

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 19 JUNE 2018 AT 14:00 HOURS
IN COMMITTEE ROOM 6, COUNCIL HOUSE, VICTORIA SQUARE,
BIRMINGHAM, B1 1BB

A G E N D A

1 NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

The Chairman to advise/meeting to note that this meeting will be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.civico.net/birmingham) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there are confidential or exempt items.

2 APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies.

3 APPOINTMENT OF AUDIT COMMITTEE, CHAIR, DEPUTY CHAIR AND MEMBERS

1. To note the resolution of the City Council appointing the Committee, Chair and Members to serve on the Committee for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the City Council in 2019.

Labour

Councillors O'Shea (Chair), Afzal, Bridle, Shah and Trickett

Conservative

Councillors Jenkins and Webb

Liberal Democrat

Councillor Tilsley

2. To elect a Deputy Chair, for the purpose of substitution for the Chair if absent, for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2019.

<u>5 - 6</u>	4	<u>FUNCTIONS - AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>	To note the Committee's functions as set out in the attached schedule.								
	5	<u>DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS</u>	Members are reminded that they must declare all relevant pecuniary and non pecuniary interests arising from any business to be discussed at this meeting. If a disclosable pecuniary interest is declared a Member must not speak or take part in that agenda item. Any declarations will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.								
<u>7 - 16</u>	6	<u>MINUTES - AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>	To confirm and sign the Minutes of the last meeting.								
<u>17 - 36</u>	7	<u>ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2017/18</u>	Report of the Corporate Director - Finance & Governance								
<u>37 - 80</u>	8	<u>INTERNAL AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18</u>	Report of the Assistant Director - Audit & Risk Management								
<u>81 - 302</u>	9	<u>STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18</u>	Report of the Corporate Director - Finance & Governance								
<u>303 - 310</u>	10	<u>GRANT THORNTON - PROGRESS REPORT</u>	Report of the External Auditor								
	11	<u>DATES AND TIME OF MEETINGS - AUDIT COMMITTEE</u>	<p>To approve a schedule of dates for the Committee's meetings during 2018/19.</p> <p>The Chairman proposes that the Committee meets on the following Tuesdays at 1400 hours in the Council House:-</p> <table><tr><td>2018</td><td>2019</td></tr><tr><td>30 July (Monday)</td><td>29 January</td></tr><tr><td>25 September</td><td>26 March</td></tr><tr><td>20 November</td><td></td></tr></table>	2018	2019	30 July (Monday)	29 January	25 September	26 March	20 November	
2018	2019										
30 July (Monday)	29 January										
25 September	26 March										
20 November											

12 **OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

To consider any items of business by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) that in the opinion of the Chairman are matters of urgency.

13 **AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

Chairman to move:-

'In an urgent situation between meetings, the Chairman jointly with the relevant Chief Officer has authority to act on behalf of the Committee'.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Audit Committee is to support the Council's Corporate Governance responsibilities and to provide independent assurance to the Council in relation to internal control, risk management and governance.

Functions

- (a) To review the City Council's Annual Accounts and Annual Governance Statement (AGS). This will include advising on significant changes throughout the year to financial regulations and policies.
- (b) To monitor progress in addressing control or governance issues identified in the AGS.
- (c) To review and provide the executive with assurance on the embedding and maintenance of an effective system of corporate governance including the risk management framework and the associated control environment.
- (d) Responsibilities as set out in the terms of reference in relation to external audit including reviewing the planned programme of work, noting fees and terms of engagement of the external auditor, considering and advising the executive on responses to audit management letters, reports and investigations and reviewing whether agreed external audit or inspection recommendations have been implemented as timetabled.
- (e) To review and make recommendations to the executive regarding the effectiveness of internal audit to include ensuring the internal audit function is adequately resourced, to review its strategy, receive, challenge and approve its annual plan and monitor its delivery and to review significant audit findings and monitor progress by managers in implementing agreed recommendations.
- (f) To consider and make recommendations to the executive on the Council's arrangements for deterring, preventing, detecting and investigating fraud.
- (g) To consider reports from the Ombudsman and monitor management response in relation to these.
- (h) To consider, approve or make recommendations in respect of any other matters at the request of the Council.

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

AUDIT COMMITTEE 27 MARCH 2018
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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HELD ON TUESDAY, 27 MARCH 2018 AT 1400 HOURS IN COMMITTEE ROOM 6, COUNCIL HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM

PRESENT:-

Councillor Claire Spencer in the Chair;

Councillors Jenkins, Robinson and Tilsley.

NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST

- 15 The Chairman advised and the meeting noted that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site (www.birminghamnewsroom.com) and that members of the press/public could record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

APOLOGIES

- 16 Apologies were submitted on behalf of Councillor Mariam Khan due to illness and Councillors Quinnen, Rice and Shah for their inability to attend the meeting.

The business of the meeting and all discussions in relation to individual reports was available for public inspection via the web-stream.

MINUTES

- 17 **RESOLVED:-**

That the public part of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 January 2018 be noted.

MATTER ARISING

- 18 In response to a comment from Councillor Robinson regarding the use of reserves to balance the City budget, the Chair suggested that it be considered as a potential item preferably earlier on in the new Municipal Year.
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BIRMINGHAM INDEPENDENT IMPROVEMENT PANEL

- 19 Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of Birmingham City Council submitted apologies for lateness and for having to leave the meeting prematurely.

Councillor Ward reported that after entering into his present role almost immediately, together with the Chief Executive had met with Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel to discuss a different way of working.

He confirmed that it had taken some time to determine how it would work which was why the letter to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Government was sent on 8 March 2018. He added during that time period, they had been looking at how the mechanics of working in a more collaborative way would work, and also with the setting of a new base line of where the City Council was at and where it needed to be.

At this juncture, Councillor Ward circulated to the committee, a plan which detailed the critical issues that needed to be tackled and progressed over the next four year period. Whilst providing a comprehensive explanation of each of the issues, it was anticipated that over the next twelve months, progress would be demonstrated by the City Council, and that it would be in a position where the panel would have greater confidence in the City Council moving forward.

He made reference that in moving forward, the City Council should be open to accepting constructive advice on how further operational improvements could be made. He stated that at some time this year, he would like a corporate peer review and to invite the LGA to come and look at the City Council as it was operating as a whole, taking into consideration the work being undertaken with the Improvement Panel, the plan that was in place, and to provide further advice and guidance on progression.

He added that the vision for the future, was for the City Council to be a high performing council that was delivering for the people of the City and also, highlighted the opportunities that were there to grow the City in going forward, and that it was important, that the City Council stepped up to play a leadership role in ensuring it maximised on the benefits that were available.

Steve Robinson, Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel made reference to the more collaborative working approach that had been mentioned, and for elected members and officers to be seen demonstrating higher levels of transparency and self-awareness in valuation, and in reporting on the way the City Council was operating. He highlighted that the panel only now felt confident that the City Council was accepting the improvement challenge and due to the scale of the task it would take some years to achieve given the

underlying cultural issues. He further highlighted the serious financial budgetary position and associated issues, emphasising the enormous challenge that was there to be met.

He referred to the leadership of the City Council both managerially and professionally that was in place, and believed that as a result of this, was confident that it was up for the challenge. He made reference to the various items that had been identified for discussion with Cabinet which included; using the findings from surveys, feedback and studies, peer reviews and following up and actually delivering on what those studies and peer reviews were illustrating.

He made reference to the need, to see decision making that was supported by evidence, insight, intelligence and the quality of reports to members that demonstrated consistency within the decision making process. He highlighted the importance of the City Council working to a 'one council approach' and consistently displaying the features of a learning organisation, tackling corporate disobedience and the root causes.

He made reference to the Local Government Association (LGA) and their outlined checklist of what a good effective council should be demonstrating, and subsequently detailed the various ways in which it should be working, in order to deliver the agreed priorities for the council, supported by the relevant organisational and workforce development.

He made reference to a financial plan and the need for long-term viability and successful implementation of this, and also the corporate governance plan which was being currently worked on with the Leader and the Deputy Leader.

He made reference to the recent review of scrutiny, and whilst welcoming most of the recommendations within the report, stated that there needed more discussion with the author of the report which would be taking place shortly. He highlighted the importance of proper senior management support being given to scrutiny, and the need to develop the culture around transparency and the consistency of challenge within the scrutiny process.

He was of the opinion that the Scrutiny Management Board was a welcome idea and that there was a need for consistency across the scrutiny function throughout the City Council. Further reference was made regarding the possible addition of a finance sub-committee which would be considered over the next few months.

He reported on what they were trying to achieve as an improvement panel regarding the City Council and how Birmingham needed to be world driven by a leading 21st Century Council, and that it sets an example for local government across the country. He referred to the clear strategy and the resources required to support this, as well as the excellent leadership and significant change in culture taking place. He highlighted the importance of the public, private and voluntary sectors all working as one family for the citizens of Birmingham.

Following questions and comments from members the following points were made:-

Councillor Ward stated that there were currently 5 scrutiny committees in place at the moment and whilst trying to cover a variety of topics, there had not been the capacity to investigate to a more in depth level.

He highlighted that one of those areas that this applied to was finance, and was of the opinion, that there was the need to have a constituted scrutiny committee where their sole task was to look at the finance of the local authority and how it was working, in order that it could do justice to a key area of the City Council.

He made reference to a meeting taking place on 9 April 2018 with the Labour Group regarding the new scrutiny arrangement and suggested that if members wished to offer any discussion regarding this, they would be welcome to do so, prior to the meeting.

He confirmed that once they had established a dedicated finance scrutiny committee, he would like for them to discuss with the LGA where finance scrutiny was best carried out in the country, and then meet with that particular local authority and learn from them on how that may be replicated.

He expressed keenness in moving forward with an improved working relationship between executive and scrutiny, with executive having the confidence to request that scrutiny investigate more of the complex issues that the City Council faced, and that a more mature approach be adopted by members when working in scrutiny on a cross party basis.

At this juncture, Councillor Ward apologised for having to leave the meeting but confirmed that he would watch the feedback later this week.

The Chair thanked Councillor Ward for attending the meeting.

Steve Robinson reported that the approach of the panel was very much tailored to this local authority. He confirmed they had regular meetings with both the political and managerial leadership of the council and would have expected them, to have reported back to members as they felt appropriate, on the developments that had taken place.

With regard to public accountability, he confirmed was happy to discuss with the leadership of the City Council. He added that quarterly, they had written to the Secretary of State, regarding the progress of the City Council whereupon these documents had been clear and transparent of where they had seen the City Council at any given time. He referred to the withdrawal and return of the panel in 2016 and 2017 and explained the reasons for this which related to the budgetary and refuse service issues.

He made reference to the importance of effective governance and decision making arrangements, the capacity and resources to focus in the correct areas in order to deliver the agreed priorities which all had to be supported by the relevant organisation and workforce development. He alluded to the financial

plan, and highlighted the positivity from political and managerial leadership of the acceptance of the changes and improvements that needed to be made, and to the work relating to the Corporate Governance Plan with the Deputy Leader.

He confirmed that all of this was not a short fix, and that it would take a number of years with lots of incremental steps to achieve where it needs to be. He added, that the panel would like to see demonstrated by the City Council, the ambition to be an exemplar for the very best in local government.

The Chair concluded by thanking representatives from Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel for their attendance.

At this juncture, the Chair agreed to vary the order of the agenda.

GRANT THORNTON – EXTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

The following report of the External Auditor was submitted:-

(See document No. 1)

Phil Jones, Grant Thornton, provided a comprehensive breakdown of the report.

He highlighted that they would be looking particularly hard this year at the use of reserves. He added that the savings the City Council were required to deliver in a couple years' time were quite substantial and the use of reserves as a strategy for this delivery would not work.

20

RESOLVED:-

That the report be noted.

GRANT THORNTON – AUDIT PROGRESS REPORT AND SECTOR UPDATE

The following report of the External Auditor was submitted:-

(See document No. 2)

Phil Jones, Grant Thornton, introduced the report and responded to Members' comments.

He referred to the deferral of costs into the future, explaining that it was phased over a long period of time, the value of the additional amount was not likely to be anything material. He confirmed that in this regard, it was the decision taken by the City Council and that they had been in dialogue with officers regarding this area of work.

The Chair made reference to the treasury management briefing that had been recently offered to members and suggested, that it might be something that was rolled back into the new municipal year, in order that the implications were understood by all.

Phil confirmed that there were a number of guarantees that were looked at annually and at present they were still in a position, where discussion needed to take place with officers, regarding the nature and size of them.

Phil made reference to Carillion and confirmed that the Select Committee was looking into the conduct of the audit.

21 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

GRANT THORNTON – INFORMING THE AUDIT RISK ASSESSMENT

The following report of the External Auditor was submitted:-

(See document No. 3)

Phil Jones, Grant Thornton, introduced the report.

22 **RESOLVED:-**

That the report be noted.

CORPORATE RISK REGISTER UPDATE

The following report of the Assistant Director, Audit and Risk Management was submitted:-

(See document No. 4)

Sarah Dunlavy, Assistant Director, introduced the report and subsequently provided a comprehensive breakdown. She highlighted the various changes within the body of the report and confirmed that the list of retired risks had been reduced to the last 5 years, as it became less relevant as time progressed.

She made reference to the Commonwealth Games and while it would be considered in the future, highlighted that when the register was being compiled it had not been articulated exactly what the risk was to the City Council.

At this juncture, Craig Price, Principal Group Auditor explained the differences between the current data protection legislation and the general data protection regulations (GDPR) which was to be implemented by May 2018.

He highlighted that the GDPR increased the rights of data protection and data subjects, whereupon they could put in rights for information to be removed where it had been processed under their consent. He stated that GDPR placed additional responsibility in terms of the data subject users, and in order to be able to delete these, there was ongoing audit work in looking at the GDPR response the City Council had put in place.

The Chair suggested that it may be good timing at the beginning of the new municipal year to ensure all had an understanding of the implications of the new legislation. She further suggested that with regard to Risk No. 1 – management of equal pay claim, that information be submitted to Audit Committee and also shared if there were new financial scrutiny arrangements introduced, for members to be updated on a more regular basis.

In response to Councillor Tilsley referring to the need of unpaid business rates being featured in the register given the risk element to the City Council, the Chair suggested that this type of information could prove most useful to members.

23

RESOLVED:-

That the Committee agreed that the information provided by directorates and risk ratings are reasonable and the action being taken is effective, or if further explanation/information is required; further that the level has reduced for the following risks:-

- 2.1 Risk No 1 (Equal Pay Claims) has been reworded and re-risked, with risk 4 and 5 amalgamated into it.
 - 2.2 The deletion of the following risks:
 - No 4 & No 5 Equal Pay (as above)
 - No 14 – Insufficient in-house IT expertise within directorates & inadequate or ineffective corporate control of non-core IT spend – due to the transition from Service Birmingham
 - No 19 – Delivery of the Localisation Agenda and commitments made in the Council's Improvement Plan and Leader's Policy Statement – due to the majority of work having substantially progressed.
 - No 20 Allowance Payments – due to update provided.
 - 2.3 The inclusion of the following 3 new risks:
 - No 35 – GDPR Implementation by May 2018
 - No 36 – Failure to respond positively and effectively to the required outcomes of the Grenfell Tower enquiry once known.
 - No 37 – Homeless Reduction Act – Insufficient council resources to meet the requirements of the Act fully.
 - 2.4 Risk No 10 – Kerslake Report – has been reworded to reflect the latest letter from the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel.
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BIRMINGHAM AUDIT – DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2018/19 INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN

The following report of the Assistant Director, Audit and Risk Management was submitted:-

(See document No. 5)

Sarah Dunlavey, Strategic Director, introduced the plan and provided a comprehensive breakdown of how it was compiled.

Sarah confirmed the numbers of days relating to school visits were decreasing, due to the expectation that all of the schools would have been visited at least once by September 2018. She highlighted they were looking at a themed audit on HR practices in schools with 50 days allocated for themed work.

She referred to the areas of work they were involved with supporting which included school governors and the education establishment on both the traded and non-traded offer, and subsequently agreed to feed specifically into the training element.

24

RESOLVED:-

That members of the Audit Committee:

- (i) Noted progress made in developing the 2018/19 internal audit plan;
- (ii) considered the proposed audit coverage and identified any areas they wished to suggest for inclusion in the risking process; and
- (iii) subject to any agreed adjustments, approved the proposed plan.

ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES FOR 2017/18

The following report of the Corporate Director – Finance and Governance was submitted:-

(See document No. 6)

Martin Stevens, Head of City Finance Accounts, introduced the report and highlighted that the accounting policies for this year were similar to last year due to very few changes.

25

RESOLVED:-

That Audit Committee:

- (i) That the accounting policies for the determination of the Council's accounts for 2017/18 be adopted;

- (ii) that the implications for future years' accounts arising from the changes in accounting standards be noted.
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OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

- 26 At this juncture, Councillor Jenkins requested to move a motion which was refused by the Chair as notice had not been given and therefore suggested that the content of the comment be noted.

Councillor Jenkins expressed a complete lack of confidence in the Labour administration.

The Chair referred to Councillors Khan and Shah and explained their reasons for non-attendance.

Councillor Robinson brought to the Committee's attention that it was his last meeting and subsequently thanked members and officers for their support, and hoped, that as many current members as possible remained on the committee in order to provide continuity of service.

The Chair thanked Councillor Robinson for his years of service on Audit Committee and wished him well for the future and subsequently thanked all the officers for their support.

AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

- 27 **RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

- 28 **RESOLVED:-**

That, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, which includes the following exempt information, the public be now excluded from the meeting:-

**Paragraph of Exempt Information
under Revised Schedule 12A of the
Local Government Act 1972**

Minutes 3 and 4

PRIVATE

MINUTES

29 **RESOLVED:-**

That the private section of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 January 2018 be noted and the Minutes as a whole be confirmed and signed by the Chair.

OTHER URGENT BUSINESS

30 No other urgent business was raised.

The meeting ended at 1615 hours.

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CHAIR

Report to: AUDIT COMMITTEE

Report of: Corporate Director – Finance & Governance

Date of Meeting: 19 June 2018

Subject: 2017/18 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Wards Affected: All

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The Annual Governance Statement (AGS) forms part of the Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 and reports on the Council's internal control regime.
- 1.2. Section 6 of the AGS includes 7 key issues for the Council which may impact on the organisation's governance arrangements.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To approve the Annual Governance Statement that will be included in the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts.
- 2.2. To agree that the arrangements for the management of the items included in Section 6 will be reported to the Audit Committee during the year.

3. Background

- 3.1 One of the requirements for the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) is that it should reflect the governance arrangements for the financial year to which it relates, up to the date of approval of the Statement of Accounts.
- 3.2 The AGS forms part of the Council's annual Statement of Accounts. The Statement of Accounts will be available, post audit, at the meeting on 30 July.
- 3.3 The significant issues raised in the Assurance Statement and audit processes are summarised in Section 6 of the AGS. This section comments very broadly on the Council's achievement of its central objectives and external assessments, it raises issues arising from joint working with partners and refers to significant matters highlighted by the annual review of internal control.

4. Legal and Resource Implications

- 4.1 The AGS is a requirement of The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, Regulation 6(1)(b) and meets the corporate governance best practice recommendations. There are no direct resource implications arising from this report.

5. Risk Management & Equality Impact Assessment Issues

- 5.1 The Statement forms part of the Council's risk management approach and the relevant issues are those considered in the attached schedule.

6. Compliance Issues

- 6.1 The AGS forms part of the statutory requirements for the Council's Annual Statement of Accounts.
- 6.2 The Council's continued improvement in responding to the issues referred to in the Statement will complement the development and delivery of the Council of the Future's objectives.

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Clive Heaphy – Corporate Director – Finance & Governance

Contact Officer: Annette Rowe

Telephone No: 0121 303 3313

e-mail address: annette.rowe@birmingham.gov.uk

Annual Governance Statement 2017/18

1. Scope of responsibility

- 1.1. Birmingham City Council (the Council) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- 1.2. In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and including arrangements for the management of risk.
- 1.3. The Council has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the principles of the *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework* (CIPFA/Solace 2016). This statement explains how the Council has complied with the framework and also meets the requirements of *The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015*, Regulation 6(1)(a), which requires an authority to conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and include a statement reporting on the review with any published Statement of Accounts and, Regulation 6(1)(b), which requires all relevant bodies to prepare an Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

2. The purpose of the governance framework

- 2.1. The Council as a whole is committed to good governance and to improving governance on a continuous basis through a process of evaluation and review.
- 2.2. Good governance for the Council is ensuring it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner and the Council seeks to achieve its objectives while acting in the public interest at all times.
- 2.3. The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Council directs and controls its activities and through which it accounts to, engages with and leads its communities. It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of high quality services and value for money.
- 2.4. The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the

impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

- 2.5. The governance framework has been in place at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Statement of Accounts.

