8.70	9.63%
Hire of Rooms – Org “C” – small room	£63.00	£69.00	£6.00	9.52%
Other Establishments	£116.55	£128.00	£11.45	9.82%
A Type “A” organisation is one providing facilities for people with disabilities or older people. Type “B” organisations, who are not charged are “Friends of Establishments”. All other organisations are Type “C”.				
Prices subject to negotiation for long term/major bookings				
Funerals and Protection of Property - Per Funeral				
Funerals – Lower Band	£1,077.30	£1,180.00	£102.70	9.53%
Funerals – Middle Band	£1,750.35	£1,920.00	£169.65	9.69%
Funerals – Higher Band	£2,092.65	£2,300.00	£207.35	9.91%
Banking of Monies	£58.80	£60.00	£1.20	2.04%
Storage of Property	£91.35	£100.00	£8.65	9.47%
Protection of property charge (original)	£342.30	£0.00	–£342.30	–100.00%
Protection of property charge (initial month)	£0.00	£250.00	New for 2024	
Protection of property charge (additional months)	£0.00	£100.00	New for 2024	

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Protection of property charge (additional visit)	£0.00	£150.00	New for 2024	
Asset Tracing and Recovery- based on cost	£342.30	£370.00	£27.70	8.09%
<i>Note: Vat may apply on administrative costs</i>				
Meals Taken by Staff & Public - Normal Vat rules apply				
Breakfast – Full	£5.16	£4.90	£-0.26	-5.04%
Breakfast – Continental	£5.16	£4.90	£-0.26	-5.04%
Hot Drinks (Tea/Coffee)	£1.08	£0.80	£-0.28	-25.93%
Bottled Drinks (excluding bottled water 80p)	£1.50	£1.50	£0.00	0.00%
Toast per slice	£0.82	£0.50	£-0.32	-39.02%
Cereal and Milk	£1.70	£1.00	£-0.70	-41.18%
Main Meal	£6.65	£6.50	£-0.15	-2.26%
Soup of the Day	£3.00	£3.00	£0.00	0.00%
Sweet	£2.17	£1.75	£-0.42	-19.35%
Baguettes (Various fillings)	£3.00	£3.50	£0.50	16.67%
Jacket Potato with filling	£3.87	£3.50	£-0.37	-9.56%
Jacket Potato with butter	£3.40	£3.10	£-0.30	-8.82%
Plain Omelette (fillings charged at 60p each)	£2.00	£2.00	£0.00	0.00%
Sandwiches	£2.99	£2.60	£-0.39	-13.04%
Portion of Chips	£2.68	£2.30	£-0.38	-14.18%
Slice of Cake or Similar	£1.60	£1.15	£-0.45	-28.13%
Fruit	£0.62	£0.50	£-0.12	-19.35%
Specials / Bundles - price based on cost of production				
Adult Social Care				
Shared Lives - Management Fees to other Local authorities				
Shared Lives - Service User charges for Food and utilities to be paid direct to carer	£54.13	£57.00	£2.87	5.30%
Shared Lives - Service User contribution for rent	£107.13	£114.00	£6.87	6.41%
Shared Lives - Care costs - long term support Low Band	£328.65	£350.00	£21.35	6.50%
Shared Lives - Care costs - long term support Medium Band	£364.35	£388.00	£23.65	6.49%
Shared Lives - Care costs - long term support High Band	£437.85	£467.00	£29.15	6.66%
Shared Lives - Care costs - Respite Low Band	£435.78	£464.00	£28.22	6.48%
Shared Lives - Care costs - Respite Medium Band	£471.48	£503.00	£31.52	6.69%
Shared Lives - Care costs - Respite High Band	£544.98	£581.00	£36.02	6.61%
Early Intervention and Prevention				
Overdue Charges				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Overdue Charges - Books and Sound Recordings - Per Day	£0.26	£0.25	-0.01	-3.85%
Overdue Charges - Maximum Charge	£6.46	£6.50	0.04	0.62%
Overdue Charges - Books and Sound Recordings - Concessionary Per Day	£0.14	£0.13	-0.01	-7.14%
Overdue Charges - Concessionary Maximum Charge	£3.26	£3.25	-0.01	-0.31%
Overdue Charges - DVDs Per Day	£0.84	£0.90	0.06	7.14%
Overdue Charges - DVDs Maximum Charge	£7.51	£6.50	-1.01	-13.45%
Book/periodical article/music score sourced outside of the City Council	£11.55	£12.75	1.20	10.39%
Renewal of externally sourced ILL	£6.30	Not applicable		
Loss of British Library book	£154.35	Not applicable		
Libraries				
Talking Books Hire				
Talking Books Hire - Standard	£1.42	£1.60	0.18	12.68%
Talking Books Hire - Concessionary	£0.84	£0.80	-0.04	-4.76%
Music Library Services				
Compact discs (and LPs) hire - per 2-week loan	£1.63	£1.80	0.17	10.43%
Concessions and Under 18's - per 2-week loan	£0.84	£0.90	0.06	7.14%
Music Practice Room Hire				
Music Practice Room - 30 min	£3.26	£3.50	0.24	7.36%
Music Practice Room - 1 hour	£5.36	Not applicable		
Loan of orchestral and choral sets from the Library of Birmingham				
Standard charge (Concession for Birmingham Societies)				
Orchestral Set - Premium	£43.05	£48.00	4.95	11.50%
Orchestral Set - Premium (Concessionary rate)	£32.55	£36.00	3.45	10.60%
Orchestral Set - Long	£32.55	£36.00	3.45	10.60%
Orchestral Set - Long (Concessionary rate)	£22.05	£25.00	2.95	13.38%
Orchestral Set - Short	£22.05	£25.00	2.95	13.38%
Orchestral Set - Short (Concessionary rate)	£11.03	£12.50	1.47	13.33%
Band Set - Per set	£11.03	£12.00	0.97	8.79%
Band Set - Per set (Concessionary rate)	£7.88	£8.50	0.62	7.87%
Vocal Set - Long - per bloc of up to 30 copies	£1.16	£1.30	0.14	12.07%
Vocal Set - Long - per bloc of up to 30 copies - (Concessionary rate)	£0.74	£0.80	0.06	8.11%
Vocal Set - Compilation	£0.68	Not applicable		

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Vocal Set - Compilation (Concessionary rate)	£0.42	£0.50	0.08	19.05%
Vocal Set - Short - per bloc of up to 30 copies	£0.47	£0.50	0.03	6.38%
Vocal Set - Short - per bloc of up to 30 copies - (Concessionary rate)	£0.26	£0.30	0.04	15.38%
Overdue charge - for late or incomplete return of music sets (including sets of choral sets)	£6.56	£7.30	0.74	11.28%
Libraries				
Maximum overdue charge per music set	£25.73	£28.00	2.27	8.82%
Multimedia				
Top 50 Videos and DVDs - 2-night hire	£2.68	£2.75	0.07	2.61%
All other videos and DVDs - 7-night hire	£1.63	£1.80	0.17	10.43%
Charges for lost or damaged material				
Out of print or non-commercially available items	£22.05	£24.26	2.21	10.00%
Children under 5 and children or adults in exempt borrower categories are exempt from such charges in relation to damaged or lost material. Looked After Children are also exempt from charges relating to both loss and damage to material.				
Lost Library Cards	£2.68	£3.00	0.32	11.94%
Lost Library Cards - Under 18 years old	£1.37	£1.50	0.13	9.49%
Photocopies, Printouts and Photographs				
Photocopies (staff supplied) A3	£0.42	£0.50	0.08	19.05%
Photocopies (staff supplied) A4	£0.84	£1.00	0.16	19.05%
Photocopies (coin operated) A4 B&W	£0.21	£0.20	-0.01	-4.76%
A4 Colour	£1.05	£1.00	-0.05	-4.76%
A3 B&W	£0.42	£0.40	-0.02	-4.76%
A3 Colour	£1.68	£2.00	0.32	19.05%
Printout from public access terminal (per side) A4 B&W	£0.21	£0.20	-0.01	-4.76%
A4 Colour	£1.05	£1.00	-0.05	-4.76%
A3 B&W	£0.42	£0.40	-0.02	-4.76%
A3 Colour	£1.68	£2.00	0.32	19.05%
Camera permit - Wolfson Centre	£3.68	£4.00	0.32	8.70%
Personal Scanning				
A4	£0.21	£0.00	-0.21	-100.00%
A4 Colour	£0.74	£0.00	-0.74	-100.00%
A3	£0.32	£0.00	-0.32	-100.00%
A3 Colour	£1.58	£0.00	-1.58	-100.00%
Digital copying service				
Personal use				
CD/DVD/email with one scanned file/image (Standard rated)	£10.50	£11.50	1.00	9.52%
per additional image on CD/DVD/email (Standard rated)	£8.40	£9.25	0.85	10.12%
A5 Print (inc. scanning/retrieval charge) (Standard rated)	£12.60	£14.00	1.40	11.11%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
A4 Print (inc. scanning/retrieval charge) (Standard rated)	£14.70	£16.00	1.30	8.84%
A3 Print (inc. scanning/retrieval charge) (Standard rated)	£18.90	£21.00	2.10	11.11%
Libraries				
A2 Print (inc. scanning/retrieval charge) (Standard rated)	£42.00	£45.00	3.00	7.14%
A1 Print (inc. scanning/retrieval charge) (Standard rated)	£52.50	£60.00	7.50	14.29%
P&P for discs and prints (only up to A3 size, UK only) (Standard rated)	£3.15	£3.50	0.35	11.11%
Commercial and media usage				
Research (where appropriate) per hour	£38.85	£45.00	6.15	15.83%
Fast track service (minimum charge £35.00) per hour	£77.70	£90.00	12.30	15.83%
Business Support Charges				
All other databases (Standard rated) per page	£0.21	Not applicable		
Mailing Lists (Standard rated) per company	£0.32	£0.35	0.03	9.37%
Company Financial Reports (Standard rated) per report	£21.53	£24.00	2.47	11.47%
Market Information & Desk Research (Standard rated) per hour	£80.33	£90.00	9.67	12.04%
Market research (Standard rated) per report	£26.78	Not applicable		
Fax UK per page	£1.68	Not applicable		
Fax International per page	£2.84	£3.50	0.66	23.24%
Genealogy & Research services - Genealogy Research service withdrawn 2011				
Diocesan Records copy certificates service - standard rated	£14.39	Not applicable		
Rental of space for records storage - per year per standard shelf	£33.08	£40.00	6.92	20.92%
Retrieval of stored items- per box	£3.89	£4.30	0.41	10.54%
Archives Card Replacement	£1.58	Not applicable		
Research fees (closed records)	£35.28	Not applicable		
Skills Workshops - delivered by archives staff	£385.88	£430.00	44.12	11.43%
Facilitated workshops/events - per hour- delivered by third parties	£24.26	£27.50	3.24	13.36%
Conservation repair - Per 15 Minutes	£23.10	£26.00	2.90	12.55%
Archive Census Vouchers	£5.25	Not applicable		
Sales				
Memory sticks - per memory stick (standard rated)	£6.83	£7.50	0.67	9.81%
Disposable headphones - per set (standard rated)	£1.63	Not applicable		
Sale of Goods in Retail Outlet	Priced Per Item	Not applicable		
Used Book Sales	Price Per Item	Not applicable		
Children's Library (Library of Birmingham) lunch area				
45 minutes per group	£21.00	Not applicable		
1 hour 45 minutes per group	£36.75	Not applicable		
Other				
Research Services (FOI)	£17.85	£25.00	7.15	40.06%
Research Services	£107.10	£120.00	12.90	12.04%
1 to 1 IT training* (30 minutes)	£10.50	£11.50	1.00	9.52%
Libraries				
Laminating				
A4	£1.05	£1.20	0.15	14.29%
A3	£1.58	Not applicable		
Filming/Photography				
Per hour/part hour	£110.25	£120.00	9.75	8.84%
Reproduction of material held in Birmingham Archives & Collections — for commercial use				
Non-academic/independent printed books/magazines	£147.00	£160.00	13.00	8.84%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
eBook, electronic report	£147.00	£160.00	13.00	8.84%
Exhibition	£157.50	£175.00	17.50	11.11%
Educational/not for profit film or transmission	£63.00	£65.00	2.00	3.17%
Commercial film or transmission exhibition	£231.00	£250.00	19.00	8.23%
Material used in talk or presentation only	£315.00	£330.00	15.00	4.76%
Place, Prosperity & Sustainability				
Transportation, Connectivity & Highways				
Road Safety Publicity Material - Provided to other Local Authorities / Organisations	Various charges	Various charges		
Highway Stopping Up Orders s.116	£6,273.75	£6,900.00	£626.25	9.98%
Footpath Stopping Up / Diversion Order	£6,273.75	£6,900.00	£626.25	9.98%
Public Spaces Protection Orders	£8,006.25	£8,800.00	£793.75	9.91%
Post Stopping Up Management and Site Inspection	£3,489.15	£3,850.00	£360.85	10.34%
Land Charges and Street Naming				
Street Naming – application Fee (non-refundable) plus fee for each property/unit/plot below		£180.00	New for 2024	
Street Naming - addressing of each property/unit/plot		£60.00	New for 2024	
Maximum fee for Street Naming and Numbering		£15000.00	New for 2024	
Street Naming -Naming a new road(s) (plus cost as for property numbering)		£300.00	New for 2024	
Revising an address after notification of postal address - Application fee (non-refundable) plus fee for each property/unit/plot below		£180.00	New for 2024	
Revising an address after notification of postal address - fee for each property/unit/plot		£60.00	New for 2024	
Confirmation of postal address to solicitors, commercial organisations etc. - Application fee (non-refundable) plus fee for each property/unit/plot below		£180.00	New for 2024	
Confirmation of postal address to solicitors, commercial organisations etc. fee for each property/unit/plot		£60.00	New for 2024	
Renaming of a street - Application fee (non-refundable) plus fee for staff time below		£1600.00	New for 2024	
Renaming of a property or a street - hourly rate for staff time (plus legal fees where appropriate)		£35.00	New for 2024	
Answer official enquiries or letters relating to property, land and the highway from solicitors, building societies, or search agents		£35.00	New for 2024	
Searches and Enquiries CON29 Property Search	£84.42	£95.00	£10.58	12.53%
Searches and Enquiries CON29 Additional Question	£16.38	£20.00	£3.62	22.10%
Searches and Enquiries LLC1 Property Search	£32.55	£35.00	£2.45	7.53%
Additional Parcel Fees		£26.00	New for 2024	
Search Follow-Up - Full Enquiry Land Charges and Highway Searches per Property		£18.60	New for 2024	
General Enquiry Highways Information and Land Charges per Property		£18.60	New for 2024	
Searches and Enquiries Private Companies per Property		£18.60	New for 2024	
Definitive Map - Legal Event as a result of change to public rights of way	£1,233.75	£1,360.00	£126.25	10.23%
Transportation, Connectivity & Highways				
School Travel Plans				
Production of School Travel Plan as condition of Planning application	£3,412.50	£3,755.00	£342.50	10.04%
Annual monitoring of School Travel Plan as condition of Planning application	£853.65	£940.00	£86.35	10.12%
Staff support for using the Modeshift STARS system to produce a School Travel Plan.	£1,705.20	£1,875.00	£169.80	9.96%
Transportation and Connectivity Miscellaneous				
S31(6) Deposits only (up to 5 hectares)	£626.85	£690.00	£63.15	10.07%
S31(6) Deposits only (each hectare above 5 hectares)	£43.05	£50.00	£6.95	16.14%
Village Green Deposits only (up to 5 hectares)	£569.10	£630.00	£60.90	10.70%
Village Green Deposits only (each hectare above 5 hectares)	£43.05	£50.00	£6.95	16.14%
Combined S31(6) and Village Green Deposits (up to 5 hectares)	£853.65	£940.00	£86.35	10.12%
Combined S31(6) and Village Green (each hectare above 5 hectares)	£43.05	£50.00	£6.95	16.14%
Miscellaneous Charges - Traffic Modelling Data and Model Runs - Staff Costs	At Cost + 15% Management Fee	At Cost + 15% Management Fee		

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Traffic Modelling Data Access and Processing – testing transport proposals and impact of developments and potential mitigations – private sector developers (Exclusive of VAT)	£10,000 per project	£25,000 per project		
Transport Modelling Data Access and Processing – testing transport proposals and impact of developments and potential mitigations – public sector partners and third sector (50% discounted as potential data sharing) (Exclusive of VAT)	£5,000 per project	£5,000 per project		
Transport Modelling Data Access for Air Quality purposes		£2,000 per project	New for 2024	
Road Safety Talks/Workshops (for pupils)	£413.70	£460.00	£46.30	11.19%
Scoutability Training (for pupils)	£827.40	£910.00	£82.60	9.98%
CPD teacher training courses on Road Safety and Clean Air	£1,653.75	£1,820.00	£166.25	10.05%
Ongoing support with use of Modeshift STARS system past any initial free of charge consultation	£66.00 per hour	£77.00 per hour + 15% Management Fee		
Production of Workplace Travel Plan as condition of Planning application	£3,307.50	£3,640.00	£332.50	10.05%
Annual monitoring of Workplace Travel Plan as condition of Planning application	£1,653.75	£1,820.00	£166.25	10.05%
Staff support for using the Modeshift STARS for system to develop and produce an action plan	£69.30	£76.00	£6.70	9.67%
Delivery of workplace activities or initiatives as part of agreed action plan	£69.30	£76.00	£6.70	9.67%
Staff support for using the Modeshift STARS for system to conduct a workplace site audit	£69.30	£76.00	£6.70	9.67%
Staff support for using the Modeshift STARS for system to undertake bespoke workplace travel survey.	£69.30	£76.00	£6.70	9.67%
Ongoing support with use of Modeshift STARS for system past any initial free of charge consultation	£69.30	£76.00	£6.70	9.67%
Transportation, Connectivity & Highways				
Property Strategy and Information				
Production of City Street Maps				
Production of bespoke mapping plans at cost due to variable complexity of Orders and Production of transactional plans for first hour worked (or part hour). Amendments to existing plan originally provided by service charged at hourly rate with minimum charge of 1/2 hour.	£144.34	£160.00	£15.66	10.85%
Production of bespoke mapping plans at cost due to variable complexity of Orders and Production of transactional plans for additional hours or part hours worked	£91.66	£100.00	£8.34	9.10%
Birmingham Property Services				
Disposals (freehold or long leasehold sales) with consideration of:				
£0 - £5,000	£630.00	£700.00	£70.00	11.11%
£5,001 - £25,000	£1,260.00	£1,400.00	£140.00	11.11%
£25,001 - £50,000	£2,205.00	£2,430.00	£225.00	10.20%
£50,001 - £100,000	£2,467.50	£2,720.00	£252.50	10.23%
£100,001 plus (1% of disposal price min £2,000)	£2,520.00	£2,780.00	£260.00	10.32%
Administration fee:				
Auction sale £0 - £199,999	£1,312.50	£1,450.00	£137.50	10.48%
Auction sale £200,000 plus	£2,100.00	£2,310.00	£210.00	10.00%
Leasehold Reform Act Sales	£472.50	£520.00	£47.50	10.05%
Minor disposals (e.g. access land strips)	£157.50	£200.00	£42.50	26.98%
Garden land	£630.00	£695.00	£65.00	10.32%
Investment Portfolio Business Area:				
Ground Leases re-gearing	1.Initial fee of £1,515.00 for carrying out valuation (payable prior to carrying out valuation)	1.Initial fee of £1,575 for carrying out valuation (payable prior to carrying out valuation)	£60.00	10.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Ground Leases re-gearing	2. If the matter proceeds to legal completion, additional fee of £1,515.00 payable on completion	2. If the matter proceeds to legal completion, additional fee of £1,575 payable on completion	£60.00	10.00%
Tenancies	£425.25	£467.78	£42.53	10.00%
Leases	2% of annual rent subject to a minimum of £380. In addition, a non-refundable deposit of £380 to be collected up front as initial contribution to the Council's legal costs	2% of annual rent subject to a minimum of £400. In addition, a non-refundable deposit of £400 to be collected up front as initial contribution to the Council's legal costs	£20.00	5.26%
Copies	£149.10	£165.00	£15.90	10.66%
Rent Review document	£157.50	£175.00	£17.50	11.11%
Licences	£425.25	£470.00	£44.75	10.52%
Administration fees for processing registration of leases, Assignments, Legal Charges and Tenancy Transfers	£215.25	£240.00	£24.75	11.50%
Landlords consent for any purposes (excluding assignments)	Simple consent for minor alterations such as replacing shop signs etc - £130	Simple consent for minor alterations such as replacing shop signs etc - £135	£5.00	3.85%
	For more complex matters, a standard fee of £510 to be applied (£1,000 if such is requested as an urgent turnaround).	For more complex matters, a standard fee of £530 to be applied (£1,025 if such is requested as an urgent turnaround).	£20.00	3.92%
	Any matter requiring engagement of specialist practitioners to be subject to a negotiated fee.	Any matter requiring engagement of specialist practitioners to be subject to a negotiated fee.		
	Retrospective applications for any purpose will be subject to the payment of 2 x the applicable fee for such consent.	Retrospective applications for any purpose will be subject to the payment of 2 x the applicable fee for such consent.		
Birmingham Property Services				
Service Charges	Commercial property portfolio– variable fixed fee equivalent to 7.5% of expenditure or better.	Commercial property portfolio– variable fixed fee equivalent to 10% of expenditure or better.		
Central Administration Buildings (CAB)				
CAB Accommodation - Room Hire				
Council House Room Booking:				
Facility/Resource				
Council Chamber				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Monday - Friday 09:00 - 17:30	£378.00	£420.00	£42.00	11.11%
Monday - Friday Up to 4 hours (am or pm)	£257.25	£280.00	£22.75	8.84%
Monday - Friday after 17:30 hours -	£357.00	£390.00	£33.00	9.24%
Weekends - At any time -	£451.50	£495.00	£43.50	9.63%
Committee Rooms				
1,2,3,4,6 & HMS Daring Room	£50.40	£55.00	£4.60	9.13%
Rooms 3 & 4 jointly	£68.25	£75.00	£6.75	9.89%
Saturday - up to 2 rooms	£68.25	£75.00	£6.75	9.89%
Saturday - 3 rooms & over	£162.75	£180.00	£17.25	10.60%
Sunday - up to 2 rooms per hour	£78.75	£90.00	£11.25	14.29%
Sunday - 3 rooms & over	£236.25	£260.00	£23.75	10.05%
Equipment				
Laptop/projector				
Up to 4 hours	£39.90	£45.00	£5.10	12.78%
Full Day	£60.90	£65.00	£4.10	6.73%
Laptop & Projector				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Up to 4 hours	£60.90	£65.00	£4.10	6.73%
Full Day	£89.25	£95.00	£5.75	6.44%
Microphones- Council Chamber				
Microphones- Council Chamber	£78.75	£120.00	£41.25	52.38%
NB: Additional charges are levied for the provision of security (Customer Support and Porter Security Officers)				
Temporary Use of Smithfield Birmingham Development Land				
Non-Public Event - per square metre, per annum	£30.00	£33.00	£3.00	10.00%
Small Event Daily Charge Base Rate. (NB. Various factors are considered in determining the final total charge including space for event including duration, status of event promoter and the social & economic benefit to citizens)	£960.00	£1,060.00	£100.00	10.42%
Medium Event Daily Charge Base Rate. (NB. Various factors are considered in determining the final total charge including space for event including duration, status of event promoter and the social & economic benefit to citizens)	£2,250.00	£2,475.00	£225.00	10.00%
Large Event Daily Charge Base Rate. (NB. Various factors are considered in determining the final total charge including space for event including duration, status of event promoter and the social & economic benefit to citizens)	£4,500.00	£4,950.00	£450.00	10.00%
Planning				
Planning				
Category A: Pre-application discussion for 250+ residential units or 25,000 sqm non-residential (including change of use) (excluding VAT). To include 2 meetings.	£16,626.75	£18,300.00	£1,673.25	10.06%
Category A: follow up meetings/discussions (charge per meeting) (excluding VAT)	£543.00	£600.00	£57.00	10.50%
Category B: Pre-application discussion for 100 - 249 residential units or 10,000 - 24,999 sqm non-residential (including change of use) (excluding VAT). To include 1 meeting.	£6,520.50	£7,175.00	£654.50	10.04%
Category B: follow up meetings/discussions (charge per meeting) (excluding VAT)	£543.00	£600.00	£57.00	10.50%
Category C: Pre-application discussion for 50-99 residential units or 5,000 - 9,999 sqm non-residential (including change of use) (excluding VAT). To include 1 meeting.	£3,325.35	£3,660.00	£334.65	10.06%
Category C: follow up meetings/discussions (charge per meeting) (excluding VAT)	£326.00	£360.00	£34.00	10.43%
Category D: Pre-application discussion for 25-49 residential units or 2,500-4,999 sqm non-residential (including change of use) (excluding VAT)	£2,216.55	£2,440.00	£223.45	10.08%
Category D: follow up meetings/discussions (charge per meeting) (excluding VAT)	£326.00	£360.00	£34.00	10.43%
Category E: Pre-application discussion for 10-24 residential units or 1,000 - 2,499 sqm non-residential (including change of use) (excluding VAT). To include 1 meeting.	£1,108.80	£1,220.00	£111.20	10.03%
Category E: follow up meetings (charge per meeting) (excluding VAT)	£217.35	£240.00	£22.65	10.42%
Category F: - Pre-application advice for 5- 10 residential units or 500- 1,000 sqm (including change of use) (excluding VAT) - Written advice only.	£543.90	£600.00	£56.10	10.31%
Category F: - charge if a meeting is requested (excluding VAT)	£325.50	£360.00	£34.50	10.60%
Category G: - Minor Operations: Pre-application advice for up to 5 residential units or up any other development up to 500 sqm (including change of use) (excluding VAT) - Written advice only.	£217.35	£240.00	£22.65	10.42%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Category G: - charge if a meeting is requested (excluding VAT)	£325.50	£360.00	£34.50	10.60%
Category H: - Householder: Pre-application advice to extend or alter a single domestic property, which is not a listed building and will apply to extensions / outbuildings to houses (single-family unit only or 1 flat if part of a conversion). (excluding VAT) - Written advice only.	£109.20	£120.00	£10.80	9.89%
Category H: - charge if a meeting is requested (excluding VAT)	£219.45	£240.00	£20.55	9.36%
Category I: Pre-application discussion with registered charities, educational and community organisations (excluding VAT)	As above, depending upon category of proposal	As above, depending upon category of proposal		
Planning				
Category J: - Changes of use and other development that does not include the erection of a building or extension such as laying out car parking, playing fields etc (excluding VAT)	£217.35	£240.00	£22.65	10.42%
Category J: - charge if a meeting is requested (excluding VAT)	£325.50	£360.00	£34.50	10.60%
Category K: - Amendments to a previously approved scheme – (if the amendments only affect a part of the development, then the fee relates only to that part) (excluding VAT)	as above, depending upon category of proposal (or part proposal)	as above, depending upon category of proposal (or part proposal)		
Category K: -charge if a meeting is requested – if the amendments only affect a part of the development then the fee relates only to that part) (excluding VAT)	as above, depending upon category of proposal (or part proposal)	as above, depending upon category of proposal (or part proposal)		
Category L: Preapplication meeting with Assistant Director for developers (per meeting)		£500.00	New for 2024	
Do I Need Planning Permission Enquiries (householder)	£42.00	£45.00	£3.00	7.14%
Do I Need Planning Permission Enquiries (nonhouseholder) (excluding VAT)	£109.20	£115.00	£5.80	5.31%
Invalid Applications - Small Scale (excluding VAT)	£32.55	£35.00	£2.45	7.53%
Invalid Applications - Medium Scale (excluding VAT)	£54.60	£60.00	£5.40	9.89%
Invalid Applications - Large Scale (excluding VAT)	£162.75	£170.00	£7.25	4.45%
Enquiry – have (some or all) planning conditions been discharged for a particular development? Written response only (excluding VAT)	£217.35	£240.00	£22.65	10.42%
Where a site visit is required, an additional charge is payable: (excluding VAT)	£325.50	£360.00	£34.50	10.60%
Enquiry – has the Enforcement Notice/BCN been complied with? (excluding VAT)	£217.35	£240.00	£22.65	10.42%
Where a site visit is required, an additional charge is payable: (excluding VAT)	£325.50	£360.00	£34.50	10.60%
Request agreed to remove of Enforcement Notice from the Register - (excluding VAT)	£420.00	£460.00	£40.00	9.52%
Admin fee where request not agreed	£109.20	£120.00	£10.80	9.89%
Request for documents that are available online.	£109.20	£120.00	£10.80	9.89%
General enquiries: - Conservation Area /Listed Building checks, HMO enquiries, what is the Permitted Use, opening hours, etc. Written response only (excluding VAT)	£109.20	£120.00	£10.80	9.89%
Section 106 Administration fee (minimum £2,000, maximum £13,000) based on value of S106	3.5%	5.00%		1.50%
Clean Air Zone				
Specific Legislation Impacting on Charging				
Charges for Clean Air Zone (24 Hours, 365 Days Per Year)				
Private Cars (Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£8.00	£8.00	£0.00	0.00%
Taxis (Hackney Carriage, Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£8.00	£8.00	£0.00	0.00%
Taxis (Private Hire, Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£8.00	£8.00	£0.00	0.00%
Light Goods Vehicles (Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£8.00	£8.00	£0.00	0.00%
Heavy Goods Vehicles (Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Coaches (Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Buses (Non-compliant) VAT Not Applicable	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Section 278 Pre-Application advice minor Application – Up to 25 Housing units equivalent (covers 1 pre-application review and 1 number 1 hour meeting)	N/A	£1,500.00	New for 2024	
Section 278 Additional Pre-Application advice meetings if required (1 hour meeting) Charge Per Meeting Hour	£310.00	£320.00	£10.00	3.23%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Pre-Application Advice (per person per hour)	£120/£80 First Hour/Subsequent Hourly Rate	£120/£80 First Hour/Subsequent Hourly Rate		
Section 278 Application Pack Check Fee (covers 1 pre-application pack check for completeness and a second review only – subsequent submissions attract an additional repeat charge. Technical Reviews are not included at this stage)	£125.00	£150.00	£25.00	20.00%
Section 278 Combined Minimum Technical Approval / Inspection Fee for Schemes up to £15,000 construction cost. Note: Will include for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year, thereafter a new submission is required.	Quoted on individual basis	Quoted on individual basis		
Section 278 Combined Minimum Technical Approval / Inspection Fee For Schemes over £15,000 construction cost. Note: Includes for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year, thereafter a new submission is required.	£12,900.00	£13,287.00	£387.00	3.00%
Section 278 Combined Technical Approval and Site Inspection % Fee based on construction value, to be used where construction value exceeds £123,000. Note Includes for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year thereafter a new submission is required.	3.75%	10.50%		6.75%
Lighting Technical Approval Fees	£1,500.00	£1,750.00	£250.00	16.67%
Drainage (beyond standard highway minor drainage) Technical Approval Fees	Quoted on individual basis where required	Quoted on individual basis where required		
Section 278 Abortive Costs	Charged at £65/hour time booked to project code. Minimum Charge £1,020	Charged at £80/hour time booked to project code. Minimum Charge £1,020	£15/hour	23.00%
Section 278 Legal Fee	£1,020.00	£1,500.00	£480.00	47.06%
Section 278 Wayleave (Deed of Grant)	£525.00	£541.00	£16.00	3.05%
Section 278/Section 38 - Stage 4 Road Safety Audit	£1,423.00	£1,800.00	£377.00	26.49%
New Developments				
Section 38 Application Pack Check Fee (covers 1 pre-application pack check for completeness and a second review only – subsequent submissions attract an additional repeat charge. Technical Reviews are not included at this stage)	£125.00	£150.00	£25.00	20.00%
Section 38 Combined Minimum Technical Approval / Inspection Fee for Schemes up to £15,000 construction cost. Note: Will include for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year, thereafter a new submission is required. Construction costs to be calculated by BCC - typically based on £1,400.74/linear m of 5.5m wide carriageway and £195.30/linear m of 2m wide footway/path. Other widths calculated pro-rata.	Quoted on individual basis	Quoted on individual basis		
Section 38 Combined Minimum Technical Approval / Inspection Fee for Schemes over £15,000. Note: Includes for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year, thereafter a new submission is required. Construction costs to be calculated by BCC - typically based on £1,400.74/linear m of 5.5m wide carriageway and £195.30/linear m of 2m wide footway/path. Other widths calculated pro-rata.	£13,050.00	£14,355.00	£1,305.00	10.00%
Section 38 Combined Technical Approval and Site Inspection % Fee based on construction value, to be used where minimum value is exceeded. Note: Includes for 3 iterations of technical review. Thereafter further checks are charged at cost (£80/hour). Technical approval valid for 1 year, thereafter a new submission is required. Construction costs to be calculated by BCC - typically based on £1,400.74/linear m of 5.5m wide carriageway and £195.30/linear m of 2m wide footway/path. Other widths calculated pro-rata.	3.75%	10.50%		6.75%
Section 38 Agreement Inspection - Minimum charge	£5,271.00	£5,800.00	£529.00	10.04%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Lighting Technical Approval Fees	£1,500.00	£1,750.00	£250.00	16.67%
Drainage (beyond standard highway minor drainage) Technical Approval Fees	Quoted on individual basis where required	Quoted on individual basis where required		
Section 38 Legal Agreement Administration	£1,250.00	£1,500.00	£250.00	20.00%
Section 38 Agreement Deed of Variation	£468.00	£515.00	£47.00	10.04%
Section 220 Non-Adopted Developments - Combined Design Check / Supervision Fee (min) for whole project Construction costs up to £123,000	£13,050.00	£14,355.00	£1,305.00	10.00%
Section 220 Non-Adopted - Combined Technical Approval and site inspection % Fee based on construction value, to be used for whole project Construction costs over £123,000	3.75%	10.50%		6.75%
City Operations				
Bereavement Services				
Exclusive Right of Burial - Earthen graves and walled graves/vaults have an Exclusive Right of Burial for a period of 75 years, with the option to renew such Rights on the terms then prevailing for a similar Grant. This fee also includes the right to place and maintain a memorial on the grave. Such rights to expire co-terminus with the Exclusive Right of Burial.				