3. **The governance framework**

- 3.1. The key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the Council's governance arrangements include the following:

The Council's vision and priorities for Birmingham

- 3.2. The Council has been on a journey to redefine its vision and purpose in serving the people of Birmingham. Creating a Council of the Future will drive the necessary change to deliver a new Council role and relationship with the City, its citizens and its partners.
- 3.3. The Council's vision for the future of Birmingham is for a city of growth, in which every child, citizen and place matters and to support this, the Council has set itself four clear priorities:
 - 3.3.1. **Children – a great city to grow up in.** To make the best of the city's unique demography and create a safe and secure city for children to learn and grow.
 - 3.3.2. **Housing – a great city to live in.** To provide housing in a range of types and tenures, to meet the housing needs of all current and future citizens of the city.
 - 3.3.3. **Jobs and Skills – a great city to succeed in.** Birmingham will be renowned as an enterprising, innovative and green city.
 - 3.3.4. **Health – a great place to grow old in.** To help people become healthier, especially relating to physical activity and mental wellbeing.
- 3.4. The Council's vision and priorities in terms of the contribution to strategic outcomes are set out in the Vision and Priorities 2017-2020 Plan (the Plan). The Plan was updated in 2017/18 and is available on the Council's website.
- 3.5. The Plan articulates the strategic direction for the Council with a clear set of corporate priorities. These priorities have been informed by extensive consultation with Cabinet Members and Members from opposition groups.
- 3.6. The Council's Delivery Plan published in September 2017, sets out by each corporate priority the key actions, how progress is tracked and measured, deadlines and identification of the lead officer. Regular monitoring and reporting against these measures ensures that shortfalls in performance are identified at an early stage and effective action to bring performance in line with targets is undertaken.
- 3.7. In turn, the corporate priorities are supported by more detailed Directorate and Service Plans which are also regularly monitored and reviewed.

- 3.8. Ultimately, the Council's role will change. No longer can it see itself as simply delivering services across the City, it must now be a place-shaper and commissioner and work with partners, communities and individuals to deliver outcomes. As a result the Council of the Future will be smaller and more strategic, partnership based, more about people and better at managing demand.
- 3.9. The Council ensures the economical, effective and efficient use of resources, and secures continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, by having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness as required by the Best Value duty. Achievement of value for money is part of the Council's long term financial strategy.
- 3.10. The Financial Plan 2017+ was developed to align with the Council's Delivery Plan. The Council continues to face significant funding reductions and challenges in achieving its budget plans, outlined in the Council Plan and Budget 2018+.
- 3.11. A robust system to monitor the achievement of savings proposals and scrutiny by Council Management Team (CMT), Budget Board and Cabinet is in place and regularly undertook actions throughout the financial year to control spend. Where pressures were identified, Corporate Directors were asked to find alternative solutions and actions to contain spending within cash limits. Even so, pressures at the year-end remain.
- 3.12. Following the financial experiences over the last two years, highlighted by both the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) and through a Statutory Recommendation under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, made by the external auditors for the 2016/17 Statutory Accounts, the extent of savings delivery risk is clearly recognised along with the potential impacts of unidentified pressures and other changes as the Council looks forward. In response, the Council ensures that there are robust financial arrangements in place, recognising that it cannot continue to use reserves to balance the budget in the way that it has in the past. Nevertheless, it will continue to hold reserves as a contingency funding in case of savings delivery difficulties.
- 3.13. The Council's workforce has experienced many changes and challenges as the workforce is modernised. From transforming the customer service function and developing a Citizen Access Strategy to facing some of the challenges driven by being a large employer such as equal pay cases and reviews of terms and conditions, it is recognised the workforce has been facing change over the last 10 years
- 3.14. External reviews, including the '*Kerslake Review*', highlighted many areas for improvement – much of which the Council already knew about itself – including the lack of a corporate strategic picture and therefore workforce reductions which were not focused in terms of delivering savings.
- 3.15. As the vision for the future priorities is now clearer, the workforce and employment model needs to be reshaped to ensure that the Council is fit for that future through the Council's People Strategy. People who have the right behaviours and skills for the future need to be retained and nurtured, whilst

acknowledging that the workforce will be significantly smaller, needing a different focus and capabilities. It will be a challenge to bring the workforce on this journey and to re-engage individuals and teams in a positive future.

- 3.16. The Council's planning framework is set in the context of the wider city leadership and governance, such as the West Midlands Combined Authority's (WMCA) Strategic Economic Plan (developed by the local enterprise partnerships in conjunction with the WMCA) and the Birmingham and Solihull Sustainability and Transformation Plan (to deliver better health and care for local people).
- 3.17. The Council has a strong public, third sector, and business engagement role. A new Community Cohesion Strategy is being developed and there is an established partnership toolkit setting out the governance and internal control arrangements which must be in place when the Council enters into partnership working. This includes arrangements for the roles of Members and Officers, and the implementation and monitoring of objectives and key targets.
- 3.18. Working with partners, the Council plays a strategic role for the Greater Birmingham area, working with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and supported by the West Midlands' Devolution Deal to develop collaborative solutions to common problems, and facilitating coherent programmes with regional and international partners to deliver an economic strategy for the city and region. LEP projects follow the Council's governance processes, managed and monitored through a Project Delivery Board, with regular reporting to the LEP Board by the LEP Champion.
- 3.19. Change across local government continues. A Mayor was elected on 6 May 2017 to head the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). The WMCA uses devolved powers from central government to allow the Council, along with its regional counterparts, to drive economic growth, investment and the reform of public services. There will be continued innovative ways of delivering local services and for people to engage in their local community, such as through the local council for Sutton Coldfield.
- 3.20. The Group Company Governance Committee, a Cabinet sub-committee, works to improve the level of Council oversight of the activities of those companies that it either wholly owns, or in which it has an interest.
- 3.21. In May 2016, the Council announced its intention to move towards a Children's Trust. The Trust is a wholly owned company of the Council and works in close partnership to continue to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children and young people in the City. In April 2018, the Children's Trust became operationally independent of the Council as part of an ongoing process of improvement.
- 3.22. The Council's Constitution which is reviewed annually by the Monitoring Officer with amendments agreed at the Annual General Meeting, is available on Council's website. Any in-year changes are agreed by Cabinet and/or the Council Business Management Committee (CBMC).
- 3.23. The Council facilitates policy and decision-making via an Executive Structure. There were ten members of Cabinet for the 2017/18 financial year: the

Leader, Deputy Leader and eight other Cabinet Members with the following portfolios:

- Cabinet Member – Children, Families and Schools;
- Cabinet Member – Commercialism, Commissioning and Contract Management;
- Cabinet Member – Transport and Roads;
- Cabinet Member – Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment;
- Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care;
- Cabinet Member – Housing and Homes;
- Cabinet Member – Jobs and Skills;
- Cabinet Member – Community Safety and Equalities.

3.24. For the 2018/19 financial year, the Cabinet structure includes:

- The Leader
- Deputy Leader
- Cabinet Member – Children’s Wellbeing;
- Cabinet Member – Clean Streets, Waste and Recycling;
- Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care;
- Cabinet Member – Homes and Neighbourhoods;
- Cabinet Member – Finance and Resources;
- Cabinet Member – Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities;
- Cabinet Member – Transportation and Environment;
- Cabinet Member – Education, Skills and Culture.

3.25. The Constitution sets out the terms of reference or function for each of the Committees and signposts to a schedule of matters reserved for decision by Full Council.

3.26. The CBMC has responsibility for the planning and preparation of the agenda, papers and other arrangements for Council meetings and provides the forum for non-executive, non-scrutiny and non-regulatory matters.

3.27. CBMC oversees the Council's relationship with the Independent Remuneration Panel which is chaired by an independent person. CBMC submits recommendations to the Council on the operation and membership of the Panel and amendments to the Councillors’ Allowances Scheme.

3.28. CBMC also discharges the Council’s functions in relation to parishes and parish councils.

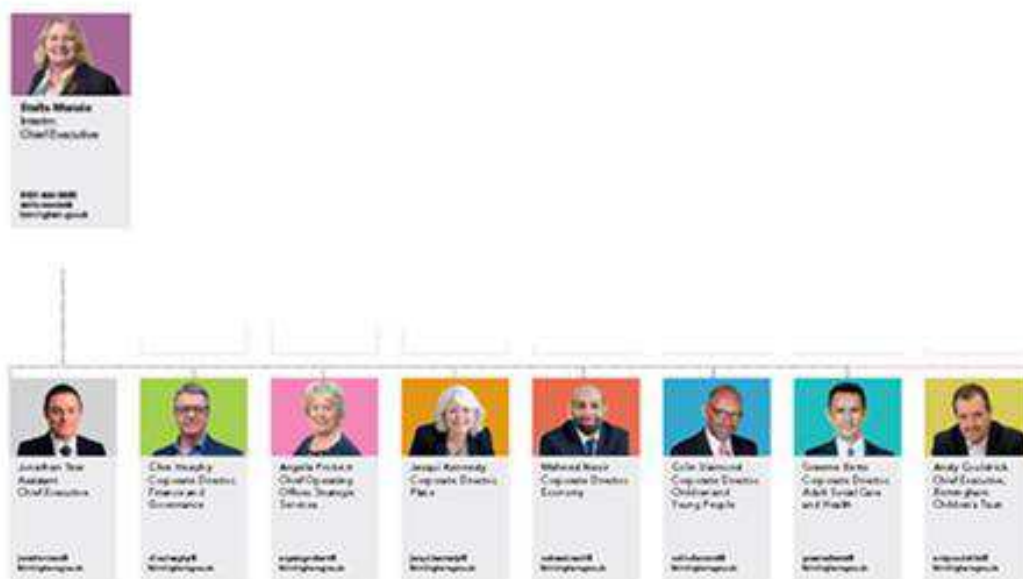
3.29. The purpose of the Audit Committee is to support the Council's Corporate Governance responsibilities and to provide independent assurance to the Council in relation to internal control, risk management and governance. The role of the Audit Committee includes active involvement in the review of financial systems and procedures, close liaison with external audit and responsibility for the approval of the Annual Accounts and to review and make recommendations to the executive regarding the effectiveness of internal audit on the Council's arrangements for deterring, preventing, detecting and investigating fraud.

Roles, Values and Standards of Conduct and Behaviour of Members and Officers

- 3.30. The Constitution sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of the Cabinet and other Members and Officers and how these are put into practice.
- 3.31. The Constitution also includes a Scheme of Delegation to Officers which sets out the powers of Corporate Directors.
- 3.32. The Council has Codes of Conduct for both Members and Officers which set out the standards of conduct and personal behaviour expected and the conduct of work between members and officers. In particular the Council has clear arrangements for declaration of interests and registering of gifts and hospitality offered and received.

Management Structure

- 3.33. During 2017/18, the Council operated within six Directorates, Adult Services, Children and Young People, Economy, Finance and Governance, Place and Strategic Services.
- 3.34. The Council's management structure as at 31 March 2018 was as per the diagram below:



- 3.35. During the year, the following key changes occurred
- Stella Manzie was appointed as Interim Chief Executive 4 April 2017 and served through to 31 March 2018. Dawn Baxendale who was appointed as permanent Chief Executive started with the Council on 1 April 2018.

- The Interim Chief Finance Officer, Mike O'Donnell left the Council at the end of December 2017 and Clive Heaphy joined as Corporate Director - Finance & Governance on 3 January 2018.
- The previous Assistant Chief Executive, Piali DasGupta, left the Council at the end of June 2017 with the Jonathan Tew commencing on 2 January 2018.
- The Strategic Director – Major Projects and Programmes left the Council at the end of July 2017.
- The appointment of Andy Couldrick as Chief Executive of the Children's Trust was announced in May 2017 and Andy formally took over his role following the transfer of operation responsibility from the Council to the Trust on 1 April 2018.

Financial Management Arrangements

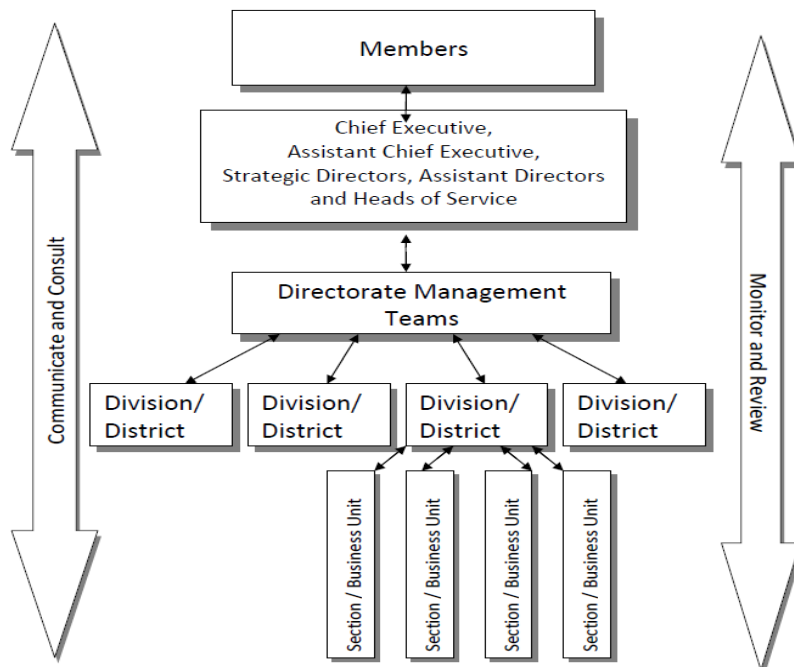
- 3.36. The Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2016). The role of the Chief Finance Officer (CFO)/Section 151 Officer includes being:
- A key member of CMT, helping it to develop and implement strategy and to resource and deliver the Council's strategic objectives sustainably and in the public interest;
 - Actively involved in, and able to bring influence to bear on, all material business decisions to ensure immediate and longer term implications, opportunities and risks are fully considered, and alignment with the Council's financial strategy;
 - Leading the promotion and delivery of good financial management so that public money is safeguarded at all times and used appropriately, economically, efficiently and effectively;
 - To deliver these responsibilities, the CFO leads and directs a finance function that is resourced to be fit for purpose; and is professionally qualified and suitably experienced.

Scrutiny, Accountability and Risk Management

- 3.37. The Overview & Scrutiny Committees cover all Cabinet Member portfolios and the Districts collectively. All Executive decisions can be called in for Scrutiny to ensure that they are soundly based and consistent with Council policy.
- 3.38. The Council has a procedure for handling complaints, compliments, and comments that monitors formal contact with members of the public. Such enquiries are actively tracked through the process and independently reviewed and where appropriate, actions taken to improve service delivery.
- 3.39. The Council ensures compliance with established policies, procedures, laws, and regulations - including risk management. For transparency, all reports to Cabinet, Cabinet Members and Districts are required to include governance information relating to: Council policy, internal and external consultation,

financial and legal implications and Public Sector Equalities Duty. All reports are required to be cleared by senior finance and legal officers.

- 3.40. Risk management continues to be embedded within the Council. The schematic diagram below illustrates how risk was managed during 2017/18:



- 3.41. The Risk Management Policy Statement, Strategy and Toolkit are on the Council's website, and advice and support is provided as requested. Updated information regarding the management of the risks within the Council's Corporate Risk Register continues to be reported to the Audit Committee three times per year. CMT identifies new risks to the Council, and the draft Corporate Risk Register update is reported to it the month before it goes to the Audit Committee. CMT challenge the update information provided, and recommend re-wording or deletion of risks as appropriate. In addition business plans at directorate and divisional level include key risks.
- 3.42. Legal requirements and Council policy, together with guidance on their implementation, are set out in detail in the Policies, Standards, Procedures and Guidance database held on the Council's systems. Directorates maintain detailed delegations and guidance on specific legislative requirements which affect their service delivery.
- 3.43. The Council has a strong Internal Audit function and well-established protocols for working with external audit. The Council's external auditors have responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice to review compliance with policies, procedures, laws and regulations within their remit.

Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP)

- 3.44. Following Lord Kerslake's review of the Council's corporate governance (published in December 2014), the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) was set up in January 2015. The Council and BIIP have worked closely together from this time.
- 3.45. During August and September, the Council faced an industrial dispute over the reorganisation of its waste management operations. In the course of the dispute, questions arose about the conduct of the Leader of the Council and whether the Council's constitution and Member Code of Conduct had been breached. On the 11th September the Leader of the Council resigned his position and the Deputy Leader became Interim Leader of the Council until a new Leader was elected.
- 3.46. In a letter to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in September, the BIIP stated it was disappointed in this set back as at the heart of the Kerslake Review was a question of the Council's culture. It recommended, in consultation with the Interim Leader and the Interim Chief Executive, that the BIIP should remain in place, providing advice and support to the Council through a period of significant transition and until it can demonstrate that the changes in culture and governance still required are truly embedded. The Interim Leader of the Council was elected Leader in autumn 2017 along with a new Deputy Leader.
- 3.47. In March 2018, the BIIP acknowledged that *"along with the election of the Council Leader and Deputy Leader, permanent appointments had been made to Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director of Finance and Governance. These significant leadership changes were taking place in the context of the Children's Trust being established, the Council experiencing all-out elections in May 2018 and that Birmingham had been announced as the host City for the Commonwealth Games 2022."*
- 3.48. The letter further went on to say that

"Significant changes are continuing to take place in Birmingham. These are set to bring fresh opportunities and some new challenges in the years ahead." The letter went on to say that *"in the light of these changes and context, the Council and the Panel have reviewed our position and propose moving to a more collaborative approach. This joint letter from the Panel and the Council reflects this change."*

With support and advice from the Panel, the Council intends to publish a suite of improvement plans. Progress on delivering all of the plans and the impact of the changes they bring about will be rigorously tracked and evaluated.

The Council also recognises that it has not yet brought its day to day expenditure into line with its revenue. Balancing its revenue budget has therefore required, and continues to require, substantial draw down of the Council's reserves. This position is not sustainable and high quality strategic financial management and difficult decisions will be required to achieve financial sustainability.

We understand that if more collaborative working as proposed is to be successful, this will require all elected members and officers of the Council and the Panel to demonstrate high levels of transparency and self-awareness in evaluation and reporting.”

Member Development

- 3.49. In addition to the Members’ Development Programme, Councillors have access to e-learning through the Members’ portal on People Solutions and are regularly kept up to date on training and development via the City Councillor bulletin circulated by e-mail. This gives details of legislation, training opportunities and other issues of importance to Members.
- 3.50. Regular monthly "market places" and briefing sessions are held to keep Councillors up-to-date with Council services or services provided by partner organisations
- 3.51. The Members’ Development Programme 2017/18 was delivered around three areas as outlined in the table below:

New Member Induction	Role Specific Training	On-going Member Development
Aim: To give oversight of Council processes and procedures to enable new members to get quickly up to speed with their role.	Aim: ensuring members have the knowledge and understanding of legal and governance requirements to carry out role on regulatory and scrutiny committees.	Aim: to provide ongoing development opportunities for members related to current and potential future role and responsibilities.
Understand role and responsibilities, the Council’s values & behaviours, define new development offer.	Planning, Licensing and Scrutiny training provided to support members.	Skill development (e.g. mental health, first aid); networks and external courses.
Code of conduct and the constitution.		On-going transformation (e.g. Children’s Trust, apprenticeships, homelessness, universal credit).
Who’s who in Birmingham, customer intelligence and access to IT and council services.		Community leadership including local leadership, tools for ward working).

Workforce

- 3.52. Having a flexible, skilled and mobile workforce is critical to the Council effectively responding to increasing demands placed on front line services and support functions and to the delivery of a long-term sustainable organisation. Financial reductions facing the Council are impacting significantly on the

Council's ability to recruit and retain the talent needed to ensure workforce capacity.

- 3.53. During 2017/18, the 'My Appraisal' review process was embedded. This streamlined the personal review process and enabled a consistent means of assessing and rewarding performance. 'My Appraisal' is specifically designed to ensure that employees are supported to implement the Council's core values:
- We put citizens first
 - We are true to our word
 - We act courageously
 - We achieve excellence

Engagement with the community and other stakeholders

- 3.54. The Council engages in a wide range of consultation and engagement activities to inform service delivery and decision making. These are summarised in an annual statement and on-line consultation database. The Council Plan and Budget 2018+ consultation process included public meetings led by the Council's Leader and Cabinet, an online Be Heard survey, an online communications campaign including webpages, news feeds Facebook and Twitter, consultation via post and email, and consultation with the business community and the Chamber of Commerce.
- 3.55. The Council's Scrutiny function regularly engages with key partners and other interested groups and individuals in order to assess the impact and suitability of the Council's activity. The Scrutiny Committees make an annual report to Full Council.
- 3.56. The Customer Service transformation and Communications Review ensures that clear channels of communication are in place with service users, citizens and stakeholders. The Council holds meetings in public wherever possible. Directorates have extensive programmes of consultation and engagement activity for specific services.

4. Review of effectiveness

- 4.1. The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the CMT which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, Birmingham Audit's annual report, and also by comments made by the external auditors, responding to the BIIP reports and other review agencies and inspectorates.
- 4.2. The Council continues to assess how its overall corporate governance responsibilities are discharged. In particular the Council has adopted the '*Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework*' (2016 CIPFA/Solace) and continues to learn from experiences and makes

necessary changes to improve its local code of governance. The Council's review process uses the Core Principles and Sub Principles included in this framework and this Statement sets out how the Council meets these roles and principles in its control and governance arrangements.