1. Graves				
Adult - (aged 19 and over)				
Resident Fee - Standard grave (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£2,270.00	£2,500.00	£230.00	10.13%
Non-Resident Fee - Standard grave (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£2,610.50	£3,250.00	£639.50	24.50%
Resident Fee - Standard grave (Lawn Type) with concrete header	£2,470.00	£2,700.00	£230.00	9.31%
Non-Resident Fee - Standard grave (Lawn Type) with concrete header	£2,840.50	£3,510.00	£669.50	23.57%
Resident Fee - Grave to accept coffin casket over 30" in width, where practicable, the above fee will increase pro rata	£2,837.00	£3,100.00	£263.00	9.27%
Non-Resident Fee - Grave to accept coffin casket over 30" in width, where practicable, the above fee will increase pro rata	£3,262.55	£4,030.00	£767.45	23.52%
Resident Fee - As above with concrete header – (Lawn type graves only)	£3,090.00	£3,400.00	£310.00	10.03%
Non-Resident Fee -As above with concrete header – (Lawn type graves only)	£3,553.50	£4,420.00	£866.50	24.38%
Child (aged 18 years or below)				
Resident Fee - An ERB where the only burial required is for a child aged 18 years or younger.	£1,233.00	£1,295.00	£62.00	5.03%
Non-Resident Fee - An ERB where the only burial required is for a child aged 18 years or younger.	£1,418.00	£1,700.00	£282.00	19.89%
Cremated Remains				
Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes (for two caskets)	£668.00	£800.00	£132.00	19.76%
Non-Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes (for two caskets)	£768.20	£1,040.00	£271.80	35.38%
Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes (four caskets) with Concrete Header	£1,100.00	£1,300.00	£200.00	18.18%
Non-Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes (four caskets) with Concrete Header	£1,265.00	£1,690.00	£425.00	33.60%
Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes with Concrete Header to accept two caskets of remains	£883.00	£1,000.00	£117.00	13.25%
Non-Resident Fee - Earthen grave for cremation ashes with Concrete Header to accept two caskets of remains	£1,015.45	£1,300.00	£284.55	28.02%
2. Vaults				
Resident Fee - Mini cremated remains vault	Price on Application	Price on Application		
Non-Resident Fee - Mini cremated remains vault	Price on Application	Price on Application		
Resident Fee - Other vaulted graves	Price on Application	Price on Application		
Non-Resident Fee - Other vaulted graves	Price on Application	Price on Application		
3. Woodland Burials				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Resident Fee - Standard grave (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£1,970.00	£2,069.00	£99.00	5.03%
Non-Resident Fee - Standard grave (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£2,265.50	£2,379.00	£113.50	5.01%
Resident Fee - Standard grave WITH TREE (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£2,318.00	£2,434.00	£116.00	5.00%
Non-Resident Fee - Standard grave WITH TREE (to accept Coffin/Casket up to 30" (76.20cm) in width)	£2,665.70	£2,799.00	£133.30	5.00%
4. Reservation				
Resident Fee - Grave Reservation Fee to be paid in addition to the Exclusive Right of Burial Fee relevant at the time of reservation. Applies to all full-sized graves purchased in reserve.	£250.00	£300.00	£50.00	20.00%
Non-Resident Fee - Grave Reservation Fee to be paid in addition to the Exclusive Right of Burial Fee relevant at the time of reservation. Applies to all full-sized graves purchased in reserve.	£287.50	£390.00	£102.50	35.65%
INTERMENTS (Maximum 1 hour appointment allocation per booking - ½ hour for items 7a - 7c). N.B. Maximum coffin width in a standard grave is 30" in width including a re-opened or pre-purchased grave.				
5. Graves (including public graves)				
Resident fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over for single depth or second interment in double depth grave	£1,065.00	£1,200.00	£135.00	12.68%
Non-Resident fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over	£1,065.00	£1,200.00	£135.00	12.68%
Resident fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over - first burial in double depth grave)		£1,300.00	New for 2024	
Non-Resident fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over - first burial in double depth grave)		£1,300.00	New for 2024	
Resident Fee - Interment of a still born child (Includes non-viable foetal remains) or a child aged 18 years or below	£156.00	£164.00	£8.00	5.13%
Non-Resident Fee - Interment of a still born child (Includes non-viable foetal remains) or a child aged 18 years or below	£156.00	£164.00	£8.00	5.13%
Resident Fee - Organs, other body parts and tissue of a deceased person where deceased was aged 19 or above	£303.00	£318.00	£15.00	4.95%
Non-Resident Fee - Organs, other body parts and tissue of a deceased person where deceased was aged 19 or above	£303.00	£318.00	£15.00	4.95%
6. Walled graves or vaults				
Resident Fee - Interment of a still born child (Includes non-viable foetal remains) or a child aged 18 years or younger	£156.00	£164.00	£8.00	5.13%
Non-Resident Fee - Interment of a still born child (Includes non-viable foetal remains) or a child aged 18 years or younger	£156.00	£164.00	£8.00	5.13%
Resident Fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over	£1,065.00	£1,200.00	£135.00	12.68%
Non-Resident Fee - Interment of a person aged 19 years or over (exception applies, see below)	£1,065.00	£1,200.00	£135.00	12.68%
Other interment fees will apply for non-standard graves				
7. Cremated Remains				
Resident Fee - Interment of Cremated Remains in a grave or vault	£303.00	£400.00	£97.00	32.01%
Non-Resident Fee - Interment of Cremated Remains in a grave or vault	£303.00	£400.00	£97.00	32.01%
Resident Fee - Interment of cremated remains of a child aged 18 years or below	£158.00	£166.00	£8.00	5.06%
Non-Resident Fee - Interment of cremated remains of a child aged 18 years or below	£158.00	£166.00	£8.00	5.06%
Resident Fee - Where two interments take place at the same time an additional registration fee will be charged in place of the second interment fee. This applies to fees 5a - 7a	£177.00	£200.00	£23.00	12.99%
Non-Resident Fee - Where two interments take place at the same time an additional registration fee will be charged in place of the second interment fee. This applies to fees 5a - 7a	£177.00	£200.00	£23.00	12.99%
8. Other				
Interment of the Quran pages by appointment at Handsworth Cemetery only	Price on Application	Price on Application		
9. Scattering of cremated remains				
Resident Fee - Scattering of cremated remains on a grave when cremation did not take place at a Birmingham City Council Crematorium. The fee to witness scattering of cremated remains included	£105.00	£110.00	£5.00	4.76%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Non-Resident Fee - Scattering of cremated remains on a grave when cremation did not take place at a Birmingham City Council Crematorium. The fee to witness scattering of cremated remains included	£105.00	£110.00	£5.00	4.76%
Resident Fee -Witness scattering of cremated remains on a grave when cremation took place at a Birmingham City Council Crematorium. Where multiple scatterings take place on the same grave at the same time, this fee will only be applied once.	£48.00	£55.00	£7.00	14.58%
Non-Resident Fee -Witness scattering of cremated remains on a grave when cremation took place at a Birmingham City Council Crematorium. Where multiple scatterings take place on the same grave at the same time, this fee will only be applied once.	£48.00	£55.00	£7.00	14.58%
10. Walled graves				
Resident fee - Cost of construction of walled grave, where available.	Price on Application	Price on Application		
Non-Resident fee - Cost of construction of walled grave, where available.	Price on Application	Price on Application		
11. Concrete liners (Supply in additional to ERB and interment fee.)				
Cost of a concrete liner for a standard sized grave	£1,300.00	£1,365.00	£65.00	5.00%
Cost of a concrete liner for a child's sized grave	£626.00	£657.00	£31.00	4.95%
Memorials and Inscriptions (As defined within the Rules and Regulations in Respect of the Municipal Cemeteries).				
12. Inscription				
Resident Fee - Application for an additional inscription on grave memorial (N.B. The first name on memorial is FOC). Up to two names may be included on one application for this fee.	£68.00	£75.00	£7.00	10.29%
Non-Resident Fee - Application for an additional inscription on grave memorial (N.B. The first name on memorial is FOC). Up to two names may be included on one application for this fee.	£68.00	£75.00	£7.00	10.29%
Resident Fee - Additional inscriptions on various other memorials	Price on Application	Price on Application		
Non-Resident Fee - Additional inscriptions on various other memorials	Price on Application	Price on Application		
13. Transfer Fee				
Resident Fee - Transfer of ownership and subsequent registering of an existing Exclusive Right of Burial where the owner of the Exclusive Right of Burial is deceased and a burial is to take place, also transfer of ownership and subsequent registering of an Exclusive Right of Burial where transfer to a resident of Birmingham.	£71.00	£75.00	£4.00	5.63%
Non-Resident - WHERE THE TRANSFER OF A RESERVED GRAVE IS TO A NON-RESIDENT THEN AN ADDITIONAL 30% OF THE ORIGINAL EXCLUSIVE RIGHT OF BURIAL FEE WILL BE APPLIED TO THE TRANSFER FEE	Price on application	Price on application		
14.Repurchase of Exclusive Right of Burial				
Preparation of Repurchase of Exclusive Right of Burial Agreement.	£71.00	£75.00	£4.00	5.63%
ADDITIONAL CHARGES				
15. Service				
Resident Fee - Where a burial service takes longer than 1.15 hours from the appointed service time an additional fee will be applied – Charge will be applied for each half hour over and above the 1.15 hours.	£263.00	£280.00	£17.00	6.46%
Non-Resident Fee - Where a burial service takes longer than 1.15 hours from the appointed service time an additional fee will be applied – Charge will be applied for each half hour over and above the 1.15 hours.	£263.00	£280.00	£17.00	6.46%
Resident Fee - Where the service for an interment of cremated remains or an interment of a child aged 18 or below takes longer than 30 minutes from the appointed service time an additional fee will be applied.	£76.00	£80.00	£4.00	5.26%
Non-Resident Fee - Where the service for an interment of cremated remains or an interment of a child aged 18 or below takes longer than 30 minutes from the appointed service time an additional fee will be applied.	£76.00	£80.00	£4.00	5.26%
16. Cancellation				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Resident Fee - Late cancellation of funeral booking (after 10.00 hours on the working day prior to the funeral)	£258.00	£275.00	£17.00	6.59%
Non-Resident Fee - Late cancellation of funeral booking (after 10.00 hours on the working day prior to the funeral)	£258.00	£275.00	£17.00	6.59%
Resident Fee - Late cancellation / Non-attendance for booking of cremated remains interment (after 10.00 hours on the working day prior to the funeral)	£53.00	£60.00	£7.00	13.21%
Non-Resident Fee - Late cancellation / Non attendance for booking of cremated remains interment (after 10.00 hours on the working day prior to the funeral)	£53.00	£60.00	£7.00	13.21%
Resident Fee - Late cancellation / Nonattendance for booking of scattering of cremated remains.	£21.00	£25.00	£4.00	19.05%
Non-Resident Fee - Late cancellation / Nonattendance for booking of scattering of cremated remains.	£21.00	£25.00	£4.00	19.05%
17. Chapel				
Resident Fee - Use of Handsworth cemetery chapel including use of organ and, if required, provision of recorded music.	£303.00	£320.00	£17.00	5.61%
Non-Resident Fee - Use of Handsworth cemetery chapel including use of organ and, if required, provision of recorded music.	£303.00	£320.00	£17.00	5.61%
18. Other				
Resident Fee - Additional work required on a grave where incorrect information was supplied on the notice of interment.	£121.00	£130.00	£9.00	7.44%
Non-Resident Fee - Additional work required on a grave where incorrect information was supplied on the notice of interment.	£121.00	£130.00	£9.00	7.44%
Resident Fee - Reprint of Deed due to incorrect information being supplied on the notice of interment and amendment of Statutory Registers.	£71.00	£75.00	£4.00	5.63%
Non-Resident Fee - Reprint of Deed due to incorrect information being supplied on the notice of interment and amendment of Statutory Registers.	£71.00	£75.00	£4.00	5.63%
CREMATION FEES - The fees detailed below include the use of the chapel, scattering of cremated remains in the Garden of Remembrance, Medical Referee's and (if required) use of organ and/or provision of recorded/Wesley music.				