- 4.3. The Council has a well-developed methodology for annual governance review which is reviewed and updated each year. The process requires each Directorate and significant areas of service delivery / business units within a Directorate to produce an Assurance Statement highlighting significant governance issues, and details of what action(s) are being taken to mitigate any risks.
- 4.4. The Council's review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by:
- Directorate assurance based on management information, performance information, officer assurance statements and Scrutiny reports;
 - The work undertaken by Birmingham Audit during the year;
 - The work undertaken by the external auditor reported in their annual audit and inspection letter; and
 - Other work undertaken by independent inspection bodies.
- 4.5. The arrangements for the provision of internal audit are contained within the Council's Financial Regulations which are included within the Constitution. The Corporate Director – Finance & Governance is responsible for ensuring that there is an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the Council's accounting and other systems of internal control as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The internal audit provision operates in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.
- 4.6. As in previous years the Birmingham Audit plan was compiled using professional judgement and a risk model to 'score' all potential 'auditable' areas. To meet the standards required there was a need to ensure sufficient coverage of the adequacy and effectiveness of systems of internal control in relation to financial control, risk management, corporate governance and an element for proactive and reactive fraud work.
- 4.7. The resulting work plan is discussed and agreed with the Corporate Directors and Audit Committee and shared with the Council's external auditor. Regular meetings between the internal and external auditor ensure that duplication of effort is avoided. Birmingham Audit reports include an assessment of the adequacy of internal control and prioritised action plans to address any identified weaknesses and include a risk rating for the Council and the Service Area. These are submitted to Members, Corporate Directors and service managers as appropriate.
- 4.8. From the work undertaken by Birmingham Audit during 2017/18 and the outcomes from applying the model for formulating the end of year opinion the following assurance was able to be given: **"Based on the audit work undertaken I am able to provide a reasonable assurance on the core systems of internal controls evaluated."** In this context 'reasonable assurance' means that the systems can be relied upon to prevent error, fraud or misappropriation occurring without detection, and that nothing was found

that would materially affect the Council's standing or Annual Accounts. As in any large organisation, Internal Audit did identify some significant issues that required action. All significant issues were reported to the appropriate Corporate Director during the year.

- 4.9. Whilst this assurance is limited by the overall improvement that still needs to be delivered and adverse value for money opinion issued by the Council's External Auditors, the Improvement Panel, in its latest letter to the Secretary of State, recognises that significant changes are taking place, including strengthening of the Council Management Team; establishment of the Children's Trust; the Council's first all-out elections; and progress against priorities. These changes are now moving the Council forward on a positive basis.
- 4.10. All significant issues have also been brought to the attention of the Audit Committee, and where appropriate to CMT. The more significant of these are set out in the section entitled '**Significant governance issues 2017/18**' below.
- 4.11. The internal audit function is monitored and reviewed regularly by the Audit Committee. The Committee reviews management progress in implementing recommendations made in significant, high risk audit reports and against issues raised in the AGS through the Corporate Risk Register
- 4.12. The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees received reports on key control issues throughout 2017/18 including an integrated assessment of Health and Social Care on delayed transfer of care, corporate parenting and the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership.
- 4.13. The Vision and Priorities Council Plan and organisational health targets were monitored through the Council Plan Measures by CMT, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet. Directorate and Business Unit business plans contain a variety of performance indicators and targets, which are regularly reviewed.
- 4.14. The Monitoring Officer advises that there were 93 concerns raised and considered under the Council's Whistleblowing & Serious Misconduct policy in the 2017/18 financial year.

5. **Review of 2016/17 governance issues**

- 5.1. The significant 2016/17 governance issues were considered by Audit Committee in June 2017, agreed as part of the Statement of Accounts in September 2017 and reviewed as part of the Corporate Risk Register updates in the 2017/18 financial year. In addition, this Committee received reports relating to Final Accounts, Fraud and the Local Government Ombudsman Annual Review.
- 5.2. Children's Safeguarding issues were considered by Cabinet and the Schools, Children and Families O&S Scrutiny Committee. This O&S Committee also considered issues such as the Children's Trust, the Education and Children's Social Care Improvement Journey, child poverty and children missing from home or care.

- 5.3. Regular Revenue Budget Monitoring reports and quarterly Capital Budget Monitoring reports were considered by Cabinet.
- 5.4. The Council worked closely with the BIIP to formulate and implement action plans in response to the Kerslake review. From March 2018, the Council and the BIIP are moving to a more collaborative approach.

6. **Significant governance issues 2017/18**

- 6.1. The matters shown in this section have either been identified as having a significant or high likelihood in the Corporate Risk Register or have been highlighted as corporate issues in the annual assurance process. The Council actively addresses these matters and identifies areas where further improvements need to be made. In particular:

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
1	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Safeguarding for both children and adults remains a priority.</p> <p>Work will continue to review the action plans in place as a result of the review by Commissioner Lord Warner and producing a robust Business Plan for 2018/19 and future years.</p> <p>The Care Act 2014 sets out the legal requirements for adult safeguarding.</p>	<p>The Council has launched an Improvement Plan and new operating model which sets out the vision, values, direction and shape of the service.</p> <p>A clear performance framework that provides challenge and accountability at all levels has been introduced. This will be part of the framework for the Children's Trust.</p> <p>The Care Act established the requirement to set up an independent Safeguarding Board for Adults. Arrangements are in place to work alongside the existing membership of the Birmingham Adults Safeguarding Board (BASB) with a view to ensuring that local arrangements are compliant with the Care Act.</p>
2	<p>Financial Resilience</p> <p>The Council faces continued reducing resources. This poses challenges to the financial resilience of the Council.</p>	<p>Proactive actions are in place to plan and monitor the delivery of the savings programme including the delivery of workforce savings. These include further assurances on the deliverability</p>

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
	<p>Financial resilience continues to be a focus for the external auditors, with continued demands to evidence 'Going Concern'. The auditor noted in his Annual Audit Letter that there was considerable challenge for the Council to deliver its savings plans for 2017/18 and the potential impact on future years' savings plans.</p> <p>Given the Council is in the eighth year of budget reductions the possibility of Judicial Review challenge to the budget or elements of it, remains high.</p>	<p>and impacts of proposals and a commitment from the Leader to future budgeting.</p> <p>Governance processes have been reviewed and significantly enhanced to improve the production of implementation plans and monitoring of the most significant savings proposals at the highest level.</p>
3	<p>Major Projects</p> <p>The Council is involved in a range of major projects which include partnership working arrangements and sometimes complex legal agreements for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with neighbouring authorities in the West Midlands Combined Authority • Strengthening partnership working as Birmingham works towards hosting the Commonwealth Games 2022. • Working with private sector partners on major developments in the City such as Paradise. • Children's Services Trust. 	<p>The partnership with neighbouring authorities through the West Midlands Combined Authority continues to develop. The next stages are vital as devolution is implemented, making sure that work leads to permanent benefits for the region.</p> <p>The Council is reviewing the way it works with its partners - working equally to a common shared purpose.</p> <p>Children's Services have moved to a Trust arrangement from April 2018. A clearly defined relationship between the Trust and the Council has been established based on service contracts. The contracts will be monitored throughout the year.</p> <p>In the light of weaknesses identified in the Council's role as accountable body for the LEP, a joint protocol is being developed to define relationships more formally so that there is greater clarity of role.</p> <p>Strengthening and tightening capital</p>

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
		<p>financial controls. Closely monitoring expenditure on major projects to ensure projects are achieved on time and within budget.</p> <p>Any transfer, commissioning or outsourcing of services is subject to the development and Cabinet approval of robust business cases and shadow working arrangements.</p>
4	<p>Equal Pay Claims</p> <p>The risk of Equal Pay Claims remains significant and is being actively managed by a joint team from Legal Services and Human Resources.</p>	<p>Equal pay claims issued against the Council are subject to detailed analysis and robust legal challenge. The Council has sought to secure settlements that represented the best outcome for the taxpayer. The law in respect of equal pay is complex and has developed over the past 10 years. Any entitlement to compensation has to be justified in accordance with the legal position. The Council continues to monitor and manage the situation closely.</p>
5	<p>The Improvement Agenda</p> <p>The current challenging financial environment has required significant organisational upheaval as well as workforce reductions and compulsory redundancies.</p> <p>Review of services and associated budgets as the Council moves towards the Council of the Future will require significant and substantial changes to the way services are provided, both internally and when working with other service providers.</p>	<p>A People Strategy has been designed to reshape the workforce and employment model to ensure the Council is fit for the future.</p> <p>In the forthcoming year the significant planned budget reductions will increase pressure on services, which will need to be re-shaped and adopt more efficient ways of working to mitigate and manage this.</p>

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
6	<p>Safety Implications for Tower Blocks</p> <p>Impact of Grenfell Tower and subsequent implications for improving safety in tower blocks.</p>	<p>A project plan has been produced for all programmes of works required to investigate cladding systems and any associated remedial works to further enhance existing fire safety measures. This includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme to fit sprinkler systems to 213 high rise blocks over a 3 year period starting 1/4/18. • A programme to carry out fire risk assessments to all communal areas annually.
7	<p>Homeless Reduction Act</p> <p>Implementation of the Homeless Reduction Act is a significant risk for the local authority due to an increase in demand that will be placed on the service.</p> <p>New burdens funding of £1.75m to be received over 3 years to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act.</p> <p>The demand on the service continues to be significant and the Council has over 2,000 households in temporary accommodation with a large number of individuals/families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation outside of the City.</p>	<p>An implementation plan has been developed to ensure compliance with the new legislation which comes into force on 3.4.2018. The plan includes a number of work streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign the Housing Option Service • Awareness and training (staff, Trade Unions and elected members) • IT systems to be developed with the Council's IT fixture providers • Accommodation, additional accommodation for staff, communication plan being produced. • Temporary Accommodation Services will require a complete review to reduce the Council's reliance on temporary accommodation moving to preventative measures.

6.2. These matters are monitored through the Corporate Risk Register, CMT and Directorate Service and operational plans as required. During the year the Audit Committee monitors progress against the issues identified in this statement.

- 6.3. We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Signed
Councillor Ian Ward
Leader of the Council

Signed
Dawn Baxendale
Chief Executive
(& Head of Paid Service)

Signed
Clive Heaphy
Corporate Director -
Finance & Governance
(Chief Finance Officer & Section 151
Officer)

Signed
Kate Charlton
City Solicitor
(& Monitoring Officer)

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC REPORT

Report to: AUDIT COMMITTEE

Report of: Assistant Director, Audit & Risk Management

Date of Meeting: 19th June 2018

Subject: Birmingham Audit Annual Report 2017/18

Wards Affected: All

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is the culmination of the work completed during the course of the year and provides an objective annual opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of internal control. It highlights any significant issues that have arisen from internal audit activity during the year.
- 1.2 The report provides Members with information on inputs, outputs and performance measures in relation to the provision of the internal audit service during 2017/18, and compliance with the requirements set out in the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS).
- 1.3 It also sets out the Internal Audit Charter and Internal Audit plan for 2018/19.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to accept this report and the annual assurance opinion for 2017/18.
- 2.2 Members are asked to approve the 2018/19 Internal Audit Charter.

3. LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The Internal Audit service is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of section 151 of the Local Government Act and the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The work is carried out within the approved budget.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT & EQUALITY ANALYSIS ISSUES

- 4.1 Risk Management is an important part of the internal control framework and an assessment of risk is a key factor in the determination of the Internal Audit plan.
- 4.2 Equality Analysis has been undertaken on all strategies, policies, functions and services used within Birmingham Audit.

5. COMPLIANCE ISSUES

- 5.1 Council policies, plans and strategies have been complied with.

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Sarah Dunlavey

Assistant Director, Audit & Risk Management

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Birmingham Audit Annual Report 2017/18

19th June 2018

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3. Added Value
4. Quality, Performance & Customer Feedback
5. Internal Audit Charter
6. Internal Audit Plan

Appendix A: Summary of Significant Findings & Work on the Main Financial Systems

Appendix B: Reports Issued During 2017/18

Appendix C: Internal Audit Charter 2018/19

Appendix D: Internal Audit Plan 2018/19

1. Background

- 1.1 The 2017/18 audit plan was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS). It also had due regard for the protocol with the External Auditors and took account of responsibilities under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 1.2 The Council continues to go through significant change, the drivers for this change being both organisational and financial. During a period of change internal controls can become unstable and ineffective, it is important that any increased business risks are identified and appropriately managed. Our 2017/18 audit plan reflected these changes by concentrating on those areas that were considered to be of highest risk. We have applied the same approach to our 2018/19 audit planning process.

2. Assurance Opinion

- 2.1 The audit plan is prepared and delivered to enable me to provide an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of internal control in place (comprising risk management, corporate governance and financial control). My opinion will form part of the Annual Governance Statement (AGS), which the Council is legally required to produce.
- 2.2 As my opinion is based on professional judgement, backed up by sample testing, I can only ever provide, at best, reasonable assurance. No process can provide an absolute assurance that the systems of internal control are adequate and effective in managing risk and meeting the Council's objectives. If serious issues are identified in the course of our work that have, or could have, prevented objectives to be met, then my opinion may be qualified.
- 2.3 Our work is carried out to assist in improving control. However, management is responsible for developing and maintaining an internal control framework. This framework is designed to ensure that the Council's resources are utilised efficiently and effectively, risks to meeting service objectives are identified and properly managed; and corporate policies, rules and procedures are adequate, effective and are being complied with.

- 2.4 The model used to formulate the end of year opinion places reliance on assurance provided from other parties and processes. This enables a broader coverage of risks and ensures that the totality of the audit, inspection and control functions deployed across the organisation are properly considered in arriving at the overall opinion. The model is an evolving one which changes from time to time as the intelligence we collect on sources of assurance develops. The opinion for 2016/17 is based on the following sources of assurance and weightings:

Internal Audit work (planned, follow-up and fraud work)	65%
Assurance from the work of the External Auditor	10%
The AGS	15%
The Risk Management Process	10%

- 2.5 **Based on the audit work undertaken I am able to provide a reasonable assurance on the core systems of internal controls evaluated.** As in any large organisation, our work did identify some significant issues that required action. All significant issues have been reported to the appropriate Corporate Director during the year. A summary of significant findings from our work (including the main financial systems), is included as Appendix A.

Whilst this assurance is impacted by the overall improvement that still needs to be delivered and adverse value for money opinion issued by the Council's External Auditors, the Improvement Panel, in its latest letter to the Secretary of State, recognise that significant changes are take place, including strengthening of the Council Management Team; establishment of the Children's Trust; the Council's first all-out elections; and progress against priorities. These changes are now moving the Council forward on a positive basis.

3. Added Value

- 3.1 Although my primary responsibility is to give an annual assurance opinion, I am also aware that for the Internal Audit service to be valued by the organisation it needs to do much more than that. There needs to be a firm focus on assisting the organisation to meet its aims and objectives and on working in an innovative and collaborative way with managers to help identify new ways of working that will bring about service improvements and deliver efficiencies. Examples of how we have done this during the year include:

- Our 'Schools' audit team working to support delivery of the improvement across Birmingham Schools.
- We have also worked closely with the Children and Young People Directorate to establish an effective response to concerns over financial management in schools. This has included input to the Directorate's strategic response, and reshaping our audit approach.
- Further embedding the audit data warehouse into service areas to secure process efficiency and proactively prevent fraud and error entering the system. An example of where the data warehouse has been invaluable is helping the Children's Directorate trace children who have gone missing from education.
- Using our data analytical capabilities to drive service improvement and efficiency. This includes the ongoing development of fraud and error tests which we will be ultimately be run on a continuous basis.
- Supporting the strengthening of information governance arrangements and implementation of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) requirements.

4. Quality, Performance & Customer Feedback

4.1 Under the Accounts and Audit Regulations the Council must maintain an effective system of internal audit to evaluate its risk management, control and governance processes. An annual review of the system of internal audit is no longer required under the Accounts and Audit Regulation 2015. However, Internal Audit must comply with the requirements laid out in the PSIAS.

4.2 The PSIAS became effective from 1st April 2013, these standards set out the fundamental requirements for the professional practice of internal auditing within the public sector. The standards replaced CIPFA's Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government.

4.3 Quality Assurance

4.3.1 The provision of a quality service continues to be important. In line with the requirements of the PSIAS a Quality Assurance and Improvement Programme (QAIP) has been developed. The programme requires both internal and external assessments of internal audit effectiveness to be undertaken to ensure compliance with PSIAS and internal quality standards, that the audit service is efficient, effective and continuously improving, and that the service adds value and assists the organisation in meeting its objectives.

4.3.2 In line with PSIAS requirements a full external assessment of Birmingham Audit's compliance to the mandatory standards was completed in July 2016. This assessment identified that: *"Birmingham City Council's Internal Audit Service conforms to the requirements of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards"* and that *"the Internal Audit Service is well positioned, valued and makes an active contribution to the continuous improvement of systems of governance, risk management and internal control"*. During the year a PSIAS self assessment has been completed, this self assessment confirmed our ongoing compliance with the standards.

4.3.3 During the year, we retained our accreditation to the internationally recognised, and externally assessed, information security standard ISO27001:2013. Internal quality audits on our ISO processes are undertaken annually, most recently in May 2018. As in previous years, only minor issues of non-compliance were identified, actions have been taken to correct these.

4.3.4 The Council's External Auditors, Grant Thornton, in their Audit Progress Report and Sector Update, Year ending 31 March 2018 state that:

"Overall, we have concluded that the internal audit service provides an independent and satisfactory service to the Council and that internal audit work contributes to an effective control environment."

4.4 **Inputs**

4.4.1 The 2017/18 internal audit plan contained 5,113 days. I am satisfied that there were adequate staffing resources available to me to deliver the audit plan and form an assurance opinion.

4.5 **Outputs**

4.5.1 During the year we issued 296 final reports, containing 2482 recommendations. For comparison purposes during 2016/17 we issued 273 final reports containing 2816 recommendations.

Reports by Type	
Internal Audit Reviews	134
Follow-up Reviews	29
School Visits (including Follow-ups)	93
Investigations	40
Total	296

A full list of the audit reports issued during the year is detailed in Appendix B.

4.5.2 Audit and follow up reports are given a risk rating of 1 - 3 to assist in the identification of the level of corporate importance. The key to the ratings given is:

1. Low - Non-material issues
2. Medium - High importance to the business area the report relates to, requiring prompt management attention. Not of corporate significance
3. High - Matters which in our view are of high corporate importance, high financial materiality, significant reputation risk, likelihood of generating adverse media attention or of potential of interest to Members etc.

4.5.3 Of the 163 reports (134 Internal Audit and 29 Follow-up Reviews) issued during the year, 2 were given a red level 3 risk rating, 53 had an amber level 2 rating, 102 had a green level 1 rating, and 6 related to non-assurance work.

4.5.4 On a monthly basis a list of all final reports issued, together with their Council risk rating, is sent to Members of the Audit Committee, Cabinet and the Council Management Team. Under the agreed protocol, Members can request to see copies of specific reports.

4.6 Performance and Customer Feedback

4.6.1 As at 31st March 2018 we had completed 98% of planned jobs against an annual target of 95%.

4.6.2 Throughout the year we have sought feedback from our customers by attending management teams and capturing comments via our ISO processes.

4.6.3 Both internal and external customers continue to provide positive feedback on the services provided, examples include:

‘.....in particular for her cooperative and professional approach to this audit, which has been a useful exercise.....’

‘.....for the way you conducted the audit. You were professional and efficient and very pleasant to work with, thank you!’

4.7 Corporate Fraud Team

4.7.1 In common with other public bodies, the Council has a duty to protect the public purse. The Corporate Fraud Team (CFT) is responsible for the investigation of financial irregularities perpetrated against the Council, whether this is by employees, contractors or other third parties. The Team identify how fraud or other irregularity has been committed and make recommendations to management to address any issues of misconduct, as well as reporting on any weaknesses in controls to reduce the chance of recurrence in the future. A sub-team within CFT is established to specifically tackle ‘application based’ fraud, primarily related to Social Housing and Council Tax. In response to legislative changes and reductions in resources we have re-prioritised our work to concentrate on the more material cases, as well as putting greater emphasis on proactive work to try and identify and stop fraud and error. We are continually looking to enhance our counter fraud capability and develop new and innovative ways of identifying irregularities, whether this is the result of fraud, error, or procedural non-compliance. We are continuing to develop analytical tests designed to detect fraud and error, ultimately these tests will be run on an automated, continuous basis to maximise efficiency and potential savings.

4.7.2 The table below summarises the reactive investigations activity of the Team (excluding Application Fraud) during the year.

	2016/17	2017/18
Number of outstanding investigations at the beginning of the year	14	10
Number of fraud referrals received during the year	111	115
Number of cases concluded during the year	115	97
Number of investigations outstanding at the end of the year	10	28

4.7.3 All referrals are risk assessed to ensure that our limited resource is focused on the areas of greatest risk. We work in conjunction with managers to ensure that any referrals that are not formally investigated by us are appropriately actioned. We have continued to ensure that our processes are as lean as possible to ensure we can balance the caseload against available resources.