Webcasting, personal tributes and recordings of services available at additional cost – POA				
1. Cremation				
Person aged 19 years or above. The cremation fee includes an environmental charge of £56.00	£833.00	£895.00	£62.00	7.44%
Direct Cremation (08:30 appointment) Person aged 19 years or above. The cremation fee includes an environmental charge.	£580.00	£620.00	£40.00	6.90%
Where a cremation service takes place for two adults. The cremation fee includes an environmental charge	£1,263.00	£1,470.00	£207.00	16.39%
Stillborn child, including non-viable foetal remains, or a child aged 18 years or below.	£143.00	£150.00	£7.00	4.90%
Organs, other body parts and tissue of a deceased person where the deceased was aged 19 or above.	£145.00	£150.00	£5.00	3.45%
Duplicate of Certificate of Cremation	£15.00	£16.00	£1.00	6.67%
2. Chapel				
Additional use of the crematorium chapel by appointment – Annexed to a cremation appointment only.	£303.00	£320.00	£17.00	5.61%
Use of crematorium chapel for burial or memorial service	£404.00	£450.00	£46.00	11.39%
3. Late				
Where the funeral exceeds the allotted service time slot, the additional fee will be applied.	£424.00	£450.00	£26.00	6.13%
For funerals that arrive/commence more than 1 hour late, in addition to previous fees.	£505.00	£550.00	£45.00	8.91%
Late cancellation of a funeral booking (after 10.00 hours on the working day prior to the funeral).	£300.00	£320.00	£20.00	6.67%
4. Cremated remains				
Temporary deposit of cremated remains pending arrangements for disposal, per month. (Charge applied after the first month)	£72.00	£75.00	£3.00	4.17%
Witness scattering of cremated remains in the garden of remembrance where cremation takes place at a Birmingham City Council Crematorium	£54.00	£55.00	£1.00	1.85%
Scattering of cremated remains in the Garden of Remembrance when cremation took place at any other crematorium	£108.00	£115.00	£7.00	6.48%
Private Rented Sector				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Property Licensing - Mandatory large House in Multiple Occupation (cost recovery only)				
Part A - application fee 5 persons	£420.00	£420.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part A - application fee 6-11 persons	£470.00	£470.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part A - application fee 12+ persons	£515.00	£515.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part B - licence fee 5 persons	£705.00	£705.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part B - licence fee 6-11 persons	£745.00	£745.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part B - licence fee 12+ persons	£785.00	£785.00	£0.00	0.00%
Fees for optional HMO services 2022 to 2023				
Fee Paper application to send	£20.00	£20.00	£0.00	0.00%
Paper application to process	£65.00	£65.00	£0.00	0.00%
Advice visit	£200.00	£200.00	£0.00	0.00%
Property Licensing - Additional smaller House in Multiple Occupation (cost recovery only)				
Part A - application fee	£325.00	£325.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part B - licence fee	£430.00	£430.00	£0.00	0.00%
Property Licensing - Selective licence (cost recovery only)				
Part A - application fee	£375.00	£375.00	£0.00	0.00%
Part B - licence fee	£325.00	£325.00	£0.00	0.00%
Domestic Pest Control				
Rats – all domestic treatments (inclusive of VAT)	£0.00	£24.00	New for 2024	New for 2024
Parks				
Individual Use of Facilities				
Bowls				
Adult	£7.25	£7.50	£0.25	3.45%
Juniors/Concessions	£4.00	£4.00	£0.00	0.00%
Season Ticket (Standard).	£97.00	£100.00	£3.00	3.09%
Team Match	£76.50	£79.00	£2.50	3.27%
Fishing				
Day Ticket - Adult	£14.25	£15.00	£0.75	5.26%
Juniors/Concessions	£6.50	£6.50	£0.00	0.00%
Fishing Season Ticket: -				
All park sites	£110.00	£113.00	£3.00	2.73%
Redgra Pitches (Inclusive of lights)				
Without changing facilities:				
Adult	£72.00	£74.00	£2.00	2.78%
Junior	£36.00	£37.00	£1.00	2.78%
With changing facilities:				
Adult	£112.00	£115.00	£3.00	2.68%
Junior	£66.00	£68.00	£2.00	3.03%
Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park Admission Charges				
Adults	£7.65	£8.40	£0.75	9.80%
Adults accompanying a child under 3 years	£7.65	£8.40	£0.75	9.80%
Senior Citizens, Students	£5.80	£6.40	£0.60	10.34%
Child aged 3 to 15 years inclusive	£3.80	£4.20	£0.40	10.53%
Children under 3	Free	Free		

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Family Day Ticket: (2 adults plus maximum of 3 children aged 3 - 15 years)	£25.00	£27.50	£2.50	10.00%
Family Day Ticket: (1 adult + 3 child aged 3 - 15 years)	£18.00	£19.80	£1.80	10.00%
Family Season Ticket: (2 adults plus maximum number of 3 children aged 3 - 15 y	£90.00	£99.00	£9.00	10.00%
Single Adult Season Ticket: (1 adult plus maximum number of 3 children aged 3- 1	£64.00	£70.40	£6.40	10.00%
Concessionary Season Ticket: (Senior Citizens)	£55.00	£60.50	£5.50	10.00%
Family Season Ticket Incl. Car Parking (2 adults plus maximum number of 3 children	£132.00	£145.20	£13.20	10.00%
Single Adult Season Ticket Incl. Car Parking (1 adult plus maximum number of 3 c	£93.00	£102.30	£9.30	10.00%
Concessionary Season Ticket Incl. Car Parking (Senior Citizens)	£81.00	£89.10	£8.10	10.00%
Parks - Events				
Use of Parks (Events)				
Community use including friends' groups and volunteers = subject to negotiation	Subject to negotiation	Subject to negotiation		
Cannon Hill & Sutton Park				
Small Events (attendance up to 499)				
Commercial - operational days	Subject to negotiation	£2,400.00		
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	Subject to negotiation	£1,200.00		
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	Subject to negotiation	£623.00		
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - set-up/dismantling days	Subject to negotiation	£314.00		
Major Events (attendance 500 or more)				
Commercial - operational days	Subject to negotiation	£5,000.00		
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	Subject to negotiation	£2,500.00		
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	Subject to negotiation	£1,246.00		
Non-commercial (inc charities) - set-up/dismantling days	Subject to negotiation	£623.00		
Eastside Park, Handsworth Park, Kings Heath Park, Lickey Hills (including Cofton and Perry Parks for major concerts & events with attendances above 20,000)				
Small Events (attendance up to 499)				
Commercial - operational days	£2,205.00	£2,271.00	£66.00	2.99%
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	£1,100.00	£1,133.00	£33.00	3.00%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	£605.00	£623.00	£18.00	2.98%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - set-up/dismantling days	£305.00	£314.00	£9.00	2.95%
Major Events (attendance 500 or more)				
Commercial - operational days	£4,400.00	£4,532.00	£132.00	3.00%
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	£2,200.00	£2,266.00	£66.00	3.00%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	£1,210.00	£1,246.00	£36.00	2.98%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - set-up/dismantling days	£605.00	£623.00	£18.00	2.98%
All Other Sites (all sites)				
Small Events (attendance up to 499)				
Commercial - operational days	£580.00	£597.00	£17.00	2.93%
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	£290.00	£299.00	£9.00	3.10%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	£180.00	£185.00	£5.00	2.78%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - set-up/dismantling days	£90.00	£93.00	£3.00	3.33%
Major Events (attendance 500 or more)				
Commercial - operational days	£1,160.00	£1,195.00	£35.00	3.02%
Commercial - set-up/dismantling days	£580.00	£597.00	£17.00	2.93%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - operational days	£360.00	£371.00	£11.00	3.06%
Non-commercial (incl. charities) - set-up/dismantling days	£180.00	£185.00	£5.00	2.78%
Wedding photographs and recordings				
Commercial	£405.00	£417.00	£12.00	2.96%
Non commercial	£92.00	£95.00	£3.00	3.26%
Organised Group Activities E.g. Boot Camp, Forest Schools etc. = a minimum of 12% of gross income	£36.00	£37.00	£1.00	2.78%
Filming in Parks				
Cannon Hill, Handsworth Park, Kings Heath Park, Lickey Hills & Sutton Park				
Up to 1 hour & Students	£122.00	£126.00	£4.00	3.28%
Filming with minimal handheld equipment - maximum 4 Hours	£310.00	£319.00	£9.00	2.90%
Filming with minimal handheld equipment - per day	£500.00	£515.00	£15.00	3.00%
Filming with vehicles and crew - maximum 4 hours	£500.00	£515.00	£15.00	3.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Filming with vehicles and crew - per day	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
All Other Sites				
Up to 1 hour & Students	£91.00	£94.00	£3.00	3.30%
Filming with minimal handheld equipment - maximum 4 Hours	£182.50	£188.00	£5.50	3.01%
Filming with minimal handheld equipment - per day	£367.50	£379.00	£11.50	3.13%
Filming with vehicles and crew - maximum 4 hours	£367.50	£379.00	£11.50	3.13%
Filming with vehicles and crew - per day	£877.00	£903.00	£26.00	2.96%
Season Ticket - maximum of 15 hires	£4,010.00	£4,130.00	£120.00	2.99%
Season Ticket - maximum of 30 hires	£8,000.00	£8,240.00	£240.00	3.00%
Car Parking				
Cannon Hill Park, up to 2 hours	£2.00	£2.20	£0.20	10.00%
Cannon Hill Park, 2 to 4 hours	£3.00	£3.30	£0.30	10.00%
Cannon Hill Park, 4 - 16 1/2 hours	£4.50	£5.00	£0.50	11.11%
Cannon Hill Park - per coach	£22.50	£25.00	£2.50	11.11%
Parks room hire facilities				
Community Room (30 people)	£36.00	£37.00	£1.00	2.78%
Annual charge - minimum fee subject to hire agreement	£3,000.00	£3,090.00	£90.00	3.00%
Charge per teaching area per games session (Senior Citizens)	£73.00	£75.00	£2.00	2.74%
School Hire				
Attendance up to and including 499	£183.50	£189.00	£5.50	3.00%
Attendance above 500	£370.00	£381.00	£11.00	2.97%
Parks ranger service - educational sessions (including schools)				
Group - max 30	£195.00	£201.00	£6.00	3.08%
Group - max 30	£320.00	£330.00	£10.00	3.13%
Community Group talks or guided walks	£80.00	£82.00	£2.00	2.50%
Equipment hire	£37.00	£38.00	£1.00	2.70%
Funfairs in Parks				
Cannon Hill, Handsworth Park, Kings Heath Park, Lickey Hills & Sutton Park				
Up to 5 Adult Rides	£750.00	£773.00	£23.00	3.07%
6 Adult Rides	£830.00	£855.00	£25.00	3.01%
7 Adult Rides	£940.00	£968.00	£28.00	2.98%
8 Adult Rides	£1,085.00	£1,118.00	£33.00	3.04%
Up to 9 Adult Rides	£1,210.00	£1,246.00	£36.00	2.98%
All Other Sites				
Up to 5 Adult Rides	£460.00	£474.00	£14.00	3.04%
6 Adult Rides	£490.00	£505.00	£15.00	3.06%
7 Adult Rides	£575.00	£592.00	£17.00	2.96%
8 Adult Rides	£665.00	£685.00	£20.00	3.01%
Up to 9 Adult Rides	£740.00	£762.00	£22.00	2.97%
Football				
FOOTBALL - Saturday				
Charge per match				
Senior Match & changing facilities	£94.50	£97.50	£3.00	3.17%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£41.00	£42.00	£1.00	2.44%
Small Sided Match & changing facilities	£22.50	£23.00	£0.50	2.22%
Senior Match no changing facilities	£47.00	£48.50	£1.50	3.19%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£30.00	£31.00	£1.00	3.33%
Small Sided Match & no changing facilities	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Seasonal Licence* with facilities				
Senior	£2,090.00	£2,153.00	£63.00	3.01%
Junior	£908.00	£935.00	£27.00	2.97%
Small Sided Match & changing facilities	£515.00	£530.00	£15.00	2.91%
Seasonal Licence* without facilities				
Senior	£893.00	£920.00	£27.00	3.02%
Junior	£434.00	£447.00	£13.00	3.00%
Small Sided Match & no changing facilities	£213.00	£219.00	£6.00	2.82%
FOOTBALL - Sunday (AM = game finishes up to & including 11.59am; PM = game starts from 12 noon onwards)				
Charge per match				
Senior Match & changing facilities - PM	£117.50	£121.00	£3.50	2.98%
Senior Match and changing Faculties - AM	£136.50	£141.00	£4.50	3.30%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£53.00	£54.50	£1.50	2.83%
Small Sided Match & changing facilities	£28.00	£28.50	£0.50	1.79%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Senior Match no changing facilities - PM	£59.00	£61.00	£2.00	3.39%
Senior Match no changing facilities - AM	£74.00	£76.00	£2.00	2.70%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£29.00	£30.00	£1.00	3.45%
Small Sided Match & no changing facilities	£17.00	£17.50	£0.50	2.94%
Seasonal Licences*				
Senior Match & changing facilities - PM	£2,330.00	£2,400.00	£70.00	3.00%
Senior Match and changing Facilities - AM	£2,780.00	£2,863.00	£83.00	2.99%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£1,346.00	£1,386.00	£40.00	2.97%
Small Sided Match & changing facilities	£658.00	£678.00	£20.00	3.04%
Senior Match no changing facilities - PM	£1,357.00	£1,398.00	£41.00	3.02%
Senior Match no changing facilities - AM	£1,627.00	£1,676.00	£49.00	3.01%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£821.00	£846.00	£25.00	3.05%
Small Sided Match & no changing facilities	£408.00	£420.00	£12.00	2.94%
Rugby				
RUGBY - Saturday - charge per match				
Senior Match & changing facilities	£87.00	£90.00	£3.00	3.45%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£42.00	£43.50	£1.50	3.57%
Senior Match no changing facilities	£36.00	£37.00	£1.00	2.78%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£30.00	£31.00	£1.00	3.33%
Seasonal Licence* with facilities				
Senior	£2,025.00	£2,086.00	£61.00	3.01%
Junior	£1,010.00	£1,040.00	£30.00	2.97%
Seasonal Licence* without facilities				
Senior	£938.00	£966.00	£28.00	2.99%
Junior	£469.00	£483.00	£14.00	2.99%
TRAINING SESSIONS WITH FLOODLIGHTS - charge per session				
Midweek with facilities per session	£94.00	£97.00	£3.00	3.19%
Midweek without facilities per session	£61.50	£63.50	£2.00	3.25%
RUGBY - Sunday - charge per match				
Senior Match & changing facilities	£103.00	£106.00	£3.00	2.91%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£51.00	£52.50	£1.50	2.94%
Senior Match no changing facilities	£50.00	£51.50	£1.50	3.00%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£30.00	£31.00	£1.00	3.33%
Seasonal Licence* with facilities				
Senior	£2,628.00	£2,707.00	£79.00	3.01%
Junior	£1,305.00	£1,344.00	£39.00	2.99%
Seasonal Licence* without facilities				
Senior	£1,486.00	£1,531.00	£45.00	3.03%
Junior	£721.00	£743.00	£22.00	3.05%
Cricket				
CRICKET - Evening & Sat				
charging per match				
Senior Match & changing facilities	£69.00	£71.00	£2.00	2.90%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£37.50	£38.50	£1.00	2.67%
Senior Match no changing facilities	£41.00	£42.00	£1.00	2.44%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£25.00	£26.00	£1.00	4.00%
Practice Nets - Per session (Half Day)	£26.00	£27.00	£1.00	3.85%
Seasonal License Grade 1 Facilities (Handsworth Park only)	£1,340.00	£1,380.00	£40.00	2.99%
Seasonal Licence* with facilities				
Senior	£849.00	£874.00	£25.00	2.94%
Junior	£460.50	£474.00	£13.50	2.93%
Seasonal Licence* without facilities				
Senior	£513.00	£528.00	£15.00	2.92%
Junior	£271.50	£280.00	£8.50	3.13%
CRICKET - Sunday				
Charging per match				
Senior Match changing facilities	£88.50	£91.00	£2.50	2.82%
Junior Match & changing facilities	£49.50	£51.00	£1.50	3.03%
Senior Match no changing facilities	£55.50	£57.00	£1.50	2.70%
Junior Match no changing facilities	£30.00	£31.00	£1.00	3.33%
Practice Nets - Per session (Half Day)	£28.00	£29.00	£1.00	3.57%
Seasonal License Grade 1 Facilities (Handsworth Park only)	£1,776.00	£1,829.00	£53.00	2.98%
Seasonal Licence* with facilities				
Senior	£1,121.00	£1,155.00	£34.00	3.03%
Junior	£596.00	£614.00	£18.00	3.02%
Seasonal Licence* without facilities				
Senior	£728.00	£750.00	£22.00	3.02%
Junior	£378.00	£389.00	£11.00	2.91%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Artificial Wicket Hire (no changing facilities) - Seasonal Licence	£110.50	£114.00	£3.50	3.17%
Artificial Wicket Hire (no changing facilities) - per match	£41.00	£42.00	£1.00	2.44%
Parks Fees				
Premiere Parks Cannon Hill, Handsworth Park, Kings Heath Park, Lickey Hills & Sutton Park				
Up to 1 hour & Students	£122.40	£126.00	£3.60	2.94%
Filming with minimal equipment (handheld) max 4 hours	£311.10	£320.00	£8.90	2.86%
Filming with minimal equipment (handheld) per day	£499.80	£515.00	£15.20	3.04%
Filming with vehicles and crew max 4 hours	£499.80	£515.00	£15.20	3.04%
Filming with vehicles and crew per day	£999.60	£1,030.00	£30.40	3.04%
All other Parks				
Up to 1 hour & Students	£90.80	£93.50	£2.70	2.97%
Filming with minimal equipment (handheld) max 4 hours	£182.10	£188.00	£5.90	3.24%
Filming with minimal equipment (handheld) per day	£367.80	£379.00	£11.20	3.05%
Filming with vehicles and crew max 4 hours	£367.80	£379.00	£11.20	3.05%
Filming with vehicles and crew per day	£877.20	£904.00	£26.80	3.06%
Garden and Bulky Waste				
Garden Waste (Annual)	£50.00	£60.00	£10.00	20.00%
Bulky Waste (Per collection)	£35.70	£45.00	£9.30	26.05%
Trade Waste Collection				
Sacks (Annual Contract)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Sacks (Quarterly Contract)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Sacks Prepaid	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Sacks City Centre	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Wheeled Bins (240 litres)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Wheeled Bins (360 litres)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Wheeled Bins (660 litres – 50kg net)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Wheeled Bins (660 litres – 80kg net)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Continental Containers (1100 litres – 150kg net)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Continental Containers (1100 litres – 180kg net)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Continental Containers (1280 litres)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Paladins (0.96m ³ containers)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Powell Duffryn	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Skips/Mechanical Sweeper				
Skips by Individual Load (6.12 m ³)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Skips by Individual Load (10.70 m ³)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Front Loading (9.18 m ³)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Skips using Rear End Loading Vehicle (6.12 m ³)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Skips using Rear End Loading Vehicle (10.70 m ³)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Roll on and off (Price will be dependent on type of material collected/disposed)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Minimum charge for one hour	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Minimum charge for half hour	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Issue of Duty of Care Certificate (Annual Season Ticket)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Reconnection charge - The reconnection fee is to cover costs relating to non-payment of invoices which result in cancellation and subsequent reconnection of services.	Price on Request	Price on Request		

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Hire of Mechanical Sweeping Vehicle and Driver				
Minimum charge for one hour	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Emptying of cesspools (per visit)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Commercial clinical waste collection: Sacks	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Commercial Clinical waste box (4 litres)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Commercial Clinical waste box (30 litres)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Clinical Waste Three Part Consignment Note	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Trade Waste Collection				
Prepaid Cardboard Recycling Tape - 50m Roll	Price on Request	Price on Request		
240 litre Recycling Container Paper & Cardboard	Price on Request	Price on Request		
240 litre Recycling Container Mixed Multi	Price on Request	Price on Request		
360 litre Recycling Container Paper & Cardboard	Price on Request	Price on Request		
360 litre Recycling Container Mixed Multi	Price on Request	Price on Request		
660 litre Recycling Container Paper and Cardboard	Price on Request	Price on Request		
660 litre Recycling Container Mixed Multi	Price on Request	Price on Request		
1100 Glass Recycling	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Trade Waste Street Cleaning Events Rates				
Beat Sweepers/Litter Pickers (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Driver (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Class 2 Driver (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Small Mechanical Sweeper (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Large Mechanical Sweeper (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Sideloader - 3 Crew (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Alley Cat - 3 Crew (per hour)	Price on Request	Price on Request		
Sport & Leisure				
Birmingham Alexander Stadium				
ATHLETICS				
Alexander Stadium Main Track only	£175.00	£184.00	£9.00	5.14%
Alexander Stadium Main Centre Green Only	£175.00	£184.00	£9.00	5.14%
Alexander Stadium Community Track & Centre Green Combined	£175.00	£184.00	£9.00	5.14%
Throws field with Cages	£150.00	£158.00	£8.00	5.33%
West Stand seating area (without track or field hire)	£150.00	£158.00	£8.00	5.33%
South Lounge	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
North Lounge (by agreement with BCU)	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
Reception (Exclusive use)	£50.00	£52.50	£2.50	5.00%
All ancillary rooms level 0	£37.50	£39.40	£1.90	5.07%
Emergency Control Room (free with full stadium hire)	£75.00	£78.80	£3.80	5.07%
Box 1 & 2 (combined next to ECR)	£150.00	£158.00	£8.00	5.33%
Boxes 3 or 4 (smaller incl. King's Box)	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
Boxes 1, 2, 5 or 6	£120.00	£126.00	£6.00	5.00%
North Plaza	£75.00	£78.80	£3.80	5.07%
South Plaza	£75.00	£78.80	£3.80	5.07%
East Stand seating area (without track or infield)	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
2 x player changing rooms (West Stand)	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
1 x match officials changing rooms (West Stand)	£35.00	£36.80	£1.80	5.14%
Medical room (west stand)	£37.50	£39.40	£1.90	5.07%
Anti-Doping Room	£37.50	£39.40	£1.90	5.07%
Physiotherapy Room	£45.00	£47.00	£2.00	4.44%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Floodlights	£82.00	£86.10	£4.10	5.00%
Strength and Conditioning Gym (Coach Required)	£150.00	£158.00	£8.00	5.33%
PT trainer	£60.00	£63.00	£3.00	5.00%
Main function suite (games family lounge)	£175.00	£184.00	£9.00	5.14%
Main Function suite Annex (room 2.39)	£100.00	£105.00	£5.00	5.00%
OTHER FACILITIES - subject to availability				
Package 1 (6 hours) – Up to 500 pax		£1,700.00	New for 2024	
Package 2 (6 hours) – Up to 1000 pax		£2,400.00	New for 2024	
Package 3 (6 hours) – Up to 1000 -1800pax		£3,000.00	New for 2024	
Elite equipment add on		£300.00	New for 2024	
Additional Staff (e.g. Stewards)	£28.05	£29.50	£1.45	5.17%
Additional high jump bed (max = 3)	£193.85	£204.00	£10.15	5.24%
Floodlighting	£84.75	£89.00	£4.25	5.01%
Prices above are for Commercial use and may be reduced at the Managers discretion for Community use, schools / charities etc. Prices are by hour				
Sport & Leisure				
OTHER FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES				
Holding Deposit	£722.60	£759.00	£36.40	5.04%
Indoor Hall				
Indoor Hall Exclusive use max 10 per area	£39.10	£41.10	£2.00	5.12%
Indoor Hall Exclusive use per area 13.00-15.30hrs	£84.80	£89.00	£4.20	4.95%
Indoor Hall Exclusive use all areas	£309.00	£324.00	£15.00	4.85%
Indoor Hall per session Adult	£6.60	£6.90	£0.30	4.55%
Indoor Hall per session Junior	£3.40	£3.60	£0.20	5.88%
Indoor Hall per session PTL	£5.30	£5.50	£0.20	3.77%
GMAC				
Kitchen	£36.90	£38.70	£1.80	4.88%
Viewing Gallery	£36.90	£38.70	£1.80	4.88%
Meeting Room	£36.90	£38.70	£1.80	4.88%
Martial Arts Room 1	£91.40	£96.00	£4.60	5.03%
Martial Arts Room 2	£71.60	£75.20	£3.60	5.03%
Martial Arts Room 3	£71.60	£75.20	£3.60	5.03%
GMAC activities				
Aikido Adult	£7.70	£8.10	£0.40	5.19%
Aikido Junior	£5.80	£6.10	£0.30	5.17%
Judo Adult	£7.90	£8.30	£0.40	5.06%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Judo Junior	£4.20	£4.40	£0.20	4.76%
Karate Adult	£7.70	£8.10	£0.40	5.19%
Karate Junior	£5.80	£6.10	£0.30	5.17%
Karate Family	£16.50	£17.30	£0.80	4.85%
The above room hire prices are guide prices for non-profit making organisations. Commercial rates are an additional 60% extra. Consumables and set-up and de-rig times are not included in prices listed.				
For all Sport and Leisure fees and charges Adults are classified as people aged 16 years and over				
Community Leisure Centres				
Sport & Leisure				
FACILITIES				
Sports Hall				
Sports Hall - whole - Shard End Adult	£56.70	£59.50	£2.80	4.94%
Sports Hall - whole - Shard End Junior	£36.30	£38.10	£1.80	4.96%
Tarmac/Hard Surface	£23.20	£24.40	£1.20	5.17%
ACTIVITIES				
Badminton				
Kingstanding	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Saltley	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Netball				
Netball Court - indoor - Saltley	£56.80	£59.60	£2.80	4.93%
Netball Court - indoor - Kingstanding	£38.90	£40.80	£1.90	4.88%
Cricket				
Cricket Nets - Saltley	£36.80	£38.60	£1.80	4.89%
Fitness session - Junior				
Shard End	£4.50	£4.70	£0.20	4.44%
Group Fitness (Exercise classes)				
Shard End	£6.00	£6.30	£0.30	5.00%
Miscellaneous Charges				
Equipment Hire	£2.70	£2.80	£0.10	3.70%
PASSPORT TO LEISURE				
Registration Fee				
Birmingham Residents	£6.30	£6.60	£0.30	4.76%
Sports Development				
Tennis / Gymnastics / Swimming				
Sport & Leisure				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
TENNIS DEVELOPMENT 12 Weeks unless Stated				
JUNIOR				
Mini Tots	£76.00	£79.80	£3.80	5.00%
Mini Tots - PTL	£60.80	£62.50	£1.70	2.80%
Mini Tennis - Red 45 min	£101.50	£107.00	£5.50	5.42%
Mini Tennis - Red 45 min - PTL	£81.30	£84.00	£2.70	3.32%
Mini Tennis - Orange 45 min	£101.50	£107.00	£5.50	5.42%
Mini Tennis - Orange 45 min - PTL	£81.30	£84.00	£2.70	3.32%
Mini Tennis - Green - 1 hour	£133.70	£140.00	£6.30	4.71%
Mini Tennis - Green - 1 hour - PTL	£106.90	£110.50	£3.60	3.37%
Junior Tennis 1 & 2	£157.40	£165.00	£7.60	4.83%
Junior Tennis 1 & 2 - PTL	£125.90	£129.50	£3.60	2.86%
Teen Tennis 1, 2 & 3	£157.40	£165.00	£7.60	4.83%
Teen Tennis 1, 2 & 3 - PTL	£125.90	£129.50	£3.60	2.86%
Teen Tennis 1, 2 & 3 - Outdoors	£116.40	£122.00	£5.60	4.81%
Teen Tennis 1, 2 & 3 - Outdoors - PTL	£93.20	£96.00	£2.80	3.00%
ADULT				
Adult - 60 mins - beginner	£157.40	£165.00	£7.60	4.83%
Adult - 60 mins - beginner - PTL	£125.90	£130.00	£4.10	3.26%
Adult - 90 mins	£180.60	£190.00	£9.40	5.20%
Adult - 90 mins - PTL	£144.30	£149.00	£4.70	3.26%
Adult - drill & tactics	£132.40	£139.00	£6.60	4.98%
Adult - drill & tactics - PTL	£105.70	£109.00	£3.30	3.12%
Adult - rusty rackets (6 weeks)	£64.10	£67.30	£3.20	4.99%
Adult - rusty rackets (6 weeks) - PTL	£51.60	£53.00	£1.40	2.71%
Course less than 12 weeks will be pro-rata.				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
GYMNASTICS DEVELOPMENT				
JUNIOR GYMNASTS				
Elite Gymnastics - 4+ Sessions per week	£90.90	£95.40	£4.50	4.95%
2nd Child - 4 Sessions	£68.90	£72.30	£3.40	4.93%
3rd Child - 4 Sessions	£59.40	£62.40	£3.00	5.05%
Elite Gymnastics - 4+ Sessions PTL	£72.40	£75.00	£2.60	3.59%
Elite Gymnastics - 3 Sessions per week	£71.80	£75.40	£3.60	5.01%
2nd Child - 3 Sessions	£53.50	£56.20	£2.70	5.05%
3rd Child - 3 Sessions	£46.90	£49.20	£2.30	4.90%
Elite Gymnastics - 3 Sessions PTL	£57.60	£59.50	£1.90	3.30%
Elite Gymnastics - 1- 2 Sessions per week	£52.30	£54.90	£2.60	4.97%
2nd Child - 1 - 2 Sessions	£39.20	£41.20	£2.00	5.10%
3rd Child - 1 -2 Sessions	£35.00	£36.80	£1.80	5.14%
Elite Gymnastics - 1- 2 Sessions PTL	£41.60	£43.00	£1.40	3.37%
Recreational Classes	£84.30	£88.50	£4.20	4.98%
Recreational Classes - 2nd Child	£62.40	£65.50	£3.10	4.97%
Recreational Classes - 3rd Child	£53.50	£56.20	£2.70	5.05%
Recreational Classes PTL	£67.70	£69.50	£1.80	2.66%
Advanced Recreational Class	£124.10	£130.00	£5.90	4.75%
Recreational Classes - 2nd Child	£93.80	£98.50	£4.70	5.01%
Recreational Classes - 3rd Child	£82.00	£86.10	£4.10	5.00%
Advanced Recreational Classes PTL	£99.20	£102.50	£3.30	3.33%
4th Child FREE for all groups				
ADULT				
Floor Gymnastics	£8.30	£8.70	£0.40	4.82%
PTL Floor Gymnastics	£6.50	£6.50	£0.00	0.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
SWIMMING DEVELOPMENT				
Open National Group - City Resident	£103.50	£109.00	£5.50	5.31%
Open National Group - City Non-resident	£115.70	£121.00	£5.30	4.58%
Open National Group - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£82.60	£85.00	£2.40	2.91%
Open National Group - 2nd Child in Same Group	£77.10	£81.00	£3.90	5.06%
National Development Group - City Resident	£96.90	£101.70	£4.80	4.95%
National Development Group - City Non-resident	£109.00	£114.00	£5.00	4.59%
National Development Group - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£77.60	£80.00	£2.40	3.09%
National Development Group - 2nd Child in Same Group	£68.30	£71.70	£3.40	4.98%
National Synchronised Group - City Resident	£82.60	£86.70	£4.10	4.96%
National Synchronised Group - City Non-resident	£96.90	£101.70	£4.80	4.95%
National Synchronised Group - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£66.10	£68.00	£1.90	2.87%
National Synchronised Group - 2nd Child in Same Group	£61.70	£64.80	£3.10	5.02%
Youth Synchronised Group - City Resident	£72.70	£76.30	£3.60	4.95%
Youth Synchronised Group - City Non-resident	£83.70	£87.90	£4.20	5.02%
Youth Synchronised Group - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£58.30	£60.00	£1.70	2.92%
Youth Synchronised Group - 2nd Child in Same Group	£55.10	£57.90	£2.80	5.08%
Junior Synchronised Group - City Resident	£63.90	£67.10	£3.20	5.01%
Junior Synchronised Group - City Non-resident	£77.60	£81.50	£3.90	5.03%
Junior Synchronised Group - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£51.20	£53.00	£1.80	3.52%
Junior Synchronised Group - 2nd Child in Same Group	£47.30	£49.70	£2.40	5.07%
Learn to Synchro Swim - City Resident	£28.60	£30.00	£1.40	4.90%
Learn to Synchro Swim -City Non-resident	£33.60	£35.30	£1.70	5.06%
Learn to Synchro Swim - Passport-to-Leisure PTL	£23.10	£24.00	£0.90	3.90%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Sport & Leisure				
Learn to Synchro Swim - 2nd Child in Same Group	£19.80	£20.80	£1.00	5.05%
For all Sport and Leisure fees and charges Adults are classified as people aged 16 years and over				
Leisure Centres - Facility Hire & Miscellaneous				
INDOOR SPORTS				
8-day Advance Booking Leisure Card membership - Court fees at each site are subject to an additional £1.00 per court for 8-day advance booking)				
Sports Hall				
Nechells (8 badminton court hall)	£136.50	£143.00	£6.50	4.76%
Cocks Moors Woods (8 courts)	£141.10	£148.00	£6.90	4.89%
Wyndley (5 courts)	£85.10	£89.40	£4.30	5.05%
Fox Hollies (4 court)	£85.10	£89.40	£4.30	5.05%
Handsworth (4 court)	£77.00	£80.90	£3.90	5.06%
Small Heath (4 court)	£64.20	£67.40	£3.20	4.98%
New Stechford (4 court)	£85.70	£90.00	£4.30	5.02%
Badminton				
Fox Hollies	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Wyndley	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Cocks Moors Woods	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Handsworth	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Small Heath	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Great Barr	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Nechells	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
New Stechford	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Squash				
Fox Hollies	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Small Heath	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
Wyndley	£10.20	£10.70	£0.50	4.90%
OUTDOOR SPORTS				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Wyndley Artificial Pitch				
Adult	£178.40	£187.00	£8.60	4.82%
Junior	£89.80	£94.30	£4.50	5.01%
1/3 rd Pitch	£61.20	£64.30	£3.10	5.07%
1/3 rd Pitch Junior	£32.60	£34.20	£1.60	4.91%
Wyndley Practice Area	£71.10	£74.70	£3.60	5.06%
Wyndley Practice Area Junior	£35.50	£37.30	£1.80	5.07%
Sport & Leisure				
Small Heath - Artificial Pitch				
Adult	£128.30	£135.00	£6.70	5.22%
1/3 rd Pitch	£43.10	£45.30	£2.20	5.10%
Adult	£169.10	£178.00	£8.90	5.26%
Junior	£85.70	£90.00	£4.30	5.02%
1/3 rd Pitch	£55.90	£58.70	£2.80	5.01%
Artificial Pitch - Saltley				
Adult	£155.10	£163.00	£7.90	5.09%
Adult 1/3 Pitch	£62.40	£65.50	£3.10	4.97%
Artificial Pitch - Colmers				
Adult 1/3 Pitch	£53.60	£56.30	£2.70	5.04%
Adult Full Pitch	£159.20	£167.00	£7.80	4.90%
Junior 1/3 Pitch	£40.80	£42.80	£2.00	4.90%
Junior Full Pitch	£120.70	£127.00	£6.30	5.22%
Wyndley Sports Meetings				
Adult - Midweek	£320.20	£336.00	£15.80	4.93%
Adult - Weekend	£390.70	£410.00	£19.30	4.94%
Junior - Midweek	£220.40	£231.00	£10.60	4.81%
Junior - Weekend	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Netball	£26.70	£28.00	£1.30	4.87%
Nechells - Multi Use Area	£24.50	£25.70	£1.20	4.90%
Cricket: Outdoor Practice Nets	£26.70	£28.00	£1.30	4.87%
BILLESLEY INDOOR TENNIS CENTRE				
Indoor Court Hire				
Peak Times - Adult	£28.90	£30.30	£1.40	4.84%
Peak Times - Junior	£13.90	£14.60	£0.70	5.04%
Off Peak	£12.20	£12.80	£0.60	4.92%
Weekends	£23.30	£24.50	£1.20	5.15%
School Use	£13.30	£14.00	£0.70	5.26%
Outdoor Court Hire				
Peak times - Adult	£13.90	£14.60	£0.70	5.04%
Peak times - Junior	£7.70	£8.10	£0.40	5.19%
Off peak - Adult	£11.10	£11.70	£0.60	5.41%
Off Peak - Junior	£5.90	£6.20	£0.30	5.08%
TABLE TENNIS				
Cocks Moors Woods	£9.10	£9.60	£0.50	5.49%
Fox Hollies	£9.10	£9.60	£0.50	5.49%
Sport & Leisure				
Nechells	£9.10	£9.60	£0.50	5.49%
Wyndley	£9.10	£9.60	£0.50	5.49%
NON-COMMERCIAL ROOM HIRE				
Room Hire				
Calthorpe Play Centre	£32.20	£33.80	£1.60	4.97%
Stanhope Wellbeing Hub	£32.20	£33.80	£1.60	4.97%
Firs & Bromford Wellbeing Hub				
Aston Pavilion	£47.30	£49.70	£2.40	5.07%
Conference Suite				
Cocks Moors Woods LC - Conference Suite (Small)	£75.60	£79.40	£3.80	5.03%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Cocks Moors Woods LC - Conference Suite (Medium)	£229.70	£241.00	£11.30	4.92%
Cocks Moors Woods LC - Conference Suite (Large)	£382.60	£402.00	£19.40	5.07%
Dance Studio				
Cocks Moors Woods LC - Dance Studio 2	£38.30	£40.20	£1.90	4.96%
Cocks Moors Woods LC - Dance Studio 1	£126.30	£133.00	£6.70	5.30%
Wyndley LC	£38.30	£40.20	£1.90	4.96%
Fox Hollies LC	£37.30	£39.20	£1.90	5.09%
Handsworth	£37.30	£39.20	£1.90	5.09%
Handsworth VAT	£45.60	£47.90	£2.30	5.04%
Harborne	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
New Erdington	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
New Northfield	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
New Stechford	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
New Sparkhill	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
Ladywood	£65.10	£68.40	£3.30	5.07%
Indoor/Outdoor Sports				
Short Mat Bowls	£4.50	£4.70	£0.20	4.44%
Running Track	£4.50	£4.70	£0.20	4.44%
For all Sport and Leisure fees and charges Adults are classified as people aged 16 years and over				
Fitness Gym				
Billesley Tennis Centre	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Cocks Moors Woods	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Fox Hollies	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Alexander Stadium	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Sport & Leisure				
Nechells	£7.60	£8.00	£0.40	5.26%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Saltley	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Wyndley	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Kingstanding	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Shard End	£7.90	£8.30	£0.40	5.06%
Small Heath LC and Nechells	£7.90	£8.30	£0.40	5.06%
Beeches Pool	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Harborne	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
New Erdington	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
New Northfield	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
New Stechford	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
New Sparkhill	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Ladywood	£8.20	£8.60	£0.40	4.88%
Individual PTL - discount 20% off-peak & 10% peak				
Programmes				
Induction - Starter Programme	£17.80	£18.70	£0.90	5.06%
Induction - Starter Programme (PTL)	£14.20	£14.50	£0.30	2.11%
Induction - Starter Programme Junior	£8.30	£8.70	£0.40	4.82%
Induction - Personal Programme	£33.00	£34.70	£1.70	5.15%
Induction - Personal Programme (PTL)	£26.40	£27.00	£0.60	2.27%
Programme Review	£3.40	£3.60	£0.20	5.88%
Personal Fitness Trainer 1 to 1	£51.30	£53.90	£2.60	5.07%
Fitness Gym + Sauna combined ticket				
Beeches	£13.00	£13.70	£0.70	5.38%
Gym & Sauna combined ticket PTL price reductions 30% off-peak and 10% peak				
Pulse Point users must be aged over 16, unless under instruction from a suitably qualified coach / instructor				
Handsworth Wellbeing Centre	£10.70	£11.20	£0.50	4.67%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
New Erdington	£10.70	£11.20	£0.50	4.67%
New Sparkhill	£10.70	£11.20	£0.50	4.67%
Ladywood	£10.70	£11.20	£0.50	4.67%
Sport & Leisure				
Free Weight Gym Small Heath only				
Individual Session Small Heath LC	£7.90	£8.30	£0.40	5.06%
Induction Small Heath	£9.40	£9.90	£0.50	5.32%
Induction (PTL)	£7.60	£7.80	£0.20	2.63%
PowerPoint users must be aged over 16, unless under instruction from a suitably qualified coach / instructor.				