4.7.4 In addition to the above, the team have carried out proactive exercises looking at attendance and at serious and organised crime in procurement, as well as co-ordinating the processing of data matches derived from the National Fraud Initiative. Data analytical techniques have also been used to review and identify any potentially fraudulent transactions. The Team have delivered fraud awareness training and have issued various bulletins to raise awareness of fraud.

4.7.5 The Team have continued to work with directorate staff to implement the anti-fraud strategy for housing. This includes providing training and support to front line staff in the use of the data warehouse to verify details submitted on housing / homeless / Right to Buy applications. Last year the team recovered 87 properties and cancelled 152 housing applications prior to letting. The team also identified Housing Benefit

overpayments totalling £826,748 and Council Tax changes of £1,077,096. This shows that, in addition to the obvious social benefits deriving from the work, there is also a real financial saving from preventing and / or terminating fraud.

4.7.6 Our annual fraud report will be presented to Committee Members at the September meeting.

5. The Internal Audit Charter

5.1 On an annual basis Members are asked to approve the Internal Audit Charter. The charter for 2018/19 is attached as Appendix C. It sets out the objectives; framework and services delivered by Birmingham Audit, and details the relationship with the Audit Committee, our business plan objectives, the statutory requirements around our service and outlines the rationale behind the annual audit plan.

6. Internal Audit Plan

6.1 The 2018/19 plan contains 4,681. This compares to 5,113 in 2017/18 (a decrease of 432 days or 8.5%). This reduction results from the need to decrease resources in order to manage the service within the budget envelope that is available. The reduction in resources has been minimised by maximising income and appointment of an audit apprentice.

6.2 The 2018/19 plan was approved by members at the November Audit Committee meeting. The table below shows a summary split of audit days over the different categories of work we undertake, previous year information is given for comparison purposes. A detailed breakdown of the plan is given in Appendix D.

	17/18	17/18 Days	18/19	18/19 Days
Number of Audit Days in the annual plan	100%	5113	100%	4681
Main financial systems	18%	905	16%	730
Business controls assurance	34%	1735	39%	1830
Investigations	16%	830	18%	830
Schools (Non Visits)	3%	155	2%	105
Schools (Visits)	19%	945	15%	720
Follow up work	4%	200	3%	150
Ad-hoc work	3%	178	4%	186
Planning & reporting	2%	125	3%	120
City initiatives	1%	40	0%	10

6.3 A half-yearly report will be produced to update Members on progress with the delivery of the 2018/19 plan.

Summary of Significant Findings & our work on the Main Financial Systems

1. Red High Risk Reports

During 2017/18 we issued 2 reports where we identified a 'high' risk rating for the Council. Brief details of the issues highlighted in these reports are detailed below:

Information Assurance Framework

The Council's Information Assurance Framework (IAF) was established in 2012, and set out key roles and responsibilities for:

- facilitation / management of robust and effective governance of information assets;
- fostering of a culture which values and protects the information used; and
- improving security to maintain compliance with the Public Sector Network (PSN) and NHS N3 network requirements.

Since then there have been significant changes to how the Council uses and manages data. Looking forward there will be requirements to increase information governance and IT security arrangements to enable continued connection to secure public sector networks.

Our assessment against the Information Assurance Maturity Model (IAMM) identified a low level of compliance against the model. Since the completion of our work, the Council has set a plan to achieve level 2 compliance and secured additional resources to implement the plan. The initial focus of this plan is to deliver the critical actions required for the Council to comply with the General Data Protection Requirement (GDPR).

Follow-up reviews will be undertaken during the year to confirm the successful deliver of this plan.

Adequacy and Progress of the Maximising Independence of Adults (MIA) Programme

The MIA Programme was established to deliver the Council's future Vision of Adult Social Care and to support the delivery of directorate savings targets. The three priorities of the Programme are:

- Improving the customer journey.
- Shaping the market (service transformation).
- Prevention.

We identified that the Programme was unlikely to deliver the required outcomes or achieve the identified savings. Since the completion of our work the MIA programme has been replaced with the 'Adult Social Care and Health Directorate Improvement and Business Plan'. The plan is four-year programme of change that defines how Directorate services will be delivered in the future. It also outlines how potential barriers and obstacles to service change will be overcome and the required service improvement outcomes and financial savings delivered. A review of the delivery of 'Adult Social Care and Health Directorate Improvement and Business Plan', which will include assessing whether the expected targets and outcomes are being delivered, is scheduled for September.

2. School Visits

Throughout 2017/18 we have continued to work with both Directorate and school colleagues to ensure we undertake a robust and added value audit of maintained schools. We have continued to review and update our work programme to ensure appropriate coverage across the key areas.

As part of the audit, Governors and Senior Leadership are asked to complete a survey on their views on financial management within their school, the appropriateness of roles, core values and the culture of tolerance / mutual respect. Where concerns have been raised these have been appropriately escalated and support provided. No significant concerns were identified from the surveys.

Overall, we continue to find that the majority of schools have effective systems in place, and staff and Governors are complying with key processes. Inevitably, we do identify areas where improvements are required, these are summarised below:

- Financial Governance – weaknesses continue to be identified in the delegation framework. Whilst these do not stop schools functioning effectively, it does mean that there is not always the required clarity around financial responsibilities. Improvements are required in the financial reporting to Governors to allow sufficient scrutiny and challenge. Also, there are still a proportion of schools that are not completing a statement of internal control, completing it incorrectly, or not recording its approval.

We are anticipating that with the re-launch of the Schools Financial Procedures Manual (SFPM) last November, which includes revised templates, we shall see an improvement in these areas.

We have seen a steady improvement in the recording of gifts and hospitality and development of strategic risk registers considering both financial and non-financial risks. The majority of schools are also now completing their Schools Financial Value Standard on an annual basis, although it is not always submitted to the Council by the deadline or its approval recorded.

- Budget Planning – whilst day-to-day financial management is well established a high proportion of schools are relying on their carry forward surplus to set a balanced budget. This poses a risk for future years when the surplus has been utilised unless action plans to reduce expenditure / increase income are developed. It is not surprising that this continues to be an area of significance as the financial challenges in schools grow. We are working closely with Council officers to ensure an appropriate response to this emerging risk.
- Purchasing – There continues to be an area where greater compliance is needed and appropriate divisions of duties established.
- Attendance - Attendance remains well managed and effective arrangements are in place. There are two areas that continue to require further development – the retention of sufficient records where pupils leave a school in year and ensuring correct codes are used to record attendance/absence.
- Safeguarding – Schools were well aware of their responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children under their care and take responsibilities seriously. There remains the need for improvement in respect of monitoring IT and internet use and undertaking due diligence prior to lettings to ensure users meet both safeguarding and the 'No Platform for Extremism Policy' requirements. Schools are rolling out prevent training, this training needs to be appropriately recorded.

3. Risk Management

Risk management continues to be embedded within the Council. The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed by the Council Management Team and updated information regarding the management of the risks continues to be reported three times a year to the Audit Committee. The risk management policy, strategy and toolkit is currently being reviewed and updated and a supporting E-learning module developed.

4. Corporate Governance

The highest standards of corporate governance, public accountability and transparency have a significant impact on how well an organisation meets its aims and objectives. We carried out several audit reviews in 2017/18 covering governance in specific service areas.

As in previous years, we also reviewed the process used to produce and monitor the AGS which forms part of the Council's accounts.

The AGS 2017/18 identifies seven significant issues: Children's Safeguarding; Financial Resilience; Major Projects; Equal Pay Claims; The Improvement Agenda; Safety Implications for Tower Blocks and the Homeless Reduction Act

5. Main Financial Systems

The requirement to give an assurance on the adequacy and effectiveness of financial controls is a key responsibility for us. During 2017/18 we reviewed each of the main financial systems. A summary of our work in these areas is detailed below.

Financial Control / Ledger

The Council continues to face financial challenges. A letter from the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel, dated 8th March 2018, states "The Council also recognises that it has not yet brought its day to day expenditure into line with its revenue. Balancing its revenue

budget has therefore required, and continues to require substantial draw down of the Council's reserves. This position is not sustainable and high quality strategic financial management and difficult decisions will be required to achieve financial sustainability."

From the work we carried out during the year, we did not find any fundamental or material issues and are able to provide assurance that, in general, effective arrangements are in place for the proper management and control of the Council's finances. Finance are currently undertaking another restructure, which will result in fewer resources to undertake their work, it is too early to evaluate the impact of this.

Payroll and Human Resources (HR)

The gross payroll cost as at the end of period 12 for 2017/18 was £697m; this has reduced from £725m in the previous year. The payroll system is stable and functioning well. Processes are in place to maintain the accuracy and quality of information, including HMRC's real time information and from February 2018, Local Government Pension Scheme requirements.

Work on the content and functionality of the Employee Portal has continued with the aim of improving accessibility and ease of manager and employee self-service. There continues to be a mixed economy of manager and employee self-service along with the Ask HR function. However, the volume of calls to the Employee HR/Payroll telephone line remains higher than we would have expected.

Processes and controls are in place and operated by HR staff and Payroll staff to ensure that the payroll is accurate and that staff are paid correctly and statutory and voluntary deductions are correct. However, employees and their line managers are also responsible for accurately updating the system via Employee Self-Service and Manager Self-Service. In some cases, this can affect pay e.g. claims for overtime / additional hours worked, reductions in working hours, unpaid leave taken, maternity leave and sickness absences. Whilst the number of directorate overpayments remains low in comparison to the number of payments made (0.2%), managers still need to ensure all changes are actioned on a prompt basis. Robust procedures are in place to recover any overpayments or agree appropriate payment plans.

Accounts Payable (AP)

In 2017/18, over 512,000 invoices were paid by AP, for main creditors (including feeder file transactions).

99.4 % of invoices were paid within 30 days of receipt into AP. 86% of invoice sent directly to directorates, rather than AP, where paid within 30 days of the invoice date.

The average monthly purchase card spend was over £8.9m, well above the target of £250k, maximising the rebate received by the Council.

Payment processes are well established with checks in place to prevent duplicate payments and enforce compliance. Our work identified that the quality of vendor master data records remains high.

Procurement

Contract governance arrangements set the foundations for achieving a robust contract management environment that is efficient, innovative, good value and achieves continuous improvement in supplier performance. Our work during the year has continued to find weaknesses in governance arrangements, this has included a lack of contract management plans, and risk registers.

Our high-level review of the arrangements in place to improve contract management and implement best practice across the Council, identified examples of good practice, however, there is more that needs to be done. As a result, the Corporate Commissioning Board has been refocused and emphasis on contract management increased. In line with this refocusing the Board has been renamed to the “Commissioning and Contract Management Board” (CCMB). Contract managers are now invited to attend CCMB to provide an update on progress in implementing audit recommendations relating to the contract they manage. Arrangements will also be strengthened through the introduction of a CCMB assurance report and the creation of a Contract Managers Network.

Our audit on due diligence in procurement identified that the overall approach contained elements of best practice but there are opportunities to make the process more robust, both in terms of the accuracy of application and the development of a wider coverage within the checks undertaken. As a result of the audit, a working group has been established to consider and implement a suitable approach to enhanced due diligence, in order to mitigate the risk of serious and organised crime.

As well as the work we have undertaken to provide an overall assurance, we have undertaken other work on procurement and contracts which was specifically requested by service areas. This included a review of the Independent Living Service, where recommendations were made to

strengthen the tender documentation, draft contract, proposed contract management and performance framework, and procurement advertisement.

Accounts Receivable (AR)

The invoicing and recovery of sundry debt is an essential part of the Council's financial management processes and reliance is placed on services achieving their sundry income targets. The value of sundry debts raised in 2017/18 was £698m (excluding Housing Benefit Overpayment debts Debts). Overdue sundry debts (over 90 days old) as at 31/3/2018 was £8.3m.

The AR processes were found to be operating appropriately, with effective processes in place for raising bills and recovering debt.

Benefits Service

Housing Benefit payments equate to around £560million, which is returned to the Council through the subsidy grant.

The Benefit Service is responsible for the administration and payment of Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Support (CTS). The introduction of Universal Credit (UC), which replaces many existing benefits (for working age people), began in April 2013 and transition to full service completed on February 14th 2018. DWP state that full migration (of any claims that are not already on UC) will be begin between April 2019 and 2022. The Benefit Service has a housing benefit caseload of 102,000 with 123,000 households receiving CTS.

The processes and procedures reviewed were found to be operating as intended.

Council Tax & Non-Domestic Rates

Council Tax is one of the ways the Council receives the money it needs to provide local services. The amount paid is levied through a valuation banding system based upon the sale value of the property as at 1 April 1991, which is set by the Valuation Office Agency. The Council is responsible for setting the council tax rate for each of the valuation bands in their area, and collecting the revenue. In England, the local

authority is free to set the level of council tax, but must hold a referendum if the percentage increase in a given year is greater than a level set by the Secretary of State (currently 2%). Certain reductions, which are set out in national council tax law and regulations are applicable through various discounts and exemptions. Exemption from council tax means that there is no liability to pay council tax, and generally applies to properties. A discount from council tax usually relates to people.

Non-domestic rates, or business rates, collected by Local Authorities are the way that those who occupy a non-domestic property contribute towards the cost of local services. Apart from properties that are exempt from business rates, each has a rateable value (RV) which is set by the Valuation Office. Properties are assessed in a rating list with a rateable value, a valuation of their annual rental value on a fixed valuation date using assumptions fixed by statute. A business rates bill may be reduced by having one or more reliefs applied to it, such as reliefs for empty properties, or for charities. Reliefs are administered by the local authority and they do not affect the rateable value of a property. While some are mandatory, others are at the discretion of the local authority, who also have to bear, in whole or in part, the costs of some reliefs.

The administration, billing and collection of Council Tax and Business Rates transferred back to the control of the Council in 2017 from Service Birmingham. Our reviews have highlighted that there were no major improvements in the review and movement of accounts at enforcement levels since the transfer of the service back to the Council and the review procedure (expected to be implemented in June 2017) was not in place. However, since the appointment of a new Head of Service in September 2017 the business has improved processes in the various recovery areas and has set up two additional recovery teams to cleanse all of the accounts in recovery with an outstanding action on them.

Collection rates are, 94.50% for Council Tax and 97.05% for Business Rates as per the QRC4. The Council is on target to achieve its required collection rates as part of its financial budget setting process.

Rents

The Rent Service is responsible for the collection of rent from council tenants. This requires liaison with Place Directorate staff in the Letting Suites who have face to face contact with the tenants when the tenancy is set up together with regular contact across the Tenancy Estate Management teams. The level of rent arrears is closely monitored, and action is taken to assist current (secure and introductory tenants) and former tenants to clear arrears. Discretionary housing payments (DHP) can be made to those in particular hardship subject to approval by the

Benefit Service. A proportion of tenants who are in receipt of Universal Credit (UC), which includes housing costs, are receiving assistance from a pilot team set up within the Rent Service. DHP applications can still be considered from UC tenants if their UC includes housing costs.

Improvements have been made in the monitoring of Rent accounts to lessen the need for manual intervention and reduce arrears. Recovery action is now targeted based on the level of arrears. The processes introduced by management since the inception of the Introductory Tenancy Arrears Team are proving to be effective in ensuring that accounts with an arrears balance are actively monitored and increases in arrears are acted upon promptly.

The creation of the Eviction Prevention panel has been instrumental in assisting customers to sustain tenancies – over 100 evictions prevented to date. It has also had a direct impact on former tenancy arrears by preventing approximately £250,000 being accumulated. With the advent of the Homeless Reduction Act, the panel plays its part by giving council tenants every opportunity to remain in their properties.

As a result of an unsuccessful attempt to redirect rent refund an end to end process review was completed, this review verified that appropriate checks had now been established to detect fraudulent transactions.

6. Information Governance / Technology (IT) Issues

The successful delivery of Council services would be undermined in the absence of accurate, reliable and timely information and an efficient technology platform. Recent high profile cyber targets on organisations, including key public sector bodies, highlight the vulnerability of public sector bodies and the risks to citizens. The General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) will soon be in effect (May 2018) which will bring with it additional requirements to manage information effectively. The Council has also embarked on a major change programme which will involve the transition of IT services from Capita back to the Council.

Our work has been targeted to provide assurance over the areas of greatest risk. The findings of our work have been summarised below. Responsibility for resolving the issues identified cut cross the Council and Capita Information Communication and Digital Services (ICTDS).

Council

GDPR will soon be enacted into UK law, like many organisations the Council is still working towards compliance. Through our work we have supported the developed of an action plan to help the Council in its GDPR preparations.

Our information governance reviews identified:

- concerns over the completion of the mandatory Information Governance training;
- that data processing agreements with 3rd parties, who handle personal information on our behalf, are not always in place;
- targets for responding to information access requests have dipped below agreed performance targets and will not meet the reduced timeframes for responding to requests required by GDPR;
- continued concerns over the management of system user accounts. During periods of significant organisational change it is essential that IT access is tightly controlled to avoid data breaches and possible inappropriate activity occurring; and
- a low level of compliance against the information Assurance Maturity Model (IAMM).

Capita ICTDS

Following a period of stability the Council experienced a number of major unplanned outages, during a relatively short period of time, which affected our SAP systems. Our investigation found that the SAP application platform was being hosted on an out of support and end of life Unix operating system.

Our reviews continue to provide a reasonable assurance over the IT infrastructure (network, directory service, data centres).

Council / Capita

Our follow up work has identified that the overall governance and reporting arrangements surrounding the management of IT projects have improved. However, there remains a need for more effective lessons learnt and benefit realisation processes. We have assessed a number of major projects throughout the year to provide an assurance that the projects are on track to deliver their key objectives and are subject to appropriate project governance.

The Information Communications and Digital Strategy is now in its second year of delivery. The strategy sets out how Information and Communications Technology and Digital technologies (ICTD) will support the way in which council services will be provided in the future. Our initial review of the implementation of the strategy highlighted the need to document the Critical Success Factors within an ICT implementation plan and use this to monitor successful delivery. Delivery of the strategy will continue to be a focus of our work over the coming year.

Our work on the BACS system and SAP Payment files identified a number of service incidents. The Council is investigating these incidents to ensure these issues do not reoccur.

The Information Assurance Board has been re-instigated, with ownership from the Corporate Management Team, the Board will have a key role in ensuring that information risks are identified and responded to.