EXERCISE TO MUSIC GROUP CLASSES				
Instructed Classes				
Aerobics (all group fitness classes)	£8.10	£8.50	£0.40	4.94%
AquaTone	£8.10	£8.50	£0.40	4.94%
Aquafit	£8.10	£8.50	£0.40	4.94%
Yoga	£8.90	£9.30	£0.40	4.49%
Body training systems	£8.10	£8.50	£0.40	4.94%
Studio Cycling	£8.10	£8.50	£0.40	4.94%
TONING TABLES @ Kingstanding LC				
Toning Tables	£8.00	£8.40	£0.40	5.00%
Toning Tables (PTL)	£6.40	£6.60	£0.20	3.12%
Toning Tables (Course)	£71.30	£74.90	£3.60	5.05%
HEALTH SUITES				
Sauna, Steam, Turkish				
Steam Room/Sauna	£11.90	£12.50	£0.60	5.04%
Steam/Sauna Cabinet	£5.30	£5.60	£0.30	5.66%
Turkish	£12.40	£13.00	£0.60	4.84%
Turkish PTL	£9.90	£10.20	£0.30	3.03%
Showers				
Adult/Junior	£3.30	£3.50	£0.20	6.06%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
MONTHLY MEMBERSHIPS SCHEMES				
Your Choice Memberships paid by Direct Debit				
Premier Choice (Cross service)	£35.50	£37.30	£1.80	5.07%
Fitness Choice (Gym Only Multi site Wellbeing)	£31.00	£32.60	£1.60	5.16%
Fitness Choice (Classes Only Multi Site Wellbeing)	£23.00	£24.20	£1.20	5.22%
Aqua Choice (Swimming Only Multi site Wellbeing)	£25.00	£26.30	£1.30	5.20%
Premier Choice Student Tiverton	£34.50	£36.20	£1.70	4.93%
Sport & Leisure				
Site specific health & fitness monthly memberships not paid by Direct Debit				
Gym & swim combined	£51.50	£54.10	£2.60	5.05%
Swim only	£38.90	£40.80	£1.90	4.88%
Leisure Centre Booking Card	£17.90	£18.80	£0.90	5.03%
For all Sport and Leisure fees and charges Adults are classified as people aged 16 years and over				
SWIMMING POOL REGULAR HIRE				
Main Pool - Peak				
Wyndley	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%
Kingstanding	£186.60	£196.00	£9.40	5.04%
Fox Hollies	£135.30	£142.00	£6.70	4.95%
Beeches	£119.00	£125.00	£6.00	5.04%
Small Heath	£117.80	£124.00	£6.20	5.26%
Handsworth	£103.80	£109.00	£5.20	5.01%
Newtown	£103.80	£109.00	£5.20	5.01%
Moseley Road	£101.50	£107.00	£5.50	5.42%
Harborne	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%
New Erdington	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%
New Northfield	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%
New Stechford	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
New Sparkhill	£184.20	£193.00	£8.80	4.78%
Ladywood	£246.10	£258.00	£11.90	4.84%
Main Pool - Off Peak				
Kingstanding	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
Wyndley	£121.30	£127.00	£5.70	4.70%
Fox Hollies	£101.50	£107.00	£5.50	5.42%
Beeches	£86.30	£90.60	£4.30	4.98%
Newtown	£86.30	£90.60	£4.30	4.98%
Small Heath	£84.00	£88.20	£4.20	5.00%
Handsworth	£78.10	£82.00	£3.90	4.99%
Moseley Road	£86.30	£90.60	£4.30	4.98%
Harborne	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
New Erdington	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
New Northfield	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
New Stechford	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
New Sparkhill	£134.10	£141.00	£6.90	5.15%
Sport & Leisure				
Ladywood	£178.40	£187.00	£8.60	4.82%
Teaching Pool - Peak				
Wyndley	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
Handsworth	£103.80	£109.00	£5.20	5.01%
Linden Road	£95.60	£100.40	£4.80	5.02%
Newtown	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
Moseley Road	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
Harborne	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
New Erdington	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
New Northfield	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
New Stechford	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
New Sparkhill	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
Ladywood	£108.40	£114.00	£5.60	5.17%
Teaching Pool - Off Peak				
Wyndley	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
Handsworth	£68.80	£72.20	£3.40	4.94%
Linden Road	£68.80	£72.20	£3.40	4.94%
Newtown	£58.30	£61.20	£2.90	4.97%
Moseley Road	£58.30	£61.20	£2.90	4.97%
Harborne	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
New Erdington	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
New Northfield	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
New Stechford	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
New Sparkhill	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
Ladywood	£73.40	£77.10	£3.70	5.04%
OCCASIONAL POOL HIRE - GALA ETC				
Main Pools				
Cocks Moors Woods (Leisure pool)	£410.60	£431.00	£20.40	4.97%
Wyndley	£410.60	£431.00	£20.40	4.97%
Kingstanding (Leisure Pool)	£410.60	£431.00	£20.40	4.97%
Fox Hollies	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
Sport & Leisure				
Handsworth	£173.80	£182.00	£8.20	4.72%
Beeches	£173.80	£182.00	£8.20	4.72%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Small Heath	£173.80	£182.00	£8.20	4.72%
Newtown	£173.80	£182.00	£8.20	4.72%
Harborne	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
New Erdington	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
New Northfield	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
New Stechford	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
New Sparkhill	£236.70	£249.00	£12.30	5.20%
Ladywood	£547.00	£574.00	£27.00	4.94%
School galas/events in normal schools' hours	£105.00	£110.00	£5.00	4.76%
Timing Equipment	£88.60	£93.00	£4.40	4.97%
Teaching Pools				
Wyndley	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
Linden Road	£116.60	£122.00	£5.40	4.63%
Handsworth	£106.10	£111.00	£4.90	4.62%
Newtown	£92.10	£96.70	£4.60	4.99%
Stechford	£90.90	£95.40	£4.50	4.95%
Moseley Road	£68.80	£72.20	£3.40	4.94%
Harborne	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
New Erdington	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
New Northfield	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
New Stechford	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
New Sparkhill	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%
Ladywood	£144.60	£152.00	£7.40	5.12%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Charge for first 100 people. Add £1.00 per head over 100 people. The occasional hire rates take into account the need for staff safety cover.				
Galas and special events scheduled to extend into daytime public use shall be subject to a special application and a negotiated rate.				
Sport & Leisure				
Bookings by organisations based outside the city should be subject to a negotiated hire charge, Based on a minimum of the occasional hire charge.				
OTHER CHARGES				
Hire charge for staff lifeguard				
One Leisure Assistant	£36.10	£37.90	£1.80	4.99%
Schools Instruction Programme				
Schools Swimming (including instructor)	£54.80	£57.50	£2.70	4.93%
Schools Swimming (including instructor)	£81.60	£85.70	£4.10	5.02%
Additional Swimming Instructor	£30.90	£32.40	£1.50	4.85%
Swimming Badges	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
Distance	£3.80	£4.00	£0.20	5.26%
Skills	£3.80	£4.00	£0.20	5.26%
Badge Sessions award	£4.10	£4.30	£0.20	4.88%
Old Strokes Badges	£2.60	£2.70	£0.10	3.85%
NOTES				
1) If a club whose headquarters are at one of the City Council's Swimming Pools or Leisure Centres has at least eight of its members participating in the junior group of the Advanced Coaching Scheme, then that club is entitled to pay the off-peak hire charge for one club session per week, up to a maximum of 3 hours, at the pool serving as its headquarters.				
2) 25% reduction on hire fee is given to designated lifesaving clubs/groups who (a) are affiliated to the RLSS Warwickshire Branch and b) offer courses and examinations leading to the RLSS UK/ISRM National Pool Lifeguard Qualification, or the RLSS UK rescue Test for Teachers and Coaches of swimming.				
3) School Use-				
Birmingham LEA schools - not applicable / internal charge				
Non-LEA Birmingham schools - Exempt if for educational purposes				
For all Sport and Leisure fees and charges Adults are classified as people aged 16years and over				
Swimming, Strokes Instruction and Strikes Instruction				
Sport & Leisure				
GENERAL SWIMMING				
Cocks Moors Woods / Fox Hollies / Kingstanding / Stechford / Wyndley / Erdington / Sparkhill / Harborne / Northfield				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Adult	£6.00	£6.30	£0.30	5.00%
Adult (PTL)	£4.80	£5.00	£0.20	4.17%
Junior under 16	£3.90	£4.10	£0.20	5.13%
Spectator	£1.10	£1.20	£0.10	9.09%
Group swim	£3.50	£3.70	£0.20	5.71%
Family Swim	£16.20	£17.00	£0.80	4.94%
Family Swim (PTL)	£13.00	£13.40	£0.40	3.08%
All other swimming pools				
Adult	£5.80	£6.10	£0.30	5.17%
Adult (PTL)	£4.60	£4.80	£0.20	4.35%
Junior	£3.80	£4.00	£0.20	5.26%
Junior (PTL)	£3.00	£3.10	£0.10	3.33%
Spectator	£1.10	£1.20	£0.10	9.09%
Group swim	£3.50	£3.70	£0.20	5.71%
Family Swim	£15.40	£16.20	£0.80	5.19%
Family Swim (PTL)	£12.30	£12.70	£0.40	3.25%
Under 8's - only 2 under 8s allowed in with one adult at all times, both in and out of the water.				
STROKES - SWIMMING INSTRUCTION - MAXIMUM CHARGES				
Strokes for Life Course - Maximum Charges				
Junior	£77.20	£84.90	£7.70	9.97%
Junior PTL	£61.80	£68.00	£6.20	10.03%
Junior Coaching	£85.50	£94.10	£8.60	10.06%
Adult	£90.30	£99.30	£9.00	9.97%
Adult PTL	£72.40	£79.60	£7.20	9.94%
Adult - Sixty Plus	£56.40	£62.00	£5.60	9.93%
Adult - Individual lesson	£10.90	£12.00	£1.10	10.09%
Sport & Leisure				
Strokes for Life Adult & Child - Maximum Charges				
Course Registration Fee	£28.80	£31.70	£2.90	10.07%
Course Individual Lesson Fee (each week)	£4.60	£5.10	£0.50	10.87%
Individual Lesson	£7.80	£8.60	£0.80	10.26%
Mini Splash Session for Parent & Child	£6.50	£7.20	£0.70	10.77%
Strokes for Life Junior Ducklings - Maximum Charges				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
First Strokes course 12 weeks max of 8 children	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
First Strokes course 12 weeks max of 4 children	£147.90	£162.70	£14.80	10.01%
Strokes for Life Stage 10				
Canoeing	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
Water polo	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
Synchronised swimming	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
Rookie lifeguard	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
Swim Fit	£85.00	£93.50	£8.50	10.00%
Strokes for Life - Challenge awards - 12-week course - Maximum Charge				
Bronze / Silver / Gold	£77.20	£84.90	£7.70	9.97%
Holiday Crash Courses - Maximum Charges				
Junior (5-Day)	£37.40	£41.10	£3.70	9.89%
Junior (4-Day)	£33.70	£37.10	£3.40	10.09%
Junior (5-Day)	£51.00	£56.10	£5.10	10.00%
Junior (4-Day)	£43.90	£48.30	£4.40	10.02%
Adult (5-Day)	£49.90	£54.90	£5.00	10.02%
Adult (4-Day)	£37.40	£41.10	£3.70	9.89%
Strokes for Life Premier Strokes Junior - Maximum Charges				
Junior - individual lesson - one-to-one	£33.70	£37.10	£3.40	10.09%
Junior - Individual less two juniors / one instructor	£29.30	£32.20	£2.90	9.90%
Junior course group of 4	£146.60	£161.30	£14.70	10.03%
Junior - course - group of six	£137.20	£150.90	£13.70	9.99%
Strokes for Life Premier Strokes Adult - Maximum Charges				
Adult - individual lesson 1 - 1	£32.40	£35.60	£3.20	9.88%
Sport & Leisure				
Adult - 12 week	£289.40	£304.00	£14.60	5.04%
Adult - individual lesson 2 - 1	£29.30	£30.80	£1.50	5.12%
Adult - 12 week 1 - 6	£137.20	£144.00	£6.80	4.96%
Adult - 12 week 1 - 4	£160.90	£169.00	£8.10	5.03%
No PTL price reduction on Premier Strokes individual lessons. 20% PTL price reduction on all other Strokes courses				
STRIKES - GROUP FOOTBALL INSTRUCTION				
12-week courses				
Junior	£77.20	£81.10	£3.90	5.05%
Junior PTL	£61.80	£63.70	£1.90	3.07%
First Kicks 12 week	£56.40	£59.20	£2.80	4.96%
<i>PTL discount is 20% off the standard price</i>				
DRY INSTRUCTION				
12-week courses				
Gymfants - 12 week	£77.20	£81.10	£3.90	5.05%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Gymbounce - 12 week	£77.20	£81.10	£3.90	5.05%
Gymfants P&P	£8.60	£9.00	£0.40	4.65%
GMAC				
1 quarter of Hire of Gymnastics Hall per hour	£134.60	£141.00	£6.40	4.75%
Half Gymnastics Hall per hour	£269.30	£283.00	£13.70	5.09%
Whole Gymnastics Hall per hour	£538.60	£566.00	£27.40	5.09%
Cultural Development - Film Birmingham				
Street Filming (non-refundable)				
Crew – up to 10 people	£65.00	£72.00	£7.00	10.77%
Crew – 11-24 people	£150.05	£165.00	£14.95	9.96%
Crew -25 - 74	£280.50	£309.00	£28.50	10.16%
Crew – 75 - 99	£455.00	£500.00	£45.00	9.89%
Crew - 100 +149		£600.00		New for 2024
Crew - 150 +		£1,000.00		New for 2024
Charity / Students / Travelogues	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
Drone Permits	£180.00	£198.00	£18.00	10.00%
Parking				
Location Fees per hour (minimum charge)	£55.00	£80.00	£25.00	45.45%
Location Fees per hour (maximum charge)	£210.00	£250.00	£40.00	19.05%
Cultural Development - Film Birmingham				
Facilitation/Staffing per hour (minimum charge)	£55.00	£55.00	£0.00	0.00%
Facilitation/Staffing per hour (maximum charge)	£80.00	£80.00	£0.00	0.00%
Temporary Traffic Restrictions				
Road Traffic Notice	£560.00-£2700.00	£560.00-£2700.00		
Cherry Picker/Scaffold Permits	£48.00	£53.00	£5.00	10.42%
Library of Birmingham (per hour)	£160.00	£176.00	£16.00	10.00%
Library of Birmingham (Student/Charity per hour)	£26.00	£29.00	£3.00	11.54%
Parks Fees				
Premiere Parks Cannon Hill, Handsworth Park, Kings Heath Park, Lickey Hills & Sutton Park				
City Operations				
Car Parking				
ON-STREET PARKING CHARGES				
Outer Zone, Jewellery Quarter Zone and Gun Quarter Zone				
Monday to Saturday 8am - 6pm				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£1.70	£0.00	0.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Up to 2 hours	£2.40	£2.70	£0.30	12.50%
Up to 3 hours	£4.00	£4.20	£0.20	5.00%
Up to 4 hours	£5.00	£5.20	£0.20	4.00%
Overnight 5pm - 9am and all-day Sunday				
Annual	£112.00	£116.00	£4.00	3.57%
Overnight 5pm - 9am and all-day Saturday & Sunday				
Annual	£225.00	£232.00	£7.00	3.11%
Jewellery Quarter and Gun Zone Season Tickets				
Annual (residents)	£290.00	£299.00	£9.00	3.10%
Annual (local employees)	£365.00	£376.00	£11.00	3.01%
Eastside Zone (Cashless Payment Only)				
Monday to Saturday 8am - 7.30pm				
Up to 1 hour	£1.70	£1.70	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 2 hours	£2.40	£2.70	£0.30	12.58%
Up to 3 hours	£4.00	£4.20	£0.20	5.00%
Up to 4 hours	£5.00	£5.20	£0.20	4.00%
Digbeth and Irish Quarter				
Up to 1 hour	£1.60	£1.60	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 2 hours	£2.40	£2.60	£0.20	8.33%
Up to 3 hours	£3.70	£3.90	£0.20	5.41%
Up to 4 hours	£4.80	£5.10	£0.30	6.25%
Residents Permit	£280.00	£289.00	£9.00	3.21%
Business Permit	£360.00	£371.00	£11.00	3.06%
Ladywood zone (Cashless Payments Only)				
Monday to Saturday 8am - 7pm				
Up to 1 hour	£1.50	£1.70	£0.20	13.33%
Up to 2 hours	£1.90	£2.10	£0.20	10.53%
Up to 3 hours	£2.60	£2.80	£0.20	7.69%
Up to 4 hours	£3.60	£3.90	£0.30	8.33%
Dale Road (Cashless Payments Only)				
Monday to Saturday 8am - 7pm				
Up to 1 hour	£0.90	£0.90	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 2 hours	£1.50	£1.60	£0.10	6.33%
Up to 3 hours	£2.00	£2.10	£0.10	5.00%
Up to 4 hours	£2.20	£2.30	£0.10	4.36%
RESIDENT PARKING SCHEMES				
Resident Permit				
First Permit	£20.00	£20.60	£0.60	3.00%
Second and Subsequent Permits	£40.00	£41.20	£1.20	3.00%
Resident Visitor Permit				
The permits are available in pads of five permits				
Change per permit	£0.80	£0.90	£0.10	13.00%
Business Permit				
Suburban areas	£149.00	£153.50	£4.50	3.02%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
OFF - STREET PARKING CHARGES				
Great Charles Street - Ludgate Hill Closed				
Monday - Friday				
Up to 2 hours	£3.30	£3.40	£0.10	3.00%
Up to 4 hours	£5.60	£5.80	£0.20	3.54%
Up to 6 hours	£7.10	£7.30	£0.20	2.86%
Up to 12 hours	£8.20	£9.50	£1.30	15.80%
Up to 24 hours	£9.20	£11.50	£2.30	24.96%
Saturday and Sunday				
All day until midnight	£4.50	£5.00	£0.50	11.11%
Season Tickets				
Monday - Friday 7:00 am to 7:00pm				
SNOW HILL MULTI - STOREY CAR PARK				
Everyday				
Up to 2 hours	£4.30	£4.30	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 4 hours	£6.60	£6.60	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 6 hours	£10.00	£10.30	£0.30	3.00%
Up to 12 hours	£14.00	£16.00	£2.00	14.29%
Up to 24 hours	£18.00	£20.00	£2.00	11.11%
all - day flat rate charge for motorcycles	£1.00	£1.00	£0.00	0.00%
Season Tickets				
Monday - Friday 7:00 am to 7:00pm				
Three Calendar Months	£720.00	£741.60	£21.60	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£1,390.00	£1,431.70	£41.70	3.00%
Annually	£2,710.00	£2,791.30	£81.30	3.00%
Everyday 7:00 to Midnight				
Three Calendar Months	£860.00	£885.80	£25.80	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£1,640.00	£1,689.20	£49.20	3.00%
Annually	£3,050.00	£3,141.50	£91.50	3.00%
All day every day				
Three Calendar Months	£990.00	£1,019.70	£29.70	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£1,950.00	£2,008.50	£58.50	3.00%
Annually	£3,700.00	£3,811.00	£111.00	3.00%
TOWN HALL MULTI - STOREY CAR PARK				
Everyday				
Up to 2 hours	£4.30	£4.30	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 4 hours	£6.60	£6.60	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 6 hours	£10.00	£10.30	£0.30	3.00%
Up to 12 hours	£14.00	£16.00	£2.00	14.29%
Up to 24 hours	£18.00	£20.00	£2.00	11.11%
Season Tickets				
Monday - Friday 7:00 am to 7:00pm				
Three Calendar Months	£720.00	£741.60	£21.60	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£1,390.00	£1,431.70	£41.70	3.00%
Annually	£2,710.00	£2,791.30	£81.30	3.00%
Monday - Friday 7:00pm to Midnight				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Three Calendar Months	£780.00	£803.40	£23.40	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£1,510.00	£1,555.30	£45.30	3.00%
Annually	£3,000.00	£3,090.00	£90.00	3.00%
All day every day				
Three Calendar Months	£980.00	£1,019.70	£39.70	4.05%
Six Calendar Months	£1,800.00	£2,008.50	£208.50	11.58%
Annually	£3,200.00	£3,811.00	£611.00	19.09%
DUDLEY STREET & NAVIGATION STREET CAR PARK				
Everyday				
Up to 2 hours	£3.80	£4.00	£0.20	5.26%
Up to 4 hours	£6.60	£6.60	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 6 hours	£9.80	£10.30	£0.50	5.10%
Up to 12 hours	£13.10	£16.00	£2.90	22.14%
Up to 24 hours	£15.30	£20.00	£4.70	30.72%
All day flat rate for motorcycles	£1.00	£1.00	£0.00	0.00%
MILLENIUM POINT MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK				
Everyday				
Up to 2 hours	£3.30	£3.30	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 4 hours	£5.40	£5.60	£0.20	3.74%
Up to 6 hours	£6.30	£6.50	£0.20	3.16%
Up to 12 hours	£7.30	£8.00	£0.70	9.59%
Up to 24 hours	£10.30	£11.50	£1.20	11.65%
Season Tickets				
Monday - Friday 7:00am - 7:00pm				
Three Calendar Months	£320.00	£329.60	£9.60	3.00%
Six Calendar Months	£545.00	£561.40	£16.40	3.01%
Annually	£1,020.00	£1,050.60	£30.60	3.00%
All Day Every Day				
Three Calendar Months	£445.00	£460.00	£15.00	3.37%
Six Calendar Months	£800.00	£830.00	£30.00	3.75%
Annually	£1,365.00	£1,410.00	£45.00	3.30%
Lost Ticket Charge	(new)	£15.00		
Car Parking				
JEWELLERY QUARTER MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK				
Everyday				
Up to 2 hours	£2.30	£2.40	£0.10	4.30%
Up to 4 hours	£3.30	£3.40	£0.10	3.00%
Up to 6 hours	£5.20	£5.40	£0.20	3.77%
Up to 10 hours	£7.30	£7.60	£0.30	4.10%
Season Tickets				
All day Every Day				
Three Calendar Months	£270.00	£280.00	£10.00	3.70%
Six Calendar Months	£500.00	£520.00	£20.00	4.00%
Annually	£945.00	£980.00	£35.00	3.70%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Levels 4, 5 and 6 Local employees only)				
Annually	£440.00	£455.00	£15.00	3.41%
BREWERY STREET MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK				
Up to 6 hours	£11.10	£12.50	£1.40	12.61%
Up to 24 hours	£22.00	£24.00	£2.00	9.09%
VICTORIA ROAD CAR PARK - CLOSED				
Up to 2 hours	£1.00	Not applicable		
Up to 4 hours	£1.90	Not applicable		
All Day	£3.20	Not applicable		
Season Tickets all day every day:				
3 Calendar Months	£190.00	Not applicable		
6 Calendar Months	£350.00	Not applicable		
Annual	£631.00	Not applicable		
DUCHESS ROAD CAR PARK				
Up to 2 hours	£1.30	£1.40	£0.10	7.62%
Up to 4 hours	£2.40	£2.50	£0.10	4.25%
Up to 24 hours	£3.70	£4.20	£0.50	13.51%
Season Tickets all day every day:				
3 Calendar Months	£200.00	£210.00	£10.00	5.00%
6 Calendar Months	£390.00	£410.00	£20.00	5.13%
Annual	£720.00	£756.00	£36.00	5.00%
ALL LOCAL CAR PARKS				
Monday to Saturday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.20	£1.30	£0.10	8.00%
Up to 4 hours	£2.50	£2.60	£0.10	3.80%
Up to 24 hours	£4.80	£5.00	£0.20	4.25%
Sunday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.10	£1.20	£0.10	9.36%
Up to 10 hours	£2.10	£2.20	£0.10	4.90%
NORTHFIELD TOWN CENTRE				
Monday to Saturday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.20	£1.30	£0.10	8.00%
Up to 4 hours	£2.50	£2.60	£0.10	3.80%
Up to 24 hours	£4.80	£5.00	£0.20	4.25%
Sunday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.40	£1.50	£0.10	7.29%
Up to 10 hours	£2.50	£2.60	£0.10	3.80%
Car Parking				
SUTTON COLDFIELD TOWN CENTRE				
Monday to Saturday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.50	£1.60	£0.10	6.33%
Up to 4 hours	£2.50	£2.60	£0.10	3.80%
Up to 24 hours	£4.80	£5.00	£0.20	4.25%
Sunday				
Up to 2 hours	£1.40	£1.50	£0.10	7.29%
Up to 10 hours	£2.50	£2.60	£0.10	3.80%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Season Tickets - Bewdley Avenue, Boulton Road, Alfred Road, Clifton Road, Oldfield Road, St Paul's Road				
3 Calendar Months	£130.00	£137.00	£7.00	5.38%
6 Calendar Months	£245.00	£258.00	£13.00	5.31%
Annual	£440.00	£462.00	£22.00	5.00%
York Street, Moseley Village				
3 Calendar Months	£185.00	£195.00	£10.00	5.41%
6 Calendar Months	£370.00	£389.00	£19.00	5.14%
Annual	£675.00	£709.00	£34.00	5.04%
Moseley Village				
3 Calendar Months	£185.00	£195.00	£10.00	5.41%
6 Calendar Months	£360.00	£378.00	£18.00	5.00%
Annual	£660.00	£693.00	£33.00	5.00%
Anchorage Road, Duke Street South, South Parade				
3 Calendar Months	£185.00	£195.00	£10.00	5.41%
6 Calendar Months	£370.00	£389.00	£19.00	5.14%
Annual	£675.00	£709.00	£34.00	5.04%
ON-STREET PARKING CHARGES				
Inner Zone				
Monday to Sunday 8am to 7.30pm				
Up to 1 hour	£3.80	£3.90	£0.10	2.74%
Up to 90 minutes (after 6pm)	£4.00	£4.20	£0.20	5.00%
Up to 2 hours	£6.50	£6.50	£0.00	0.00%
Up to 3 hours	£8.20	£8.50	£0.30	3.61%
Up to 4 hours	£10.20	£12.00	£1.80	17.65%
Season Tickets and Residents Permits				
Replacements				
Vehicle Change	£12.60	£13.00	£0.40	3.16%
Lost/Stolen/Damaged Season Ticket or Permit	£23.20	£23.90	£0.70	3.00%
Refunds				
Charge per Season Ticket or Permit	£16.80	£17.30	£0.50	3.00%
Parking Dispensations and Suspensions				
Dispensation to park on double yellow lines or contravene parking restrictions in exceptional and essential circumstances	£20.00	£20.60	£0.60	3.00%
Daily Charge Per Bay (Bays 1-3)	£15.75	£16.30	£0.55	3.51%
Daily Charge for Additional Bays (multiples of 3, or part thereof)	£15.75	£16.30	£0.55	3.51%
Charge for set up/take down	£73.50	£75.80	£2.30	3.12%
Admin Charge	£15.75	£16.30	£0.55	3.51%
Any additional costs associated with temporary suspension	Full Cost	Full Cost		
Permanent Loss of on-street parking bays due to development or change of use				
Charge to developers for loss of on street bay, where displaced bay cannot be located in near vicinity	Full Cost	Full Cost		
Any additional costs associated with loss of bay (i.e. amending Traffic Regulation Order, relocating ticket machines)	Full Cost	Full Cost		

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Transportation, Connectivity & Highways				
Highways - Dropped Kerbs				
Dropped Kerb Site Inspection Fee	£103.00	£113.00	£10.00	9.71%
Dropped Kerb Administration Fee	£296.00	£326.00	£30.00	10.14%
Dropped Kerb Construction Cost	At Cost	At Cost		
Dropped Kerb Construction during planned Footway maintenance (standard size) - discounted as per Council's technical policy plus administration	£239.00	£263.00	£24.00	10.04%
Inspection of Illegally Constructed Dropped Kerb	£406.00	£447.00	£41.00	10.10%
Inspection of Dropped Kerb / Site as requested by potential property buyer	£130.00	£143.00	£13.00	10.00%
Confirmation of status of Dropped Kerb constructed > 6 years ago	£130.00	£143.00	£13.00	10.00%
Highways - Local Engineers				
Dropped Kerb Protection Marking (H marking)	£150.00	£165.00	£15.00	10.00%
Per additional metre over 5m	£28.00	£31.00	£3.00	10.71%
Authorisation for the installation of temporary Traffic Signals at multiple junctions	£265.00	£292.00	£27.00	10.19%
Temporary Traffic Regulation Order Notice - Admin fee by Districts	£1,169.00	£1,286.00	£117.00	10.01%
Bellmouth Agreement/Heavy duty crossover	£1,159.00	£1,275.00	£116.00	10.01%
Traffic Regulation Order Processing Charges - Document prep, re-design, consultation, legal costs, audit, advertisement & data management (for more than 5 days)	At Cost	At Cost		
Transportation, Connectivity & Highways				
Temporary Road Closures (for Events)				
Temporary Road Closures (for Events) under the Towns Police Clauses Act 1847 - Officer time to process applications, carry out site investigations, produce plans, design signs, attend meetings, liaise with various stakeholders as necessary, carry out consultation, produce closure Notices, undertake any other actions as deemed appropriate and implement closure on site.	At Cost	At Cost		
Structures - Approval in Principle Process				
Review and Approval of proposals on Electrical Assets	At Cost	At Cost		
Review and Approval of proposals affecting Structural Assets	At Cost	At Cost		
Direction Signs				
Tourist Direction Signs - Application	£183.00	£202.00	£19.00	10.38%
Tourist Direction Signs - Sign determination, design, implementation, and maintenance	At Cost	At Cost		
Temporary Direction Signs - Application and initial period of licence up to 6 months	£365.00	£402.00	£37.00	10.14%
Temporary Direction Signs - Further 6-month extension of the licence period	£182.00	£201.00	£19.00	10.44%
Drainage Related Charges				
River Modelling - Minimum Charge	£193.00	£213.00	£20.00	10.36%
River Modelling - Maximum Charge	£2,651.00	£2,917.00	£266.00	10.03%
Other Drainage Services (Records, Assessments, etc.)	At Cost	At Cost		
Ordinary Water Course Consents	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Pre-Application Advice for Developers	At Cost	At Cost		
Streetworks Charges				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Charges Under the New Roads and Street Works Act (s72) - Sample Inspections	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Charges Under the New Roads and Street Works Act (s72) - Defective Reinstatement Inspection Fee	£47.50	£47.50	£0.00	0.00%
Charges Under the New Roads and Street Works Act (s72) - Third Party Inspection Fee	£68.00	£68.00	£0.00	0.00%
New Roads & Streetworks - Section 50 License	£952.00	£1,048.00	£96.00	10.08%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive street or protected street not in road category 2, 3 or 4 beyond notified period. (Each day for first 3 days)	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Another street not in road category 2, 3 or 4 beyond notified period. (Each day for first 3 days)	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive Traffic-sensitive street or protected	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Other street in road category 2. Beyond notified period (Each day for first 3 days)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive street or protected street in road category 3 or 4 beyond notified period (Each day after 3 days)	£750.00	£750.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Other street in road category 3 or 4 beyond notified period (Each day after 3 days)	£250.00	£250.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive street or protected	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Other street not in road category 2, 3 or 4. (Each day for first 3 days)	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive street or protected	£8,000.00	£8,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Other street in road category 2. (Each day after 3 days)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Traffic-sensitive street or protected street in road category 3 or 4 (Each day after 3 days)	£750.00	£750.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Other street in road category 3 or 4 (Each day after 3 days)	£250.00	£250.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Street not in road category 2, 3 or 4. Beyond notified period. (Each Day)	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Street in road category 2. Beyond notified period (Each Day)	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of Street in road category 3 or 4. beyond notified period. (Each Day)	£250.00	£250.00	£0.00	0.00%
Street Works Regulations - Occupancy of any Street beyond notified period (Each Street)	£100.00	£100.00	£0.00	0.00%
Permit Scheme for Road & Street Activities (costs per application; flat fee)				
Category 0, 1 & 2 - PAA - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£84.00	£84.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - PAA - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£75.60	£75.60	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (over 10 days and all requiring a TRO) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£172.00	£172.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (over 10 days and all requiring a TRO) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£154.80	£154.80	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (4 to 10 days) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£104.00	£104.00	£0.00	0.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (4 to 10 days) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£93.60	£93.60	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (up to 3 days) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£53.00	£53.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Major (up to days) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£47.70	£47.70	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Standard - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£104.00	£104.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Standard - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£93.60	£93.60	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Minor - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£53.00	£53.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Minor - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£47.70	£47.70	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Intermediate - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Intermediate - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Variations - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 0, 1 & 2 - Variations - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - PAA - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£84.00	£84.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - PAA - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£75.60	£75.60	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (over 10 days and all requiring a TRO) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£172.00	£172.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (over 10 days and all requiring a TRO) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£154.80	£154.80	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (4 to 10 days) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£104.00	£104.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (4 to 10 days) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£93.60	£93.60	£0.00	0.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Category 3 & 4 - Major (up to 3 days) - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£53.00	£53.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (up to days) - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£47.70	£47.70	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Standard - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£104.00	£104.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Standard - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£93.60	£93.60	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Minor - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£53.00	£53.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Minor - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£47.70	£47.70	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Intermediate - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Intermediate - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Variations - wholly or partly within traffic sensitive times and/or locations	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4- Variations - wholly outside of traffic sensitive times and/or locations (10% discount)	£45.00	£45.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - PAA - Non-traffic Sensitive -Any time or Location	£55.00	£55.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (over 10 days and all requiring a TRO) - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any time or location	£91.00	£91.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (4 to 10 days) - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any Time or Location	£54.00	£54.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Major (up to 3 days) - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any Time or Location	£27.00	£27.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Standard - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any Time or Location	£54.00	£54.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Minor - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any time or location	£27.00	£27.00	£0.00	0.00%