Final Reports Issued During 2017/18

Audit Reviews (134 Reports):

Key to linkages to the Council's areas of priority, core objective of good governance, Corporate Risk Register and financial assurance:

1. Children (a great city to grow up in)
2. Jobs & skills (a great city to succeed in)
3. Housing (a great city to live in)
4. Health (a great city to lead a healthy and active life in)
5. Good Governance
6. The Corporate Risk Register (CRR - based on the version which went to Audit Committee in March 2017)
7. Financial Assurance

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Information Assurance Framework	High	3					✓		✓
Adequacy and Progress of the Maximising Independence of Adults programme	High	3				✓			
Education Infrastructure - Project Management	Medium	3	✓						
IT Procurement	Medium	3					✓	✓	✓
Egress - Secure Email	Medium	3					✓		
Third Party Service Provision - Information Security	Medium	3		✓			✓	✓	
SEGWEB PLACE	Medium	3				✓			
Information Governance – General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Readiness	Medium	3					✓	✓	
Data Sharing	Medium	3					✓		
Security Council House	Medium	3					✓		
Place Directorate – Budget Management & Monitoring	Medium	3					✓	✓	✓

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Staff Usage Car Parks	Medium	3					✓		
Internal Fostering Recruitment	Medium	3	✓						
Birmingham Resilience - Emergency Planning	Medium	3						✓	
Safeguarding – Adults	Medium	3				✓			
Equipment Loan Scheme	Medium	3					✓		✓
Residential Care Centres	Medium	3				✓			
Housing Options Service Review	Medium	3			✓				
Direct Payments – Workflow	Medium	3				✓			✓
Pathways Over 18 Care Leavers to Employment	Medium	3	✓	✓					
Section 117	Medium	3				✓			
Corporate Contract Management	Medium	3					✓		✓
Road Safety - Highway Improvement Schemes	Medium	3					✓		
Contract Management - Provision of Transport Services	Medium	3	✓				✓		
Due Diligence	Medium	3					✓		
Fees at Independent Schools	Medium	3	✓						✓
RBIS Batch Processing and Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim	Medium	3							✓
Schools Purchase Cards	Medium	3	✓						✓
Recording and Banking of School Income	Medium	3	✓						✓
Individual Budgets Summary Reports	Medium	3				✓			✓
Children's Direct Payments Summary Report	Medium	3	✓						✓
CareFirst	Medium	3	✓			✓	✓		
Museums - Management Arrangements	Medium	3					✓		
Financial Control Review	Medium	3							✓
SAP Unplanned Outages	Medium	2					✓		
N3 Network	Medium	2				✓			

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
ICTD Strategy	Medium	2					✓		
Home Based Care	Medium	2				✓			
Improved Better Care Fund	Medium	2				✓	✓		
Children in Care Placement Services	Medium	2	✓					✓	
Social Worker Practice - Performance Monitoring Children	Medium	2	✓					✓	
Social Worker Practice - Performance Monitoring Adults	Medium	2				✓			
Corporate Parenting	Medium	2	✓				✓		
Delivery of Mandatory Support to Clinical Commissioning Groups	Medium	2				✓	✓		
People Commissioning Directorate Performance	Medium	2				✓	✓		
Adult Direct Payments Summary Report	Medium	2				✓			✓
Benefits Service – Revenues Notifications Impacting on Benefit Claims	Medium	2							✓
IT Projects People - ACAP Portals	Low	3				✓	✓		
IT Asset and Configuration Management	Low	3					✓		
Schools Themed Work Compliance with Cheque Book Accounting System	Low	3	✓						✓
School Themed Work - Income Control	Low	3	✓						✓
Schools Income - Unannounced Cash Counts	Low	3	✓						✓
CareFirst IT Review	Low	3	✓			✓	✓		
Greater Birmingham and West Midlands Brussels Office	Low	3					✓		
Responsive Repairs and Maintenance Services, Gas Servicing and Capital Improvement – Contract Management	Low	3			✓		✓		
Risk Management - Corporate Strategy and Performance	Low	3					✓	✓	
Web Services	Low	3					✓		
IT Applications - CareDirector Youth (CareWorks Raise)	Low	2	✓						
IT Applications – Change Control	Low	2					✓		

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Corporate Voice Solution	Low	2					✓		
IT Emerging Issues – Yammer	Low	2					✓		
IT Projects - Web Application Security	Low	2					✓	✓	
SAP Birmingham Children's Trust	Low	2	✓						
SAP Interface Files and Reconciliation	Low	2	✓						
Bulk Print Service	Low	2					✓		
IT Incidents / Problems	Low	2					✓		
Information Governance - Records Management	Low	2					✓	✓	
Information Governance - Planning Applications Compliance with Data Protection Guidelines	Low	2					✓	✓	
Fixed Assets IT Systems – ArcGIS	Low	2					✓		
Fixed Assets IT Systems – Manhattan	Low	2					✓		
Council Tax - Exemptions and Discounts	Low	2					✓		✓
Messaging Services	Low	2					✓		
Illegal Money Lending Team	Low	2							✓
Former Tenancy Arrears	Low	2			✓		✓		✓
Arrears Recovery including escalation	Low	2			✓				✓
Procurement Process - Design, Construction and Facilities Management	Low	2					✓		
Non Invoiced Income - Birmingham Wildlife Conservation Park	Low	2							✓
NNDR Charity Relief	Low	2							✓
NNDR Void Inspections	Low	2							✓
Ethics	Low	2					✓		
Council Tax and Business Rates Management and Monitoring Arrangements	Low	2							✓
Council Tax Suppressions	Low	2							✓

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Corporate Payroll - Purchase of Annual Leave Scheme	Low	2							✓
Temporary Changes to Contracts	Low	2					✓		
Corporate Payroll End of Year Report	Low	2							✓
Benefit Service - Backdate and Retrospective Claims	Low	2							✓
Handling of New Benefits Claims	Low	2							✓
Acivico - Procurement of Consultants	Low	2					✓		
Debt Collection Agencies Management and Monitoring Arrangements	Low	2							✓
Accounts Receivable End of Year Report	Low	2							✓
Accounts Receivable - Billing Activities	Low	2							✓
Accounts Receivable - Creation of Business Partners	Low	2							✓
Accounts Payable End of Year Report	Low	2							✓
N3 Network - Level 2 Accreditation Compliance Checks	Low	2				✓	✓		
Northgate Housing IT Review	Low	2			✓		✓		
Corporate Review of Personal Use of Vehicles	Low	2					✓		
Traffic Management - Policy and Delivery	Low	2					✓		
Housing Allocations	Low	2			✓				
Nursery School Funding	Low	2	✓						✓
Government Grants	Low	2							✓
Customer Services	Low	2					✓		
Corporate Payroll - SAP Transaction Testing	Low	2							✓
Vehicle Assets	Low	2					✓		
Tooling Loan Funding Programme	Low	2		✓					✓
Non-HRA Assets	Low	2					✓		✓
Legal and Governance - Business Unit Assurance Statement	Low	1					✓		
Client Services (Strategic Sport) and Events - Assurance Statement	Low	1					✓		

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Adoption and Fostering - Foster Carer Payments	Low	1	✓						✓
Rent Collection and Charges Credits Balances	Low	1							✓
NNDR Discounts - Retail Premises Reoccupation Relief	Low	1							✓
Corporate Payroll - Redundancy payments	Low	1							✓
Corporate Payroll - Payroll Exception reporting	Low	1							✓
Corporate Payroll - Allocation of Pensions	Low	1							✓
Corporate Payroll - Starters and Leavers Transaction Testing	Low	1							✓
Housing Benefit Overpayments	Low	1							✓
Corporate Strategy Team - Business Unit Assurance Statement	Low	1					✓		
Housing Benefit Non - Dependants	Low	1							✓
Benefits Service - Suspended Claims	Low	1							✓
Northgate Automatic Solution	Low	1					✓		✓
Accounts Receivable - Management and Monitoring Arrangements	Low	1							✓
Debt Progression Instalment Plans	Low	1							✓
Accounts Payable - Input Tax	Low	1							✓
Accounts Payable – Management and Monitoring arrangements of the Procure to Pay Service	Low	1							✓
Accounts Payable (AP) - CP1 Payments	Low	1							✓
Urgent Payments - Faster BACS	Low	1							✓
EDSI - Management of Payments	Low	1							✓
Risk Management - Assessment and Support Planning	Low	1					✓		
Accounts Payable - Vendor Master Data	Low	1							✓
Direct Payments - Interim Report	N/A	N/A				✓			✓
Disabled Children's Social Care	N/A	N/A	✓			✓			
Property Management	N/A	N/A					✓		

Title	Council Risk Rating	Assurance	1 Children	2 Jobs & skills	3 Housing	4 Health	5 Good Gov	6 CRR	7 Financial Ass
Looked After Children - Out of Area	N/A	N/A	✓					✓	
Children with Disabilities Interim Report	N/A	N/A	✓					✓	
Grants	N/A	N/A					✓		

Follow Up Reports (29 Reports):

Title	Risk Rating Council
Network Management Follow Up	Medium
Disability Facility Grant- VAT Coding Follow Up	Medium
Markets Follow Up	Medium
Birmingham Resilience - Business Continuity Follow Up	Medium
Engagement of Individuals - HMRC Rules Follow Up	Medium
Local Growth Fund Management Arrangements Follow Up	Medium
Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2nd Follow up	Medium
Fleet Services – Review of Management Arrangements Follow Up	Medium
IT System Security Follow Up	Low
IT Procurement Follow Up report	Low
Mobile Phones Follow Up	Low
IT Projects People - ACAP Portals - Follow up	Low
PCI DSS Follow Up Report	Low
IT Project Governance Follow Up	Low
Information Governance - DfE Returns Follow-up	Low
Fixed Assets IT Systems Follow Up	Low
BACS Follow Up	Low
Destin Procedures Follow Up	Low

Title	Risk Rating Council
Adult Education - Students from Abroad Follow Up	Low
Annual Tenancy Visits Follow Up	Low
Child Protection Case Review Follow Up	Low
Provision of Adult Substance and Misuse Treatment and Recovery Services – Service Delivery Follow Up	Low
Personal Education Plans - 2nd Follow Up	Low
Accounts Receivables - Creation of Business Partners - Customers - Follow up	Low
Petty Cash Follow Up – People	Low
Petty Cash Follow Up – Place	Low
Regeneration Accountable Body Governance Arrangements - 2nd Follow Up	Low
2nd Follow Up - Enforcement Litter and Fly Tipping Follow Up	Low
Tenant Management Organisation Support Team Follow Up	Low

Investigation Reports (40 Reports)
School Visits (87 Reports, 6 Follow-up Reports)

Internal Audit Charter 2018/19

1. Introduction

1.1 This charter sets out Birmingham Audit's:

- purpose, authority and responsibilities;
- establishes Birmingham Audit's position within the organisation, including reporting relationships with the 'board';
- covers the arrangements for appropriate resourcing;
- defines the scope of internal audit activities and role of Internal Audit in any fraud-related work; and
- includes arrangements for avoiding conflicts of interest if internal audit undertakes non-audit activities.

It also sets out the objectives, framework and services delivered by Birmingham Audit (which are in accordance with the mandatory Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS)). The detailed actions to deliver the charter are contained within the Birmingham Audit Business Plan.

Notes:

1. *The term the 'board', can refer to one or all of the following: Audit Committee, Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive or Corporate Director Finance & Governance.*
2. *Statutory officer roles with regards to Internal Audit:*

Chief Executive and Assistant Chief Executive - ensure there is an open, honest, transparent and accountable culture in operation within the Council and are available as and when required by Internal Audit.

Corporate Director Finance & Governance - is responsible for ensuring the sound financial administration of the Council and effective systems of Internal Audit. They are also responsible for deciding on the action to be taken to investigate suspected financial irregularities, including referring the matter to the Police.

2. Purpose, Authority & Responsibilities

2.1 Birmingham Audit's primary purpose is to provide independent and objective assurance to the Council on the control environment (risk management, internal control and governance) by evaluating its effectiveness in achieving the organisations objectives.

2.2 In accordance with section 12 of the Financial Regulations:

- each Corporate Director must ensure there is an open, honest, transparent and accountable culture in operation within their area of responsibility and

must make its services available as and when required for audit both internally and externally;

- Corporate Directors must respond in writing to any recommendations contained in audit reports in accordance with agreed protocols; and
- the Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management on the authority of the Corporate Director Finance & Governance, shall have authority to:
 - enter any Council premises or land at all reasonable times;
 - have access to all records, documents, data and correspondence relating to all transactions of the City Council, or unofficial funds operated by an employee as part of their duties;
 - require any employee of the City Council to provide such explanations, information or any other assistance necessary concerning any matter under audit examination; and
 - require any employee of the Council to produce cash, stores or any other property under his / her control, belonging to the Council or held as part of the employee's duties.

The rights above apply equally to organisations which have links with or provide services on behalf of the Council (e.g. wholly owned companies, third parties or other agents acting on behalf of the Council) where the Council has a statutory or contractual entitlement to exercise such right. These rights shall be included in all contractual arrangements entered into with such organisations.

- 2.3 Birmingham Audit's responsibilities include looking at how risk management, control, governance processes, and other resources are managed, and working with managers to add value, and improve the security, efficiency and effectiveness of their processes.
- 2.4 Individual auditors are responsible for ensuring that they operate with due professional care. This means that Birmingham Audit staff will:
- be fair and not allow prejudice or bias to override objectivity;
 - declare any interests that could potentially lead to conflict;
 - sign a confidentiality statement;
 - not accept any gifts, inducements, or other benefits from employees, clients, suppliers or other third parties;
 - use all reasonable care in obtaining sufficient, relevant and reliable evidence on which to base their conclusions;
 - be alert to the possibility of intentional wrongdoing, errors and omissions, inefficiency, waste, lack of economy, ineffectiveness, failure to comply with management policy, and conflicts of interest;

- have sufficient knowledge to identify indicators that fraud may have been committed;
- disclose all material facts known to them which if not disclosed could distort their reports or conceal unlawful practice subject to confidentiality requirements; and
- disclose in reports any non-compliance with these standards; and not use information that they obtain in the course of their duties for personal benefit or gain.

3. Position within the Organisation (including reporting relationship with the board)

- 3.1 Birmingham Audit will remain independent of the areas audited to ensure that auditors perform their duties impartially, providing effective professional judgements and recommendations. Where appropriate audit staff will be rotated to avoid and conflict of interests. Birmingham Audit will not have any operational responsibilities.
- 3.2 Subject to any statutory responsibilities and overriding instructions of the Council, accountability for the response to advice, guidance and recommendations made by Birmingham Audit lies with management. Management can either accept or implement the advice and recommendations or reject it. Any advice, guidance or recommendations made by BA will not prejudice the right to review the relevant policies, procedures, controls and operations at a later date.
- 3.3 The Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management will report the results of audit work in accordance with the Birmingham Audit Protocol.

4. Resourcing

- 4.1 The service will be delivered to professional standards by appropriately qualified and skilled staff. Birmingham Audit has achieved the ISO27001:2013 Information Security Standard. The Information Security Standard is subject to regular external review.
- 4.2 During 2018/19 we will continue to seek more efficient and effective ways to deliver the audit service, provide assurance to Members, and help identify new ways of working that will bring about service improvements and deliver efficiencies. The Audit data warehouse and data analysis will be used to support our assurance work and provide intelligence in respect of allegations of non-benefit related fraud referrals or data anomalies identified, and to carry out exception reporting, to identify samples and review data quality.

- 4.3 We will work with private sector partners as necessary to ensure we have the right skills and resources to deliver a quality driven professional service to the Council.
- 4.4 We will work in partnership with other inspection bodies to ensure that we get the maximum audit coverage from the resources invested; taking assurance from each other's work where appropriate.
- 4.5 If the Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management, or those charged with governance, consider that the adequacy and sufficiency of internal audit resources or the terms of reference in any way limit the scope of Birmingham Audit, or prejudice the ability of Birmingham Audit to deliver a service consistent with the definition of Internal Audit, they will advise the Council accordingly.

5. Scope

- 5.1 The scope of the internal audit function will embrace the internal control system of the Council. It covers all financial and non-financial related activities of the Council at all levels of its structure.
- 5.2 The internal control system is defined as including the whole network of systems and controls established by management to ensure that the objectives are met. It includes both financial and other controls for ensuring that corporate governance arrangements are satisfactory and best value is achieved. In determining where effort should be concentrated, the Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management will take account of the Council's assurance and monitoring mechanisms, including risk management arrangements, for achieving its objectives.
- 6.3 Birmingham Audit will consider the results of the Council's risk management processes. Where the results indicate adequate action has already been undertaken to manage the risks / opportunities Birmingham Audit will take this into account. Where the results indicate that insufficient work has been done then Birmingham Audit may undertake a separate review.
- 5.4 The scope of audit work extends to services provided through partnership arrangements. The Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management will decide, in consultation with all parties, whether Birmingham Audit conducts the work to derive the required assurance or rely on the assurances provided by other auditors. Where necessary, the Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management will agree appropriate access rights to obtain the necessary assurances.
- 5.5 Birmingham Audit will not undertake tasks, which are likely to compromise its independence, internal control functions or certification processes.

- 5.6 Birmingham Audit will participate and contribute to Council and Directorate policy development as required through attendance at Managers Network events, and working groups.

5.7 Other Work

Where appropriate resources exist, Birmingham Audit will make provision within the plan for the review of key systems or key services provided by:

- the Council on behalf of other organisations; and
- others on behalf of the Council. In order to achieve this Birmingham Audit will require access to partner records, systems and staff. This access should form part of any partnership contract between the Council and the partner.

The decision to include it in the plan will be dependent on the level of risk identified and whether reliance can be placed on opinions provided by others.

5.8 Fraud & Corruption

Section 14 of the Financial Regulations states the following:

- the responsibility for prevention and detection of fraud rests with all employees;
- each Corporate Director must ensure that the Corporate Director Finance & Governance, Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management and if applicable, the Monitoring Officer, is notified immediately whenever a matter arises which involves, or is thought to involve, any financial irregularities, fraud and corruption;
- the Corporate Director Finance & Governance is responsible for deciding on the action to be taken to investigate suspected financial irregularities, including referring the matter to the Police;
- if there are any suspicions that a Member may be involved / or associated either directly or indirectly in an incident that may require investigation, then the Director must report this to the Corporate Director Finance and Governance, who may refer the matter to the appropriate Cabinet Member or Committee; and
- each Corporate Director must implement the Anti-Fraud Strategy, the Criminal Acts Procedure and the Confidential Reporting (Whistleblowing) Code and Public Interest Disclosure Act 1998.

Birmingham Audit will assist managers to minimise the scope for fraud by evaluating the Council's systems of internal financial control and reporting thereon. Where irregularities are suspected, Birmingham Audit will, in

appropriate cases, undertake an investigation and report to management or will promptly provide advice and guidance to assist managers with their investigation. All investigations undertaken by Birmingham Audit will adhere to all Council policies.

Where Directorates require Birmingham Audit to attend disciplinary hearings as a management witness, sufficient notice, ie: 10 working days, should be given.

6. Avoiding Conflicts of Interest

Internal audit staff will maintain an impartial, unbiased attitude to their work and will avoid conflicts of interest.

Birmingham Audit will maintain a register of interests for Audit staff. Any interests declared will be taken into account when planning and delivering work.

Where appropriate audit staff will be rotated to avoid any conflict of interests.

7. The Audit Committee

7.1 Our support to the Audit Committee helps to demonstrate the highest standards of corporate governance, public accountability and transparency in the Council's business. We will maintain an effective working relationship with the Audit Committee, this will include:

- their approval of the internal audit charter and audit plan, and monitoring of progress against them;
- the provision of training and technical support to keep Members informed of relevant legislation, good practice and governance issues;
- access to all reports. Those considered to be of the highest risk will be highlighted and brought to their attention; and
- performance management information will be provided.

7.2 We will attend the committee meetings, and contribute to the agenda.

7.3 We will participate in the committee's review of its own remit and effectiveness, and ensure that it receives, and understands, documents that describe how Internal Audit will fulfil its objectives.

7.4 Our progress reports will include the outcomes of internal audit work in sufficient detail to allow the committee to understand what assurance it can take from that work, and / or what unresolved risks or issues it needs to address.

- 7.5 Annual / half year update reports will be produced. The annual report will include an overall opinion on the control environment, the extent to which the audit plan has been achieved, and a summary of any unresolved issues.

8. Business Plan Objectives - 2018/19

- To deliver an internal audit service that meets professional and mandatory standards, adds value and delivers suitable assurance to the Council.
- To deliver an effective counter fraud service to prevent, detect and deter fraud and error and to assist law enforcement agencies through the provision of intelligence.
- To deliver a creditor statement reconciliation audit, maximising overpayment recoveries.

9. Statutory Requirements

- 9.1 There is a statutory requirement for Local Authorities to have a counter fraud and internal audit function. This service is provided for the Council in-house by Birmingham Audit working in partnership with a number of external bodies. The Assistant Director Audit and Risk Management provides a continuous internal audit and counter fraud service and reviews the Council's controls and operations.
- 9.2 The services we provide are in accordance with the following legal and professional requirements:

Legal:

- Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015
- Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Detection of Fraud and Enforcement) Regulations 2013
- Criminal Justice Act 2003
- Criminal Procedures Investigation Act 1996
- Data Protection Act 1998
- Fraud Act 2006
- Freedom of Information Act 2000
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Local Government Act 2002
- Police & Criminal Evidence Act 1984
- Proceeds of Crime Act 2008
- Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2012
- Social Housing Fraud (Power to Require Information) Regulations 2014
- The Protection of Freedoms Act 2012
- Theft Act 1978

- Welfare Reform Act 2012

Professional Requirements:

- Relevant CCAB professional guidance including the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards
- Relevant IIA guidance
- Information Security - BS EN ISO27001:2013

- 9.3 Birmingham Audit reports to the Section 151 Officer under the Local Government Act 2002. The legislative driver for internal audit and counter fraud continue to evolve.
- 9.4 The Council adopted the CIPFA / SOLACE code of corporate governance in July 2002. This code together with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 2002 introduced the requirement for an annual statement of assurance to be made. The Council has subsequently reviewed / revised their Local Code of Governance in accordance with the CIPFA / SOLACE Framework - Delivering Good Governance in Local Government. This means that the Chief Executive, Leader, Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer are required to sign a formal corporate assurance statement (known as the Annual Governance Statement (AGS)) on the effectiveness of the Council's governance arrangements and identify any significant governance issues.
- 9.5 We have a role to play in advising Directors regarding the processes, and reporting mechanisms needed to compile their own assurance statements, which the AGS will be based on. An integrated assurance framework has been introduced which places greater reliance on 'management assurance'. This is obtained from individual officers around specific areas of risk and the assurance documentation completed annually at both directorate and business unit level.
- 9.6 The audit plan is risk based and delivered to provide an independent opinion on the adequacy and effectiveness of the systems of internal control in place. Our opinion will be prepared using the following sources of assurance: Internal / External Audit work, the AGS process and Risk Management processes. We will work with the External Auditors to improve overall coverage and avoid duplication of effort.
- 9.7 We give an opinion on the internal control environment which forms part of the AGS, which the Council is legally required to produce as part of the final accounts. The work undertaken by BA makes an important contribution to providing assurance around the control environment, and the content of the AGS. The categories of work include:
- Section 151 work around the major and significant financial systems;

- IT Governance;
- audit around the major risks and the risk management process;
- audit of corporate governance / business control assurance arrangements;
- counter fraud activities; and
- school activities.

10. The Annual Audit Plan

- The Future Council programme has presented new risks as well as opportunities. We will continue to contribute to driving forward the change agenda ensuring our planning process is future focused.
- The audit plan for 2018/19 has been compiled based on a number of factors, ie:
 - the level of risk associated to each entity;
 - the level of assurance associated to each entity; and
 - any reviews that fall under the 'must do' categorisation, ie: those which are required to be undertaken as part of the minimum internal audit standard.

On an annual basis each entity will be reassessed based on the results of the previous year's internal audit work and other assurance gained regarding the control environment.

There is also an allocation for undertaking programmed school visits as part of the school improvement agenda.

- All of the risks contained within the Corporate Risk Register are included within the Council's Assurance Map, which is updated prior to producing the audit plan, and some or all of these will be audited on the basis of their likelihood and impact. The focus of the audits will be the testing of the systems, controls and action plans put in place by the nominated risk owner to mitigate the risk. If other significant risks / opportunities are identified either through audit work, new / changing legislation or other change mechanisms they may, subject to resource availability, be added to the audit plan.
- Following discussions with the External Auditors we agreed that each of the systems they designate as 'main financial systems' would feature in the audit plan, unless otherwise directed.

- We will assess ourselves against the CIPFA Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud and Corruption. Prevention and detection of fraud remains a priority for the Council.
- We will continue to develop our approach to systems audit work to put more emphasis on reducing the risk of fraud. Counter fraud activity will include both reactive and proactive fraud work and providing further assistance to officers to better manage the risk of fraud through prevention, detection and deterrence. This will include work in relation to the National Fraud Initiative (NFI).
- Follow up audits will be undertaken in accordance with the agreed policy.
- Consultancy work will be undertaken within the limitations of existing resources and where it does not introduce a conflict of interest.

Consultancy work is defined as:

"The provision to businesses of objective advice and assistance relating to the strategy, structure, management and operations of an organisation in pursuit of its long-term purposes and objectives."

Consulting services may include but are not limited to:

- School financial health checks;
- facilitation of workshops;
- assistance in the completion of financial returns; and
- representation on Boards etc.

The purpose, scope and approach for each piece of consultancy work will be agreed prior to commencement of the work.

- A Charging Policy has been implemented. This means that some elements of work will only be undertaken if resource is available and the client is willing to pay.

Proposed Internal Audit Plan 2018/19

	Days	Total
Financial Systems (including computer audits where appropriate)		
Accounts Payable	50	
Accounts Receivable	50	
Asset Management	50	
Audit Letter	5	
Benefits	50	
Carefirst	30	
Cash Income / Cashiers	30	
Direct Payments	30	
Housing Rents	25	
Income / Expenditure - Schools	20	
IT Related Financial Systems Work	90	
Main Accounting	50	
Payroll/HR	50	
Procurement, Contract Audit and PFI	140	
Revenue (Council Tax and NNDR)	60	730
Business Controls Assurance		
Work in Progress b/fwd. from 2017/18	30	
IT Related Non-Financial Systems Work	375	
Data Analysis	200	
Corporate Risk Management Facilitation	50	
Chargeable Work - Acivico	40	
Chargeable Work - Birmingham Children's Trust	145	
Chargeable Work – Grant Certification	80	920
<u>Adults and Health</u>		
Air Quality	10	
Assessment & Support Planning	25	
Better Care Fund	20	
Carers Strategy	20	
Commissioning	20	
Delayed Transfers of Care	10	
Delivery of Improvement and Business Plan	15	
Enablement	15	
Integrated 3rd Sector funding	15	
Integrated Personal Commissioning	20	
Prevention Agenda	15	
Public Health	30	
Placements	20	
Seven Day Working	15	
Transitions to Adulthood	20	270
<u>Children and Young People</u>		
Contract Monitoring - Birmingham Children's Trust	50	
Children Services (Education)	50	
Pupil Premium - Accountability and Usage	10	

	Days	Total
Safeguarding & Development – BCSB	40	
Safeguarding Corporate Overview	40	190
<u>Economy</u>		
Accountable Body	30	
Car Parking - Civil Enforcement	20	
Youth Employment Initiative	10	60
<u>Finance and Governance</u>		
Ethics	5	
Governance	20	
New Service Delivery Vehicles	10	
Risk Management	10	
Self-Assessment - AGS Process	10	55
<u>Place</u>		
Equality, Community Safety and Cohesion	25	
Homelessness	20	
Housing Repairs – Contract Compliance / Assurance (funded through HRA)	200	
Housing Improvement - Capital Works Programme	20	
Waste Management	30	295
<u>Strategic Services</u>		
Improvement Agenda	20	
Project Management	20	40
		1830
Investigations		
Reactive investigations	630	
Proactive work / Fraud Awareness	200	830
Schools - Non Visits		
Consortium / Forum	20	
Deficits	20	
Facilities Management and Repairs	15	
Themed Work	50	105
Schools - Visits	720	720
Follow Up Work		150
Ad Hoc Work / Contingency		186
Planning and Reporting		120
City Initiatives		10
TOTAL		4681

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**PUBLIC REPORT**

Report to:	AUDIT COMMITTEE
Report of:	Corporate Director – Finance & Governance
Date of Decision:	19 June 2018
Subject:	STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2017/18
Wards affected: All	
1 Purpose	
1.1	This report presents the Council's draft Statement of Accounts for 2017/18 to Members for information. The Statement has been passed to the Council's external auditors, Grant Thornton, who have started their final accounts audit. The audited Statement of Accounts will be presented to Audit Committee for approval at the completion of the audit.
2 Decisions recommended:	
2.1	To receive the draft Statement of Accounts for 2017/18.
2.2	To note the arrangements for the audit of the accounts and for public inspection.

Contact Officer: Clive Heaphy
Telephone No: 0121 303 4087
E-mail address: clive.heaphy@birmingham.gov.uk

Contact Officer: Martin Stevens
Telephone No: 0121 303 4667
E-mail address: martin.stevens@birmingham.gov.uk

3 Compliance Issues:

- 3.1 Are Decisions consistent with relevant Council Policies, Plans or Strategies?:
The production of the annual accounts is a statutory requirement for the Council.
- 3.2 Relevant Ward and other Members/Officers etc. consulted on this matter:
The Chair of the Committee has been consulted.
- 3.3 Relevant legal powers, personnel, equalities and other relevant implications (if any):
The Statement of Accounts is a requirement of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).
- 3.4 Will decisions be carried out within existing finances and resources?
Yes
- 3.5 Main Risk Management and Equality Impact Assessment Issues (if any):
The Statement of Accounts includes the Annual Governance Statement, which has previously been considered elsewhere on this agenda of this meeting. The Annual Governance Statements draws on the work undertaken during the year in the maintenance of the Council's risk register.

4 Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 4.1 The 2017/18 accounts were signed on 31 May 2018 in line with the statutory deadline. This is the first year that the statutory deadline has been 31 May.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 to this report is the published draft Statement of Accounts for 2017/18. The document includes the core statements, supplementary statements and explanatory notes for material items to give a greater depth of detail for readers of the accounts.
- 4.3 The Council also prepares Group Accounts which form part of the overall Statement of Accounts. The Council has interests in a number of wholly owned subsidiary companies as well as an interest in in other entities in partnership with other organisations.
- 4.4 The Council's accounts for 2017/18 were opened for public inspection on 1 June 2018 for a period of 30 working days, ending on 12 July 2018. Questions on or objections to the accounts may be raised with the external auditor during the period of public inspection.
- 4.5 The fieldwork informing the audit of the accounts is expected to be substantially completed by the middle of July 2018. A further report will be presented to this committee at its meeting on 30 July requesting the approval

of the audited accounts by members. The external auditors will provide their Audit Findings Report setting out the findings and conclusions arising from their audit.

- 4.6 The audited accounts statutorily have to be published by 31 July 2018, two months earlier than was required for the 2016/17 accounts.

Signature:

Corporate Director – Finance & Governance:

Dated:



Draft Statement of Accounts 2017/18
Subject to Audit

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Narrative Report

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the statutory financial statements for Birmingham City Council (the Council) for the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the 2017/18 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting (the Code) published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).
- 1.2 This narrative report provides a summary of the Council's financial position and details of material items that have impacted on the accounts during the year.
- 1.3 The financial statements contain a number of technical accounting terms and concepts. A glossary of the major accounting terms has been provided at the end of the financial statements to help the reader's understanding.

2 Council Priorities

- 2.1 The Council's vision for the City is one of:

'A city of growth where every child, citizen and place matters'

and sets out four key priorities for Birmingham:

- **Children – A great city to grow up in:**
Make the best of our unique demography and create a safe and secure city for our children and young people to learn and grow in.
- **Housing – A great city to live in:**
Provide housing in a range of types and tenures, to meet the housing needs of all the current and future citizens of the city.
- **Jobs and Skills – A great city to succeed in:**
Birmingham will be renowned as an enterprising, innovative and green city.
- **Health – A great city to grow old in:**
Helping people become healthier, especially relating to physical activity and mental wellbeing

- 2.2 The Council recognises that it is just one player in achieving these priorities. The significant reductions in Government funding since 2010 mean that the Council's role has changed from one of service delivery across the City to one where it uses its resources to enable and facilitate others.
- 2.3 The Council will provide strategic leadership with its partners to create and deliver a new future for the City. The Council will ensure that high quality services are provided for all and it will focus on supporting those that are least able to support themselves. The Council will work with partners and put citizens and neighbourhoods at the heart of decision making.

3 The Council in 2017/18

Leadership

- 3.1 Councillor John Clancy stepped down from his role as Leader of the Council in September 2017. Councillor Ian Ward was subsequently appointed as the new Leader of the Council having previously been Deputy Leader. Councillor Brigid Jones was appointed as the new Deputy Leader of the Council.
- 3.2 Stella Manzie CBE served as interim Chief Executive throughout the 2017/18 financial year. Dawn Baxendale was appointed as Chief Executive from 1 April 2018.

Commonwealth Games

- 3.3 On 21 December 2017, the Commonwealth Games Federation announced that it had selected Birmingham as the host city partner of the XXII Commonwealth Games in 2022. Birmingham submitted its bid to host the Games following the decision of the Commonwealth Games Federation to strip Durban of the right to host the Games. The Commonwealth Games will take place in July and August 2022.
- 3.4 The Games will leave a lasting legacy for the City as the Alexander Stadium will be enhanced and refurbished and the Games Village at Perry Barr will incorporate approximately 1,000 new homes through a mix of one and two-bed apartments as well as three and four-bed town houses.
- 3.5 In addition to the range of events being held in Birmingham, the Commonwealth Games will bring benefits to the wider region as events will be held in neighbouring areas with a new Aquatic Centre based in Sandwell, several sports based at the National Exhibition Centre in Solihull, the Ricoh Arena in Coventry and Victoria Park in Leamington Spa.
- 3.6 There will be two Expo events in 2019 and 2021 and a further one leading up to the running of the Games which will showcase the best of the region's business. There will also be a cultural programme during the Games, which will be centred on the City's four principal squares, with a satellite hub at the NEC.

Independent Improvement Panel

- 3.7 Following the publication of a report on the governance and organisational capabilities of the Council by Lord Kerslake, the Secretary of State set up the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (the Panel) in January 2015 to work with the Council to provide robust challenge and support.
- 3.8 The Panel has provided a number of progress reports to the Secretary of State, the latest being in March 2018, which was in the form of a joint letter from the Leader of the Council and the Chair of the Panel. The letter noted the changes within the Council, including the election of the Leader and Deputy Leader, the appointment of the new Chief Executive and other members of the Council Management Team and the creation of the Children's Trust, which became operational in April 2018. In addition the letter expressed a more positive approach to resolving the Council's issues and a more collaborative way of working with the new Leadership.

- 3.9 It is planned to develop a shared understanding of the improvement priorities that the Council will focus on in the months and years ahead. The Council will develop and publish a suite of improvement plans with the support and advice of the Panel. A progress report will be prepared for publication in June 2018.

Financial Challenges

- 3.10 The Council has continued to operate within an extremely challenging financial environment and the management of the budget has been a major focus of activity in 2017/18. The savings target for the year was £85.3m, which included £14.4m of savings that were achieved on a one-off basis in the previous year.
- 3.11 For the period to 2021/22, the Council will need to find significant additional savings.
- 3.12 The Council needs to maintain an appropriate level of reserves given the challenges facing local authorities in the current financial environment.

Major Developments

- 3.13 Whilst facing severe financial challenges, the Council has continued to review its services to ensure effective delivery of provision to the citizens of Birmingham. As part of the changes in service delivery the Council has created Birmingham Children's Trust, which will be responsible for the delivery of children's care services that were previously delivered by the Council. The Trust operated in shadow form prior to becoming operationally independent on 1 April 2018. The contract for service delivery by the Trust is for £201m in 2018/19.
- 3.14 The Council has also invested in the infrastructure within the City, awarded grants to support third party developments and purchased software to develop its IT processes through capital developments of £362.2m in 2017/18 and has future committed capital projects in excess of £1bn. The major projects have included development of:
- the Paradise Circus area;
 - the new Wholesale Market at Witton;
 - improvement of leisure facilities;
 - increases in school places to support additional pupil numbers; and
 - additional housing capacity.

4 The Financial Statements

- 4.1 The pages which follow contain the Council's Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018, with comparative figures for the previous financial year, and comprise:

The Main Financial Statements

- 4.2 The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) – provides the in year cost of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount reported monthly to the Council which is based on

an agreed budget to be funded from taxation, grants or from rents for council dwellings.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) position is shown in a separate statement within these accounts.

In line with proper accounting practices under the Code the CIES incorporates transactions relating to:

- movements in value of Property, Plant & Equipment and other non-current assets,
- the impact of updates in the valuation of pension liabilities under defined benefit arrangements
- changes in provisions set aside for the future, for example, for the costs of Equal Pay.

Notwithstanding the reduced costs of services in 2017/18, as a result of the savings implemented by the Council, the 2017/18 CIES shows a net improvement of £156.4m in moving from a deficit of £128.0m on the provision of services in 2016/17 to a surplus of £28.4m in 2017/18 in the light of the factors described above. However, these factors do not impact on council tax or housing rents and are therefore reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Supporting the CIES is the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA) (Note 6), which shows the basis of the Council's annual expenditure and how it is funded from resources compared to how the resources are consumed and earned in line with generally accepted accounting practices. The EFA also shows how expenditure is allocated by the Council between Directorates.

- 4.3 Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS) – provides a reconciliation of the movement in year on the different reserves of the Council. The MiRS shows how the movements in the Council's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax or housing rents for the year.
- 4.4 Balance Sheet – shows the value of assets and liabilities recognised by the Council as at 31 March 2018 and the level of reserves, split between usable (those that may be used to provide services) and unusable (those that may not be used to provide services). Unusable reserves include reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets were to be sold and reserves that hold timing differences in charging to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The net liability has reduced by £428.5m to £644.8m, mainly as a result of:

- An increase of £286.5m in the carrying value of Property, Plant and Equipment as a result of the completion of new assets, an increase in the current value of assets following revaluation, offset by the disposal of a number of assets;
- An increase in short term investments of £55.0m;
- An increase in short term debtors of £53.3m, mainly as a consequence of the Council's participation in the 100% Local Business Rates Retention Pilot, which has resulted in the Council now recognising 99% of amounts owed rather than 49% as in previous years;

- A reduction in the net liability on the defined benefit pension scheme of £282.8m, mainly resulting from the three year advance payment made by the Council in April 2017.

offset by

- An increase in the level of short term borrowing of £286.2m as the Council took advantage of the low level of short term interest rates.

- 4.5 Cash Flow Statement – shows how the Council generates and uses cash during the year and the impact this has on the balances of cash and cash equivalents. Cash flows are classified into operating, investing and financing activities.

Supplementary Statements

- 4.6 Notes to the Accounts – additional detail supporting the information provided in the main financial statements is provided in the Notes to the Accounts.
- 4.7 Housing Revenue Account – records the financial position of the Council's statutory obligation to account separately for the costs of its housing provision.
- 4.8 Collection Fund – a statutory account that records the transactions in respect of the collection and distribution of Business Rates and Council Tax for which the Council acts as agent.

Group Accounts

- 4.9 The Council operates through a variety of undertakings, through either majority shareholding or sole membership of companies with the current ability to appoint the majority of directors (subsidiary undertakings) or in partnership with other organisations (associate undertakings and joint ventures). To provide a full picture of the activities of the Council, Group Accounts have been prepared which include those organisations where the interest and level of activity is considered material. The Group Accounts consolidate the Council's accounts with those of:

Subsidiaries

Acivico Limited
 Birmingham City Propco Limited – New Company
 Innovation Birmingham Limited
 InReach (Birmingham) Limited
 National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc
 PETPS (Birmingham) Limited
 PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership – New company

Associates

Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited
 Service Birmingham Limited – part year only

Joint Venture

- Paradise Circus General Partner Limited
- 4.10 The Council has undertaken a review of its Group boundary to ensure that the information provided from the consolidation of related entities into its Group Financial Statements gives the most accurate picture of the Council's activities. It has been determined that Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham

Limited should no longer be consolidated into the Council's Group Financial Statements on the basis that the control criteria, set out in IFRS 10, *Consolidated Financial Statements* or the significant influence criteria set out in IAS 28, *Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures* are not met. Whilst the Council is the sole member of both organisations, it can only appoint a minority of the companies' directors or trustees. Further details are provided in the attached Group Financial Statements.

- 4.11 The Council disposed of its interest in Service Birmingham Limited on 31 December 2017. Prior to its disposal, the Council consolidated the company on the basis of an Associate. The Council continues to have a contractual relationship for the provision of services with the company.
- 4.12 In February 2017 a process commenced to explore a potential sale of the business and assets of Innovation Birmingham Limited to a strategic purchaser, in order to seek a new investor to continue with the strategic development of Innovation Birmingham Limited and the Innovation Birmingham Campus. The sale was completed on 18 April 2018.
- 4.13 The Council also operates through or in conjunction with a number of organisations where the level of activity is not considered material to the overall Group Accounts. Details of these organisations are set out in Note 48, Related Parties.

5 Accountable Body Roles

- 5.1 In addition to the activities reflected in the Council's CIES and Balance Sheet, the Council also acts as an agent for other funds, the most significant being the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership. Further details are contained in Note 49.

6 Summary of the Council's Financial Performance for the year ended 31 March 2018

6.1 Revenue Expenditure

- 6.1.1 The Council's revenue and capital budgets were allocated between six directorates with other budgets being managed corporately. Spending against these budgets was carefully monitored throughout the year and reported to Cabinet regularly. The year-end outturn position was reported to Cabinet on 24 May 2018.
- 6.1.2 The Council's final revenue outturn was a net overspend of £ 20.9m which reduced to £4.9m after use of reserves for two specific items identified in the table below. Directorates overspent in total by £12.7m, which was offset by elements of underspend in corporate and policy contingency budgets. The table below gives a summary of the General Fund year-end outturn variation.

	Revised Budget	Outturn	Variance
	£m	£m	£m
Directorate Position			
Adult Social Care & Health	351.263	343.614	(7.649)
Children & Young People	211.610	214.508	2.898
Place	142.780	159.734	16.954
Economy	71.778	45.468	(26.310)
Strategic Services	34.349	31.767	(2.582)
Finance & Governance	25.199	27.296	2.097
Sub Total Directorate Position	836.979	822.387	(14.592)
Year End Transfers to/(from) reserves			27.275
Sub Total Gross Directorate Position			12.683
Central Position			
Policy Contingency underspend			(4.598)
Acivico overspend Funded Corporately			9.508
Future Operating Model			14.610
Other Central Items			(11.332)
Sub Total Gross Central Position			8.188
Sub Total Gross Position			20.871
Other Agreed Use of Reserves			
Pension Strain			(9.400)
Waste Management			(6.600)
Sub Total Use of Other Reserves			(16.000)
Total Net Over/(Under)spend			4.871

- 6.1.3 Within the Council's revenue position for 2017/18, there is the impact of the amendment to the Council's Policy for Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The Council agreed a revised MRP policy in September 2014, which amended the repayment method from one of 4% reducing balance method to one of 2% fixed repayment method commencing in 2013/14. The amendment of the policy in 2017/18 is to backdate the current methodology to 2007/08 when the current "Prudential System" was introduced. This amendment has given the Council a one-off reduction in MRP of £98.3m in the current year and an annual increase thereafter. The reduction in 2017/18 has been appropriated to a Financial Resilience Reserve that will be used, in the first instance, to meet the ongoing additional revenue costs and will also provide extra resilience in the management of the Council's finances.

6.2 Capital Expenditure

- 6.2.1 Total expenditure on directorate capital schemes in 2017/18, reported to Cabinet on 24 May 2018, was £362.2m (2016/17: £335.4m), compared to the revised capital budget of £519.9m (2016/17: £465.5m). The reported variance of £157.7m was

mainly as a result of delays in expenditure on a number of capital schemes. Details of this slippage are given in the Council's Capital Outturn report for 2017/18. It should be noted that no Council resources were lost as a result of the slippage as the resources and planned expenditure will be "rolled forward" into future years.