Category 3 & 4 - Intermediate - Non-traffic Sensitive Any time or Location	£24.00	£24.00	£0.00	0.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Category 3 & 4 - Variations - Non-traffic Sensitive - Any Time or Location	£35.00	£35.00	£0.00	0.00%
FPNs - Offence under the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991				
FPNs - An offence under section 54(5).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence under section 55(5).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence under section 55(9)(1).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence under section 57(4).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence under section 70(6) consisting of a failure to comply with subsection (3) or (4A)(2).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence created by regulations made under section 74(7B).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
FPNs - An offence created by regulations made under section 74A(11).	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate	£120/£80 Start Rate/ Reduced Rate		
Community Centres Room Hire (per hour)				
Kings Heath				
Offices 1, 2, and 3 (each)	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Small Lounge	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Function Room	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Kitchen	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Main Hall	£29.70	£30.50	£0.80	2.69%
Friends Institute				
Offices 1	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Offices 2 - 6	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Small Café	£23.10	£24.00	£0.90	3.90%
Small Hall	£15.80	£16.50	£0.70	4.43%
Music Room	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Main Hall	£31.90	£33.00	£1.10	3.45%
Community Centres Room Hire (per hour)				
Sheldon				
Offices 1 first floor	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Office 2 first floor	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Main Hall	£29.70	£30.50	£0.80	2.69%
Training Room/Meeting Room	£23.10	£24.00	£0.90	3.90%
Ladywood				
Sports Hall	£31.90	£33.00	£1.10	3.45%
Lounge	£18.70	£19.50	£0.80	4.28%
Kitchen (Ground Floor)	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Canteen	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Boughton Hall	£29.70	£30.50	£0.80	2.69%
Digital Den	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Workshop	£18.70	£19.50	£0.80	4.28%
Sitting Room	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Meeting Rooms 4	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Meeting Rooms 1 -3 (each)	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Meeting Room 5	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Kitchen (First Floor)	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Mere Green				
Room 1	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Room 2 and 4 (each)	£18.70	£19.50	£0.80	4.28%
Room 3	£25.30	£26.00	£0.70	2.77%
Room 5	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Bowls Room	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%
Main Hall (depending on event)	£27.50	£28.50	£1.00	3.64%
Main Hall (depending on event)	£27.50	£28.50	£1.00	3.64%
Main Hall (depending on event)	£51.50	£53.00	£1.50	2.91%
Hub	£23.10	£24.00	£0.90	3.90%
Wyndley				
Hall	£16.80	£17.50	£0.70	4.17%
Sparkbrook				
Rooms A,	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Rooms B	£20.90	£21.50	£0.60	2.87%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Rooms C	£18.70	£19.50	£0.80	4.28%
Training Room	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Meeting Room	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Oddingley				
Kitchen & Seating Area	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Office	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Meeting Room	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Main Hall	£25.30	£26.00	£0.70	2.77%
Garden	£15.40	£16.00	£0.60	3.90%
Summerfield				
Martial Arts	£16.50	£17.00	£0.50	3.03%
Dance Studio	£18.70	£19.50	£0.80	4.28%
Office	£18.00	£18.50	£0.50	2.78%
Main Hall	£23.10	£24.00	£0.90	3.90%
Sports Hall	£25.30	£26.00	£0.70	2.77%
Classrooms 1 - 3 (each)	£17.60	£18.00	£0.40	2.27%
Summerfield, Ladywood, Kings Heath, Sheldon Heath				
Summerfield MUGA	£10.50	£11.00	£0.50	4.76%
Badminton	£7.20	£7.50	£0.30	4.17%
Community Centres Room Hire (per hour)				
Volleyball	£10.50	£11.00	£0.50	4.76%
Football	£10.50	£11.00	£0.50	4.76%
Stirchley Baths Community Hub				
Main Hall - Weekday Community	£21.00	£23.00	£2.00	9.52%
Main Hall - Weekday Commercial	£36.00	£39.00	£3.00	8.33%
Main Hall - Weekend Community	£26.00	£28.00	£2.00	7.69%
Main Hall - Weekend Commercial	£60.00	£65.00	£5.00	8.33%
Cinema Room - Weekday Community	£18.50	£20.00	£1.50	8.11%
Cinema Room - Weekday Commercial	£30.00	£33.00	£3.00	10.00%
Cinema Room - Weekend Community	£24.00	£26.00	£2.00	8.33%
Cinema Room - Weekend Commercial	£42.00	£46.00	£4.00	9.52%
Children's Parties - Main Hall (2hrs) Weekend only	£60.00	£65.00	£5.00	8.33%
Children's Parties - Cinema Room (2hrs) Weekend only	£42.00	£46.00	£4.00	9.52%
Weddings - Use of Main Hall and Cinema Room - Half Day Weekend Only	£825.00	£900.00	£75.00	9.09%
Deep End Room - Weekday Community	£15.00	£16.50	£1.50	10.00%
Deep End Room - Weekday Commercial	£20.00	£22.00	£2.00	10.00%
Deep End Room - Weekend Community	£22.00	£24.00	£2.00	9.09%
Deep End Room - Weekend Commercial	£28.00	£30.00	£2.00	7.14%
Café Space - Weekday Community	£18.50	£20.00	£1.50	8.11%
Café Space - Weekday Commercial	£30.00	£33.00	£3.00	10.00%
Café Space - Weekend Community	£24.00	£26.00	£2.00	8.33%
Café Space - Weekend Commercial	£42.00	£46.00	£4.00	9.52%
The above room hire rates may be discounted for charitable and not-for-profit organisations offering services to the community. Premiums may be chargeable for out of hours bookings				
Council Management				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Occupational Health and Safety Services				
Taxi Medicals	£78.00	£81.00	£3.00	3.85%
Taxi DBS Check	£79.00	£81.00	£2.00	2.53%
Education and Skills				
Educational Psychology Service				
SUBSCRIPTIONS				
Subscriptions (36 Hours)	£5,259.45	£5,785.40	£525.95	10.00%
Subscriptions (27 Hours)	£4,038.30	£4,442.13	£403.83	10.00%
Subscriptions (18 hours)	£2,761.50	£3,037.65	£276.15	10.00%
Promotional discounts (e.g. Early Bird)				
Subscriptions (36 Hours) - Promotional Discount	£5,141.85	£5,656.04	£514.19	10.00%
Subscriptions (27 Hours) - Promotional Discount	£3,920.70	£4,312.77	£392.07	10.00%
Subscriptions (18 hours) - Promotional Discount	£2,642.85	£2,907.14	£264.29	10.00%
BESPOKE PACKAGES				
Bespoke Packages - Hourly Charge Rate	£160.65	£176.72	£16.07	10.00%
TRAINING				
Training in 1 school (<i>Full Day</i>)	£892.50	£981.75	£89.25	10.00%
Training in a group of schools (Full Day) per delegate	£115.50	£127.05	£11.55	10.00%
Centrally held training (<i>Full Day</i>)	£262.50	£288.75	£26.25	10.00%
Training in 1 school (<i>Half Day</i>)	£472.50	£519.75	£47.25	10.00%
Training in a group of schools (Half Day) per delegate	£63.00	£69.30	£6.30	10.00%
Centrally held training (Half Day) per delegate	£147.00	£161.70	£14.70	10.00%
Training in 1 school (<i>Twilight</i>)	£336.00	£369.60	£33.60	10.00%
Training in a group of schools (Twilight) per delegate	£47.25	£51.98	£4.73	10.00%
School & Governors				
Annual SERVICE Offer Subscription (25% discount for federated maintained schools and 5% for schools committing to subscribe for 3 years) (provisional)	£2,205.00	£2,425.50	£220.50	10.00%
Annual TRAINING offer subscription (£150 discount for service offer subscribers) (provisional charge to schools)	£577.50	£635.25	£57.75	10.00%
Governor Training Course Delegate Fee - most courses (£25 discount for service offer subscribers and free for training offer subscribers) (provisional charge to schools)	£89.25	£98.18	£8.93	10.00%
Governor Induction Training Course Delegate Fee (£30 discount for service offer subscribers and free for training offer subscribers) (provisional charge to schools)	£157.50	£173.25	£15.75	10.00%
Bespoke on demand consultancy - per session (pro-rata for shorter sessions & 20% discount to subscribing schools) (provisional charge to schools)	£740.25	£814.28	£74.03	10.00%
Access to Education				
Rates for Training for Birmingham Schools				
Training for Birmingham Schools - Full Day	765.00	841.5	76.50	10.00%
Training for Birmingham Schools - Half Day	395.00	434.5	39.50	10.00%
Training for Birmingham Schools - Twilight	295.00	324.5	29.50	10.00%
Rates for Training provided to schools & settings outside of the authority				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Training provided to schools & settings outside of the authority - Full Day	825.00	907.50	82.50	10.00%
Training provided to schools & settings outside of the authority - Half Day	455.00	495.00	40.00	8.79%
Training provided to schools & settings outside of the authority - Twilight	335.00	370.00	35.00	10.45%
Centre based Courses				
Centre based Courses - Full Day	215.00	236.50	21.50	10.00%
Centre based Courses - 2 Full Days	395.00	434.50	39.50	10.00%
Centre based Courses - Half Day	120.00	132.00	12.00	10.00%
Centre based Seminars by session	42.00	46.00	4.00	9.52%
Centre based Seminars - Hourly Rate	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
PSS Consultancy	£682.50	Service no longer offered		
SEN Review - one day review	1050.00	1155.00	105.00	10.00%
SEN Review - 2 full days (all through schools and schools over number of sites)	1850.00	2035.00	185.00	10.00%
Identification of Dyslexia (for pupil on the Birmingham Pathway) including detailed report and appropriate recommendations to support provision	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
Access to Education				
Dyslexia Specialist Teaching programme for schools				
6 week	1200.00	1320.00	120.00	10.00%
12 week	2100.00	2310.00	210.00	10.00%
Specialist teaching as identified on EHCP funded by SENAR				
Toolkits purchased outside of Birmingham (available to Birmingham schools as DSG funded service)				
Language & Literacy Toolkit or Maths Toolkit	500.00	550.00	50.00	10.00%
Language & Literacy Toolkit or Maths Toolkit	900.00	990.00	90.00	10.00%
Toolkit Progress Tracker (TPT) for schools in and out of area – Language & Literacy				
Toolkit Progress Tracker (TPT) combined L&L and Maths				
Toolkit Progress Tracker (TPT) combined L&L and Maths - With training	470.00	517.00	47.00	10.00%
Toolkit Progress Tracker (TPT) combined L&L and Maths - Without training	350.00	385.00	35.00	10.00%
L&L and maths Toolkit criteria hosted on third party providers e.g. Classroom Monitor, FROG, OTrack, Educater				
Toolkit Renewals:				
Toolkit Renewals - EAL	£84.00	Service no longer offered		
Toolkit Renewals - L&L or maths	100.00	110.00	10.00	10.00%
Toolkit Renewals - L&L maths combined	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
Toolkit Renewals - TPT (L&L only)	175.00	192.50	17.50	10.00%
Toolkit Renewals - L&L and maths	225.00	247.50	22.50	10.00%

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Toolkit Renewals - Train the Trainer	1000.00	1100.00	100.00	10.00%
Intervention Show Cases (Costs to marketplace and not participants)				
Intervention Show Cases - Market stand	125.00	137.50	12.50	10.00%
Intervention Show Cases - Market stand + presentation	200.00	220.00	20.00	10.00%
Intervention Show Cases - ALSA accredited course with Newman University - per participant	£588.00	Service no longer offered		
Intervention Show Cases - National SENCo Award - 40% of course cost per participant;	1020.60	1020.60	0.00	0.00%
On-Line courses via Moodle: sold in multiples of 10				
In Birmingham				
OOA				
Access to Education				
PCR training (two-day course)				
Maximising Impact of Teaching Assistants (MITA accredited)				
Hourly	80.00	100.00	20.00	25.00%
RA provision – equipment hires				
Annually - includes technician support & maintenance	473.00	520.30	47.30	10.00%
The SLAs with RBs – Small Heath and Plantsbrook.				
Specialist support for work-based learning providers (FE work)				
Mild / Moderate Hearing Loss - Assessment, report, recommendations, follow-up visit	600.00	660.00	60.00	10.00%
Severe/Profound Hearing loss - Assessment, report, recommendations, email, and telephone	1500.00	1650.00	150.00	10.00%
Additional visits (each) e.g. Monitoring, support, review with student, staff training	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
Additional report e.g. Report to support request for special arrangement for exams	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
Specific Charges for Communication & Autism Team (CAT) - (prices set in line with AET recommendations – Max 25 on course)				
Access to Education				
CAT AET Training – Setting Based - Autism awareness for out of authority schools	215.00	236.50	21.50	10.00%
CAT AET Training – Setting Based - Tier 2 & 3 for training + £5.50 delegate pack	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
CAT TOP UP				
CAT Buy Back Hourly Rate	150.00	165.00	15.00	10.00%
Education Asset Management				
Academy conversion				
Academy conversion process - lease / Commercial Transfer Agreement (CTA) - Community School	£8,268.75	£9,095.63	826.88	10.00%
Academy conversion process - lease / CTA - Community School - PFI	£16,537.50	£18,191.25	1653.75	10.00%
Academy conversion process - lease of playing field - Voluntary Aided / Foundation	£5,512.50	£6,063.75	551.25	10.00%
Academy conversion process - CTA - Voluntary Controlled	£4,961.25	£5,457.38	496.13	10.00%
Academy conversion process - lease of playing field - Voluntary Controlled	£8,268.75	£9,095.63	826.88	10.00%
Non-Subscription Charge				
Property Audit Visit	£175.35	£192.89	17.54	10.00%
Property Planning Visit	£325.50	£358.05	32.55	10.00%
Subscription Charge - Community & Voluntary Controlled, Academies, Foundation, Voluntary Aided				

Service/ Charge	Charge 2023/24	Proposed Gross charge 2024/25	£ change (24/25 - 23/24)	% Change
Subscription Option 1	£766.50	£843.15	76.65	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Property Planning Visit (per visit)	£325.50	£358.05	32.55	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Landlord Approval Process (per application)	£325.50	£358.05	32.55	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Duty Holder Training (per delegate)	£175.35	£192.89	17.54	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Asbestos Management Training (per delegate)	£175.35	£192.89	17.54	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Dual / Match Funding (per application)	£325.50	£358.05	32.55	10.00%
Subscription Option 1 - Additional Charge item - Advice and guidance on lease and tenancy agreements (minimum charge)	£325.50	£358.05	32.55	10.00%
Subscription Option 2	£1,044.75	£1,149.23	104.48	10.00%