Directorate	Revised Capital Budget	Capital Outturn	Capital Variance
	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	10.901	7.600	(3.301)
Children & Young People	65.890	45.927	(19.963)
Place	213.323	151.276	(62.047)
Economy	137.928	100.094	(37.834)
Strategic Services	13.019	2.505	(10.514)
Finance & Governance	78.810	54.786	(24.024)
Total Directorate Capital Expenditure	519.871	362.188	(157.683)
PFI and Finance Lease Assets		28.763	
PFI related to Academy Schools		0.732	
Total Capital Expenditure		391.683	

6.3 Material Assets Acquired

- 6.3.1 During the year a number of major projects have progressed including the Paradise Circus redevelopment, a new building for the relocated Wholesale Market, the creation of additional school places at a number of schools, transport and highways infrastructure works, housing improvements and redevelopment and three leisure centres have been completed and opened.

6.4 Capital Financing

- 6.4.1 The financing arrangements in respect of capital expenditure in 2017/18, as reported to Cabinet on 24 May 2018, are summarised below:

Financing Method	£m
Borrowing	150.022
Government Grants	87.961
Other Grants and Contributions	49.231
Use of Capital Receipts	7.900
Use of Revenue Resources – HRA	50.069
Use of Revenue Resources – General Fund	17.005
Total Directorate Capital Financing	362.188
PFI and Finance Leases	28.763
PFI related to Academy Schools	0.732
Total Capital Financing	391.683

6.4.2 During the financial year ended 31 March 2018, the Council took £157.2m of long term loans. The Council also maintained a significant short term loan debt portfolio during the year, taking advantage of historically low short term interest rates. Total debt remained within the Council's authorised limit.

6.4.3 Further details of the Council's financial liabilities are given in Notes 39 and 40 to these financial statements. Full details regarding the financing of capital expenditure and the acquisition and disposal of non-current assets are given in Notes 22 to 24 to these financial statements.

6.5 Service Concession Arrangements and Similar Contracts

6.5.1 The Council has entered into a number of Service Concession arrangements, formerly classed as Private Finance Initiatives and similar contracts across Schools, Waste Management and Highways Services to deliver improvements in infrastructure and future service delivery. As a result of the schemes, the Council has a future liability to the end of the contracts of £588.8m as at 31 March 2018.

6.5.2 Details of the arrangements and timings of future liabilities are set out in Note 43 to these financial statements.

6.6 Pension Liabilities

6.6.1 For the Local Government Pension Scheme there is currently a net pension liability that is reviewed periodically by the West Midlands Metropolitan Authorities Pension Fund Actuary. The Council's share of the total pension shortfall is £2,587.9m at 31 March 2018. Whilst the figure is substantial it should be noted that:

- It is not an immediate deficit that has to be met now. The sum is the current assessment taking a long term view of the future liabilities for existing pensioners and current employees who are accruing pension entitlement and of future expected investment performance;
- There is a 19 year recovery plan which has been built into the Council's financial plans;
- It is not unique to the Council as this is in common with the national position for pension funds. Details of the pension liability and assets are set out in Notes 20 and 21 to these financial statements.

Nevertheless, addressing the pension deficit represents a significant financial issue for the Council.

6.7 Provisions

Equal Pay

6.7.1 The Council has continued to receive equal pay claims up to the sign off of these financial statements and has, as a result, made provision in its accounts for these potential future liabilities. The Council has continued to negotiate with claimants' representatives and settle where it is recognised that a claim would be successful. These accounts include the expected costs of settlement for claims received up to 28

February 2018. The level of claims received after this date to the date of signing these accounts was not material.

Business Rates

- 6.7.2 As a result of the change introduced through the Local Government Finance Act 2012, local authorities assumed part of the liability for funding rate payers who successfully appeal against the rateable value of their properties on the rating list. This liability includes amounts that were collected in respect of both the current and prior years.
- 6.7.3 The Council, as Billing Authority, is required to make a provision for this liability. The financial statements include a provision to cover the Council's share of the estimated liability for the settlement of all appeals received up to 31 March 2018 but which remained unsettled. However, regulations permitted local authorities to spread an element of the impact over a period of 5 years up to 2017/18. From 1 April 2017, the Council has piloted a 100% Local Business Rates Retention scheme which has meant that its share of any provision outstanding relating to appeals is now 99% with the remaining 1% attributable to the Fire and Rescue Authority. The Council's current share includes its 49% share under the scheme prior to 1 April 2017 plus Central Government's 50% share.

NEC Pension Liability

- 6.7.4 On the disposal of the NEC Group on 1 May 2015, PETPS (Birmingham) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council, replaced the National Exhibition Centre Limited as principal employer of the defined benefit schemes, which assumed the ongoing funding obligations with the agreement of the pension trustees. At the same time, the Council provided guarantees to the Trustees of the Fund and the Scheme to meet the current and future funding obligations that may arise in respect of the liabilities.
- 6.7.5 In 2017/18, the Council set up an arrangement through PETPS (Birmingham) Capital Limited and PETPS (Birmingham) General Partner Limited that will enable the Council to spread the implications of the guarantee across the anticipated deficit recovery period.

Guarantees to Third Parties

- 6.7.6 The Council has provided guarantees to the West Midlands Pensions Fund in a number of cases where Council staff have transferred to external employers. These guarantees have been given in order that transferring staff can continue to access the Local Government Pension Scheme. The guarantees given cover changes in future service contribution rates or where there is a deficit on termination of a contract with an external provider.

6.8 Reserves

6.8.1 The Council maintains two types of reserves:

- Usable reserves – where the Council sets aside specific amounts for future policy purposes, to cover contingencies or where resources have been provided for specific purposes but have not yet been spent
- Unusable reserves, which are not available to support the provision of services and include:
 - Unrealised gains and losses, particularly in relation to changes in valuation of non-current assets;
 - Adjustment accounts that absorb the difference between the outcome of applying proper accounting practices and the requirements of statutory arrangements for funding expenditure.

6.8.2 Details of the reserves are set out below.

	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
Unearmarked Reserves	100.8	170.4
Earmarked Reserves	136.2	130.9
Grant Reserves	133.4	172.0
Ringfenced Reserves	86.2	69.2
Capital Reserves	373.5	427.4
Sub-total Usable Reserves	830.1	969.9
Unusable Reserves	(1,903.4)	(1,614.7)
Total Reserves	(1,073.3)	(644.8)

6.8.3 The increase in the level of usable reserves is mainly as a result of:

- The creation of the Financial Resilience Reserve following the changes to the Council's policy in respect of setting aside resources to repay debt through the Minimum Revenue Provision;
- An increase in the level of grant reserves where resources are committed to meet future costs of activity; and
- An increase in the level of capital reserves where resources are committed to funding future capital projects

6.8.4 The Council's net liabilities at 31 March 2018 have reduced by £428.5m to £644.8m being represented by the usable and unusable reserves. Details of the reduction in net liabilities are set out in paragraph 6.8.2 above.

6.8.5 The Council has included financial assumptions for resourcing these liabilities in its long term financial plan, Council Plan and Budget 2018+.

7 Future Revenue and Capital Expenditure Plans

- 7.1 The Council Plan and Budget 2018+ was set in the context of pressures on services arising from demographic changes and increasing and changing needs whilst facing reducing resources available to fund service provision and investment in assets as a result of the continuing reductions in grant funding as part of the government's policy of reducing public expenditure. The Council has historically been more dependent on government grants than many local authorities because of the higher levels of need in the City and because of the comparatively low tax base which constrains what can be raised locally through Council Tax.
- 7.2 The Council has recognised the need for the effective management of savings programmes and has implemented a clear process for decision-making and monitoring delivery. There is active engagement by both Members and senior officers, including monthly meetings co-chaired by the Deputy Leader and Chief Executive as well as formal revenue budget monitoring reports considered by Cabinet.
- 7.3 The Council's key capital priorities are addressed through the four-year capital programme, totalling £1,250m in the Council Plan and Budget 2018+. The Council continues to pursue major initiatives taking advantage of the availability of external capital resources, with the programme including £390m of Government grants and other external contributions. The programme also incorporates borrowing proposals set out in the approved Enterprise Zone Investment Plan, the cost of which will be supported from projected Business Rates growth in the Enterprise Zone area.
- 7.4 The Council agreed to forego its Revenue Support Grant from 1 March 2017 in exchange for retaining 99% of Business Rates (the remaining 1% will continue to be passed to the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority) as part of a 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot across the seven West Midlands District Authorities. The top up grant that the Council receives has also been reduced in order to ensure fiscal neutrality in terms of the Local Government Finance Settlement. The Government has confirmed that the 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot will continue in 2018/19 in its current form. There are opportunities to enhance/expand the arrangement in future years if all parties are in favour.
- 7.5 Full details of the 2018/19 Revenue and Capital Budgets can be found within the Council Plan and Budget 2018+ approved by Council on 27 February 2018, via the Council's website.

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In Birmingham City Council this is the Corporate Director, Finance & Governance who also has the role of Section 151 officer;
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Section 151 Officer's Responsibilities

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* (the Code). In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
- made judgments and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code.

The Section 151 Officer has also:

- kept proper accounting records which are up to date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Certification of Accounts

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Birmingham City Council as at 31 March 2018 and of its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2018.

.....
Clive Heaphy, Corporate Director, Finance & Governance
31 May 2018

CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2017/18

This Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the change in Directorate structure. Details of the restatement are set out in Note 8.

2016/17						2017/18					
Gross Expenditure		Gross Income	Net Expenditure			Gross Expenditure		Gross Income	Net Expenditure		
£m		£m	£m	Note		£m		£m	£m		
529.9	(203.4)	326.5	Continuing Operations			554.9	(207.4)	347.5			
1,065.6	(843.1)	222.5	Adult Social Care & Health			1,111.4	(800.9)	310.5			
214.4	(78.5)	135.9	Children and Young People			264.1	(86.6)	177.5			
150.9	(83.6)	67.3	Place			149.2	(89.6)	59.6			
621.9	(585.9)	36.0	Economy			640.5	(587.2)	53.3			
29.0	(8.1)	20.9	Strategic Services			5.8	(7.6)	(1.8)			
23.0	(6.1)	16.9	Finance & Governance			34.5	(64.5)	(30.0)			
270.3	(289.8)	(19.5)	Centrally Managed	H3		146.4	(286.7)	(140.3)			
2,905.0	(2,098.5)	806.5	Housing Revenue Account			2,906.8	(2,130.5)	776.3			
212.5	-	212.5	Total Cost Of Services			75.5	-	75.5			
283.0	(56.6)	226.4	Other Operating Expenditure	10		284.2	(52.3)	231.9			
6.0	(1,123.4)	(1,117.4)	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	11		1.8	(1,113.9)	(1,112.1)			
			Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	12							
		128.0	(Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services					(28.4)			
			Items that will not be reclassified to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services								
		(645.0)	(Surplus) / deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment assets	22, 23, 24				(247.8)			
		-	Impairment losses on non-current assets charged to the revaluation reserve	22, 23, 24				-			
		748.0	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability	21				(153.1)			
		103.0						(400.9)			
			Items that may be reclassified to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services								
		(0.3)	(Surplus) / deficit on revaluation of available for sale financial assets					0.8			
		(0.3)						0.8			
			Reclassification Adjustment for prior year unrealised gains/(losses)								
		-	Gain/(loss) adjustment on disposal of available for sale financial assets					-			
		-						-			
		102.7	Other Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure					(400.1)			
		230.7	Total Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure					(428.5)			

Movement in Reserves Statement

This Statement shows the movement in the year in the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (that is, those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the impairment of HRA assets that was allocated against General Fund Balances. Details of the prior period adjustment are set out in Note 8.

	General Fund Balance £m	Earmarked General Fund Reserves £m	General Fund Balance £m	Housing Revenue Account £m	Earmarked HRA Reserves £m	Capital Receipts £m	Major Repairs Reserve £m	Capital Grants Unapplied Account £m	Total Usable Reserves £m	Unusable Reserves £m	Total Council Reserves £m
Balance at 31 March 2016	110.9	389.3	500.2	4.6	-	312.1	5.8	73.0	895.7	(1,738.4)	(842.7)
Movement in Reserves during 2016/17											
Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	(92.8)		(92.8)	(35.2)	-				(128.0)		(128.0)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure									-	(102.6)	(102.6)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(92.8)	-	(92.8)	(35.2)	-	-	-	-	(128.0)	(102.6)	(230.6)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	5.5	-	5.5	35.3	-	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	62.5	(62.4)	0.1
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	(87.3)	-	(87.3)	0.1	-	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	(65.5)	(165.0)	(230.5)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves (Note 17)	77.2	(77.2)	-						-		-
Increase/(Decrease) in 2016/17	(10.1)	(77.2)	(87.3)	0.1	-	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	(65.5)	(165.0)	(230.5)
Balance at 31 March 2017	100.8	312.1	412.9	4.7	-	278.4	39.0	95.2	830.2	(1,903.4)	(1,073.2)
Movement in Reserves during 2017/18											
Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	(80.8)		(80.8)	109.1					28.3		28.3
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure									-	400.1	400.1
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(80.8)	-	(80.8)	109.1	-	-	-	-	28.3	400.1	428.4
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	177.0		177.0	(109.0)		42.0	(10.4)	11.8	111.4	(111.4)	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	96.2	-	96.2	0.1	-	42.0	(10.4)	11.8	139.7	288.7	428.4
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves (Note 17)	(26.6)	26.6	-						-		-
Increase/(Decrease) in 2017/18	69.6	26.6	96.2	0.1	-	42.0	(10.4)	11.8	139.7	288.7	428.4
Balance at 31 March 2018	170.4	338.7	509.1	4.8	-	320.4	28.6	107.0	969.9	(1,614.7)	(644.8)

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council.

31 March 2017		Note	31 March 2018
£m			£m
5,336.3	Property, Plant and Equipment	22	5,622.8
251.5	Heritage Assets	23	251.6
9.8	Investment Property		11.3
19.7	Intangible Assets	24	13.7
33.5	Long Term Investments	25	41.7
92.9	Long Term Debtors	26	126.2
5,743.7	Total Long Term Assets		6,067.3
33.6	Short Term Investments	27	88.6
6.6	Assets Held for Sale	28	0.9
1.2	Inventories		1.3
276.1	Short Term Debtors	29	329.4
45.4	Cash and Cash Equivalents	30	39.6
362.9	Total Current Assets		459.8
(13.5)	Cash and Cash Equivalents	30	(35.4)
(513.6)	Short Term Borrowing	34	(799.8)
(363.5)	Short Term Creditors	31	(333.7)
(172.9)	Short Term Provisions	32	(188.1)
(1,063.5)	Total Current Liabilities		(1,357.0)
-	Long Term Creditors		(1.5)
(30.0)	Long Term Provisions	32	(23.5)
	Liabilities in Disposal Groups		
(2,730.9)	Long Term Borrowing	34	(2,740.0)
(484.8)	Other Long Term Liabilities	39	(462.0)
	Donated Assets Account		
	Grant Receipts in Advance - Revenue		
	Grant Receipts in Advance - Capital		
(2,870.7)	Net liability on defined benefit pension scheme	21	(2,587.9)
(6,116.4)	Total Long Term Liabilities		(5,814.9)
(1,073.3)	Net Assets/(Liabilities)		(644.8)
	Usable Reserves	18	
100.8	Unearmarked Reserves		170.4
136.2	Earmarked Reserves		130.9
133.4	Grant Reserves		172.0
86.2	Ringfenced Reserves		69.2
373.5	Capital Reserves		427.4
830.1	Total Usable Reserves		969.9
(1,903.4)	Unusable Reserves	19	(1,614.7)
(1,073.3)	Total Reserves		(644.8)

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period.

2016/17 £m		Note	2017/18 £m
(128.0)	Net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services		28.4
382.1	Adjustments to net Surplus/Deficit on the provision of services for non cash movements	38	14.2
(230.2)	Adjustments for items included in the net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	38	(224.2)
23.9	Net cash flows from Operating Activities		(181.6)
(163.7)	Investing Activities	36	(182.8)
139.8	Financing Activities	37	336.7
0.0	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(27.7)
31.9	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		31.9
31.9	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	30	4.2

Note 1**Accounting Policies****i. General Principles**

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2017/18 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2018. The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, requires the Council to prepare an annual statement of accounts in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (the Code) supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting convention adopted in the statement of accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categorised non-current assets and financial instruments. Historical cost is deemed to be the carrying amount of an asset as at 1 April 2007 (that is, brought forward from 31 March 2007) or at the date of acquisition, whichever date is the later, and if applicable is adjusted for subsequent depreciation or impairment.

ii. Accruals of Income and Expenditure

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

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council;
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can reliably measure the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council;
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet, for example, fuel and transport parts;
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made;
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract;
- When income and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

The Council has based its general accruals on the difference between the forecast revenue outturn for the year and the actual income/expenditure recorded by 31 March. Specific accruals are included for material items and for items relating to:

- Statutory accounts, for example, the Collection Fund, Precepts;
- Grants received by the Council that are conditional on expenditure within the year.

This is intended to improve the efficiency of the final accounts process in order that earlier closedown deadlines can be achieved.

iii. Fair Value Measurement

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

iv. Exceptional Items

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Council's financial performance.

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

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively,

that is, in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

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

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

vi. Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable During Employment

Short Term Benefits

Short term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include benefits such as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits, for example cars for current employees, and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of annual leave entitlements (or any other form of leave, for example time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end, which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that leave benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the leave of absence occurs.

Other Long Term Benefits

Other long term employee benefits are benefits, other than post-employment and termination benefits, that are not expected to be settled in full before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period for which employees have rendered the related service. Within local authorities the value of these benefits are not expected to be significant. Such long term benefits may include:

- Long term paid absence or sabbatical leave;
- Long term disability benefits;
- Bonuses;
- Deferred remuneration.

Long term benefits would be accounted for on a similar basis to post-employment benefits.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate Directorate at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards.

In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pension Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-Employment Benefits

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

- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by the West Midlands Pension Fund offices at Wolverhampton City Council;
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education;
- The NHS Pensions Scheme, administered by NHS Pensions.

Each scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned during employment with the Council.

The arrangements for the Teachers' Pension Scheme and the NHS Pensions Scheme mean liabilities for these benefits cannot ordinarily be identified specifically to the Council. These schemes are, therefore, accounted for as if they were defined contribution schemes and no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet. Within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the People Directorate line is charged with the employer's contributions payable to the Teachers' Pension Scheme and NHS Pensions Scheme in the year.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

- The liabilities of the West Midlands Local Government Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – that is, an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of earnings for current employees;
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 2.55% based on the indicative rate of return on AA rated corporate bond yields;
- The assets of the West Midlands Local Government Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
 - quoted securities – current bid price;
 - unquoted securities – professional estimate;
 - unlisted securities – current bid price;
 - property – market value.
- The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following elements:

Service cost comprising:

- current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the Directorates for which the employees worked;
- past service cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect related to years of service earned in earlier years – allocated to Directorates in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset), that is the net interest expense for the Council – the change during the reporting period in the net defined benefit liability/(asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability/(asset) at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability/(asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

Re-measurements comprising:

- the return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset) – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
- actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

Contributions paid to the West Midlands Local Government Pension Fund – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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

Discretionary Benefits

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

vii. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but which does not result in the creation of a non-current asset, has been charged as expenditure to the relevant Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer through the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

viii. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Directorates and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service;
- Revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off;
- Amortisation of intangible non-current assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance. An adjustment is, therefore, made to remove depreciation, amortisation and revaluation and impairment losses from the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account through Note 16, Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations, and the Movement in Reserves Statement and to replace them by the statutory contribution from the General Fund or Housing Revenue Account Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account.

ix. Government Grants and Contributions

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

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

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

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions are unlikely to be satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. Where conditions are satisfied or expected to be satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant Directorate (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non-ring

fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

x. Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to Directorates in accordance with the Council's arrangements for accountability and performance.

xi. Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (for example, repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price;
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

The Council capitalises borrowing costs incurred whilst material assets are under construction. Material assets are considered to be those where total planned (multi-year) borrowing for a single asset (including land and building components) exceeds £20m, and where there is a 'substantial period of time' from the first capital expenditure financed from borrowing until the asset is ready to be brought into use. A substantial period of time is considered to mean in excess of two years. Both of these tests will be determined using estimated figures at the time of preparing the accounts in the first year of capitalisation. Should either test fail in subsequent financial years, the prior year's treatment will not be adjusted retrospectively.

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

Since 1 April 2010 all additions and all material assets revalued (over £5m) are accounted for on a component basis. As components are added, any component being replaced is derecognised. On derecognising components where the component is within a non separated component bundle, the depreciation is apportioned on a straight line basis and derecognised accordingly. In addition, where the historical cost of the old component is not readily determinable, it has been estimated by comparing the remaining useful economic life of the component to the original useful economic life and the cost of the replacement component. A pro rata of both the depreciation and any applicable Revaluation Reserve is also derecognised.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. The Council has not reviewed the deeds of all of its land and property to determine the categorisation of these assets.

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

- infrastructure assets, vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment (excluding Tyseley Energy Recovery Facility) – depreciated historical cost;
- community assets and assets under construction – historical cost;
- dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH);
- where cleared land has been designated for social housing use, that land is valued using the basis of EUV-SH;
- all other assets – current value, determined as the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the Balance Sheet date.

Where a material asset within Property, Plant and Equipment contains major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the asset and which has a useful life that is significantly different from that of the asset, the components are evaluated separately.

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

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a Directorate.

Where decreases in value are identified, the accounting treatment is:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance;
- where there is insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down firstly against the Revaluation Reserve and the remaining amount against the relevant Directorate line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Impairment

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

Where impairment losses are identified, the accounting treatment is:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance;
- where there is insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down firstly against the Revaluation Reserve and the remaining amount against the relevant Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Useful Life

The Council estimates that assets, at new, have remaining useful lives within the parameters as detailed below:

- Council Dwellings – separated into the key components
 - Land – indefinite life;
 - Kitchens – 20 years;
 - Bathrooms – 40 years;
 - Doors/Windows/Rainwater, Soffits and Facias – 35 years;
 - Central Heating/Boilers – 15 to 30 years;
 - Roofs – 25 to 60 years;
 - Remaining components (Host) – 30 to 60 years;
- Buildings – up to 50 years;
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment – up to 50 years;
- Infrastructure – up to 40 years.

The useful life of each asset is reviewed annually by the Directorate user through their service review and as part of the Council's five year cycle of revaluation by an appropriately qualified valuer.

Where a school is proposing to transfer to Academy School Trust status after the year end, the Council maintains the useful life of the school's assets on the basis of the last valuation undertaken.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic straight line allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Assets without a determinable finite useful life, and assets that are not yet available for use, are not depreciated. Depreciation is charged in the year of disposal. Depreciation is not charged in the year of purchase.

Components, where identified, are depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives.

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

Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and carrying value less the cost of sale. Where there is a subsequent decrease to carrying value less the cost of sale, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in current value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

Where assets are no longer used by a Directorate, these assets are offered to other Directorates for use. Those assets which are surplus are made available for sale and will be classified as Assets Held for Sale.

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

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet and the gain or loss on disposal is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account. Gains and losses on disposal of assets are not a charge against Council Tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Amounts, in excess of £10,000, received from a disposal are categorised as capital receipts. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals (for 2017/18, 75% of the receipt net of statutory deductions and allowances) is payable to the Government. The balance of receipts

is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance through the Movement in Reserves Statement. The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against Council Tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing.

xii. Heritage Assets

Heritage assets are assets that have historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geographical or environmental qualities that are held in trust for future generations because of their cultural, environmental or historical associations and contribution to knowledge and culture. They include museums' and libraries' heritage collections, historic buildings and the historical environment, public works of art and civic regalia and plate.

Where assets of a heritage nature are used in the ongoing delivery of the Council's services, such as historically interesting buildings and parks and open space, they have not been categorised as heritage assets but remain as other land and buildings or as community assets within Property, Plant and Equipment.

Where historical cost information is available, the Council has used this when compiling the balance sheet; otherwise insurance valuations have been used, where applicable. Where there is evidence of a movement in valuation as a result of material acquisitions or disposals, or a significant movement in comparable market values, a revaluation will be considered. In some cases, reliable valuation information is not available due to a lack of comparable market data and the diverse nature of the individual items, and where the historical cost information cannot be obtained, the asset has been excluded from the balance sheet.

The Council is the custodian of a number of scheduled monuments, including burial mounds and archaeological remains, and owns a significant number of public art works, including statues, sculpture and fountains. With some minor exceptions, historical cost information is not available; for the majority, there is no insurance valuation available and the Council does not consider that reliable information can be obtained at a cost that is commensurate with the benefits to users of the financial statements. Consequently the Council does not recognise these assets in the balance sheet.

The Council considers that heritage assets will have indeterminate lives and a high residual value; and therefore does not consider it appropriate to charge depreciation on the assets. Any impairment or disposal of heritage assets is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's relevant policies (see section xi. Property, Plant and Equipment in this note).

xiii. Intangible Assets

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

Expenditure on the development of websites is not capitalised if the website is solely or primarily intended to promote or advertise the Council's goods or services.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion and they are,

therefore, carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised on a straight line basis over its useful life to the relevant Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to Other Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

xiv. Investment Properties

Investment properties are those that are held by the Council solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. An asset does not meet the definition of being an investment property if it is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services, for the production of goods or is held for sale.

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

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to Financing Investment Income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and result in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains/losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements on the General Fund Balance and are therefore reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and, for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000, to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

Whilst discharging its role the Council works to ensure that the stewardship of all property assets is such that they are managed in a way that is economic, efficient and effective. The Council has a site that meets the definition of 'Investment Properties'.

The Council has a number of lease arrangements with subsidiary companies that are not treated as investment properties in line with IAS 40, Investment Property.

xv. Service Concession Arrangements

Service concession arrangements (formerly classed as PFI and similar contracts) are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the contractor. As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under the arrangement, and as ownership of the property, plant and equipment will pass to the Council at the end of the

contracts for no additional charge, the Council carries the assets used under the contracts on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The original recognition of these assets at fair value (based on the cost to purchase the property, plant and equipment) is balanced by the recognition of a liability for amounts due to the scheme operator to pay for the capital investment. The Council includes the cost of establishing Special Purpose Vehicles in the calculation of the liabilities.

Non-current assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as property, plant and equipment owned by the Council.

The amounts payable to the contractor each year are analysed into five elements:

- Fair value of the services procured during the year – debited to the relevant Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- Finance cost – an interest charge on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- Contingent rent – inflationary increases in the amount to be paid for the property arising during the contract, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- Payment towards liability – applied to write down the Balance Sheet liability towards the contractor;
- Lifecycle replacement costs – usually recognised as an addition to Property, Plant and Equipment when the relevant works are carried out in line with the operator's model spending profiles.

xvi. Leases

Leases are classified as either finance or operating leases at the inception of the lease. Classification as a finance lease occurs where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to the ownership of the asset from lessor to lessee and where the lease term is for the major part of the economic life of the asset in question, whether or not title is eventually transferred. Those leases not classified as finance leases are deemed to be operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

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

The Council as Lessee

Finance Leases

Property, plant or equipment held under a finance lease is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by

a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Initial direct costs of the Council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premia paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment – applied to write down the lease liability; and
- A finance charge – debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

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

Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the Directorate benefiting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments.

The Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to Other Operating Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain/loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Council's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain/loss on disposal, matched by a lease (long term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- A charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor; and
- Finance income - credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on disposal is not permitted by statute to impact the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve through the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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

Operating Leases

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments. Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

xvii. Interests in Companies and Other Entities

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

xviii. Accounting for Schools

Local authority maintained schools, in line with relevant accounting standards and the Code, are considered to be separate entities with the balance of control lying with the Council. As such the Council should consolidate the activities of schools into its group accounts. However, the Code requires that the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of maintained schools be accounted for in local authority entity accounts rather than requiring the preparation of group accounts.

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

- Community schools;
- Voluntary Controlled schools;
- Voluntary Aided schools;
- Foundation schools.

Given the nature of the control of the entities and the control of the service potential from the non-current assets of the maintained schools, the Council has recognised buildings and other non-current assets on its balance sheet. The Council has recognised all land for Community Schools on its balance sheet and recognised that land for Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation Schools where it can be demonstrated that the Council

has control over the land through restrictive covenants within site deeds or where there is reasonable evidence that restrictive covenants are in place.

Academies and Free Schools are not considered to be controlled by the Council and are not consolidated into the entity or group accounts.

xix. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

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

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

However, the Birmingham City Council 2030 bonds, issued in exchange for NEC loan stock in 2005, were issued at a fair value in excess of the principal repayable. Interest is being charged on an amortised cost accounting basis, which writes the value down to zero at maturity.

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

Where premia and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund balance to be spread over future years. The Council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was repayable or discount received when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net charge required against the General Fund balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into two types:

- Loans and receivables – assets that have fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market;
- Available-for-sale assets – assets that have a quoted market price and/or do not have fixed or determinable payments.

Loans and Receivables

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

However, the Council has made a number of loans to third parties at less than market rates (soft loans). When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, charged to the appropriate Directorate, for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lowered amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the third parties, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to/from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made, the asset is written down and a charge made to the relevant Directorate, for receivables specific to that Directorate, or the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the revised future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate.

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

Available-for-Sale Assets

Available-for-Sale assets are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at cost. Where a fair value of those assets that do not form part of the Group Accounts can be determined, the carrying value of the asset is adjusted to the fair value.

Where a fair value cannot be measured reliably, the asset is carried at cost less any impairment losses. Where the asset has fixed or determinable payments, annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest receivable are based on the amortised cost of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. Where there are no fixed or determinable payments, income is credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when it becomes receivable by the Council.

Where it is possible to determine a fair value of an asset, they are based on:

- Instruments with quoted market prices – the market price;
- Other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis;
- Equity shares with no quoted market price – appraisal of company valuations.

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

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

Changes in fair value are balanced by an entry in the Available-for-Sale Reserve and the gain/loss is recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on Revaluation of Available-for-Sale Financial Assets. The exception is where impairment losses have been incurred – these are debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any net gain/loss for the asset accumulated in the Available-for-Sale Reserve.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of a likelihood arising from a past event that payments due under the contract will not be made (fixed or determinable payments) or fair value falls below cost, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If the asset has fixed or determinable payments, the impairment loss is measured as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of the revised future cash flows discounted at the asset's original effective interest rate. Otherwise the impairment loss is measured as any shortfall of fair value against the acquisition cost of the instrument (net of any principal repayment and amortisation).

Any gains/losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited/debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, along with any accumulated gains/losses previously recognised in the Available-for-Sale Reserve.

Instruments Entered Into Before 1 April 2006

The Council entered into a number of financial guarantees that are not required to be accounted for as financial instruments. These guarantees are reflected in the Statement of Accounts to the extent that provisions might be required or a contingent liability note is needed under the policies set out in section xxi. on Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets.

xx. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash Equivalents are represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions, which must be repayable immediately without penalty. Any deposits with financial institutions that may be repaid after the immediate day are considered to be investments, not cash equivalents.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand, where there are pooling arrangements across the accounts with the same institution, and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

xxi. Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets**Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For example, the Council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate Directorate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the balance sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties. Provisions are not discounted to their value at current prices unless material.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant Directorate.

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

Provision for Back Pay Arising from Equal Pay Claims

The Council has made a provision for the costs of back pay arising from claims made under the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended by the Equal Pay Act (Amendment) Regulations 2003. The Council bases the estimate of its provision on the expected costs of settlement for claims received up to the point of production of its financial statements.

The Council has received capitalisation directions to support an element of the provision made. However, statutory arrangements allow settlements to be financed from the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account in the year that the payments actually take place, not when the provision is established. The additional provision made above the capitalisation directions given is, therefore, balanced by an Equal Pay Back Pay Account created from amounts credited to the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances in the year that the provision was made or modified. The balance on the Equal Pay Back Pay Account will be debited back to the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account balances through the Movement in Reserves Statement in future financial years as payments are made.

Contingent Liabilities

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

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in Note 33 to the accounts.

Contingent Assets

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

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in Note 33 to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

xxii. Reserves

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

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

Contributions from developers, paid under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, are shown on the Balance Sheet as either Grant Reserves or Capital Grants Unapplied. Where these monies are invested externally, the sums invested are shown under short term investments.

xxiii. Council Tax and Business Rates

Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and Business Rates. The Collection Fund's key features relevant to the accounting for Council Tax and Business Rates in the core financial statements are:

- In its capacity as a Billing Authority the Council acts as an agent, collecting and distributing Council Tax on behalf of the major preceptors and as principal for itself;
- While the Council Tax and Business Rates income for the year credited to the Collection Fund is the accrued income for the year, regulations determine when it

should be released from the Collection Fund and transferred to the Council's General Fund, or paid out from the Collection Fund to the major preceptors. The amount credited to the General Fund under statute is the Council's demand on the Fund for that year, plus/(less) the Council's share of any surplus/(deficit) on the Collection Fund for the previous year. This amount may be more or less than the accrued income for the year in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Council Tax and Business Rates income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement. In addition, that part of Business Rates retained as the cost of collection allowance under regulation is treated as the Council's income and appears in the Comprehensive and Income Expenditure Statement as are any costs added to Business Rates in respect of recovery action.

Balance Sheet

Since the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates are in substance agency arrangements, any year end balances relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayment and prepayments are apportioned between the major preceptors and the Council by the creation of a debtor/creditor relationship. Similarly, the cash collected by the Council belongs proportionately to itself and the major preceptors. There will, therefore, be a debtor/creditor position between the Council and the major preceptors since the cash paid to the latter in the year will not be equal to their share of the total cash collected. If the net cash paid to the major preceptors in the year is more than their proportionate share of the cash collected the Council will recognise a debit adjustment for the amount overpaid. Conversely, if the cash paid to the major preceptors in the year is less than their proportionate share of the amount collected then the Council will recognise a credit adjustment for the amount underpaid.

Cash Flow Statement

The Council's Cash Flow Statement includes in 'Operating Activities' cash flows only its own share of the Council Tax and Business Rates collected during the year, and the amount included for precepts paid excludes amounts paid to the major preceptors. In addition that part of Business Rates retained as the cost of collection allowance under regulation appears in the Council's Cash Flow Statement. The difference between the major preceptors' share of the cash collected and that paid to them as precepts and settlement of the previous year's surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund, is included as a net increase/decrease in cash and cash equivalents.

xxiv. Business Improvement Districts

In accordance with the provisions of the Business Improvement District Regulations (England) 2004 a ballot of local businesses within specific areas of the City has resulted in the creation of distinct Business Improvement Districts. Business ratepayers in these areas pay a levy in addition to the Business Rate to fund a range of specified additional services which are provided by specific companies set up for the purpose.

In line with Code guidance the Council has determined that it acts as agent to the Business Improvement District authorities and therefore neither the proceeds of the levy nor the payment to the Business Improvement District Company are shown in the Council's accounts.

xxv. Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council has elected to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The levy will be charged on new builds with appropriate planning consent. The Council charges for and collects the levy, which is a planning charge. The income from the levy will be used to fund infrastructure projects to support the development of the City.

CIL is received without outstanding conditions; it is, therefore, recognised at the commencement date of the chargeable development in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in accordance with section ix. Government Grants and Contributions of this note. CIL charges will be largely used to fund capital expenditure although an element may be used to support infrastructure maintenance and a small proportion of the charges may be used to fund the costs of administration associated with the CIL.

xxvi. Events After the Reporting Period

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those material events, both favourable and adverse, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

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

Events taking place after the date of Audit Committee adoption of the accounts are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

xxvii. Joint Operations and Jointly Controlled Assets

Joint operations are activities undertaken by the Council in conjunction with other ventures that involve the use of the assets and resources of the venturers rather than the establishment of a separate entity. The Council recognises on its Balance Sheet the assets it controls and the liabilities it incurs, and debits and credits the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with the expenditure it incurs and the share of income it earns from the activity of the operation.

Jointly controlled assets are items of property, plant or equipment that are jointly controlled by the Council and other venturers, with the assets being used to obtain benefits for the venturers. The joint venture does not involve the establishment of a separate entity. The Council accounts for only its share of the jointly controlled assets, the liabilities and the expenses that it incurs on its own behalf or jointly with others in respect of its interest in the joint venture and income that it earns from the venture.

xxviii. Council Acting as Agent

The Council does not include transactions that relate to its role in acting as an agent on behalf of other bodies. In such cases the Council is acting as an intermediary and does not have exposure to significant risks and rewards from the activities being undertaken.

xxix. Value Added Tax

Value Added Tax payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. Value Added Tax receivable is excluded from income.

xxx. Foreign Currency Translation

Where the Council has entered into a transaction denominated in a foreign currency, the transaction is converted into sterling at the exchange rate applicable on the date the transaction was effected. Where amounts in foreign currency are outstanding at the year-end, they are reconverted at the spot exchange rate at 31 March. Resulting gains or losses are recognised in the Financing Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

xxxi. Acquired Operations

Acquired operations are identified separately in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of transfer. In subsequent years, the acquired services are included in the relevant Directorate in continuing operations for comparative purposes.

Where non-current assets are transferred as part of an acquired operation at less than fair value, historical cost is deemed to be the fair value at the date of acquisition with the financial support recognised as a contribution and included in the Capital Adjustment Account.

Note 2**Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

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

Going Concern

Local Authorities are required by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2017/18 to prepare their accounts on the going concern basis, that is that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, as it can only be discontinued as a result of statutory prescription.

The Council continues to face financial challenges as a result of the ongoing reduction in central government support and the need to fund budget pressures, including those arising from equal pay claims. The Council has developed its medium to long term financial strategy, detailed in the Council Plan and Budget 2018+, and is meeting these budget challenges by developing multi-year savings plans and by funding investment to deliver these through the generation of capital receipts. The Council has successfully delivered significant savings plans previously and has appropriate contingency plans in place to provide protection against any timing differences in the generation of capital receipts or any shortfall in the delivery of savings plans. As such the Council has identified that it has general fund balances and can redesignate earmarked reserves to meet the shortfall or it can delay the timing of its Minimum Revenue Provision contributions and equal pay settlements. On this basis, the Council considers that it can continue to meet its liabilities as they fall due, supporting the preparation of the financial statements on a going concern basis irrespective of the statutory requirements.

Schools

The Council has assessed the legal framework underlying each type of school and determined the treatment of non-current assets within the financial statements on the basis of whether it owns or has some responsibility for, control over or benefit from the service potential of the premises and land occupied. The Council has considered its accounting arrangements for each school, on a case by case basis, under the terms of:

- IAS 16, Property, Plant and Equipment
- IAS 17, Leases
- IFRIC 4, Determining Whether an Arrangement Contains a Lease; and
- LAAP Bulletin 101, Accounting for Non-Current Assets Used by Local Authority Maintained Schools

The Council has determined that, within its Balance Sheet, for:

- Community Schools - all land and buildings should be recognised;
- Voluntary Controlled, Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools - all buildings should be recognised and that land should be recognised where the Council can demonstrate that it has control over the asset through restrictive covenants within site deeds or there is reasonable evidence that restrictive covenants are in place;
- Academy Schools - no non-current assets should be recognised as they maintain their own financial records.

Local authority maintained schools, as independent entities, have responsibility for the management of their own resources. However, as their transactions are consolidated into the Council's financial statements, the Council has reviewed their activity to ensure consistency of accounting treatment. The Council has identified activity incurred as revenue

expenditure by local authority maintained schools, which under the Council's policies would be considered to be capital expenditure. The Council has, therefore, treated expenditure which it can reasonably identify as being capital in nature as capital expenditure financed from revenue, which is then depreciated over an average useful economic life. Where it is not clear whether expenditure incurred relates specifically to capital, it has been left as revenue expenditure.

Whilst the Council is required to report the transactions of local authority maintained schools within its entity financial statements, it has not included details of employees of Voluntary Aided and Foundation Trust schools in Note 45, Officers' Remuneration, as they are employed by the relevant governing body.

The table below shows the number and type of schools within Birmingham at 31 March 2018.

Type of School	Primary	Secondary	Nursery	Special	Pupil Referral Unit	Total
Community	119	11	27	18	1	176
Voluntary Controlled	6	-	-	-	-	6
Voluntary Aided	55	8	-	-	-	63
Foundation Trust	8	5	-	3	-	16
Academy (formerly Council school)	110	50	-	6	-	166
Academy (not formerly Council school)	2	11	-	-	-	13
Total	300	85	27	27	1	440

Where a school proposes to transfer to Academy Status, the Council will continue to retain any asset subject to transfer on the basis of its last revaluation, which maintains both the asset value and the anticipated useful life until the date of transfer. The Council has taken the view that any asset transferring will continue, on the basis of the permitted use within the lease agreements, to be used for the provision of education services, thus supporting the Council's statutory obligation for the provision of education. On transfer to an Academy, assets are derecognised in the Council's financial statements for nil consideration.

Pension Guarantees

The Council has, over a number of years, changed its way of operating from being a direct provider of services to one where it purchases a number of services from third parties. As part of this change in service delivery model, the Council has transferred staff from the Council to the external provider under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE). The Council has agreed that staff transferring to an external provider should continue to have the right to access equivalent pension benefits to that provided whilst employed by the Council. To ensure the smooth transfer of staff, the Council has provided guarantees for contribution rates and pension deficits in respect of continuing pension provision.

In determining a deficit on pension funds there are two different models used, namely:

- The funding basis, where post-employment benefit obligations are discounted to a present value based on the anticipated return from pension fund assets, or
- The accounting basis, where post-employment benefit obligations are discounted to a present value based on the basis of market yields for high quality corporate bonds as required by International Accounting Standard 19, Employee Benefits (IAS19).

In the event of a guarantee being called in respect of a pension deficit, the actual amount that the Council would have to meet would be determined using the funding basis. The Council has therefore assessed any provision for future pension deficit liabilities on this basis. Details of provisions are set out in Note 32 of these Financial Statements.

Specialist Assets

The Council includes the value of assets on the Balance Sheet in line with its accounting policy set out in section xi. of Note 1. However, the Council has a number of assets that it considers to be specialist assets for which an Existing Use Value, defined as the estimated amount for which a property should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction, cannot be determined. This is because the assets are considered to be specialist in nature or are rarely sold. In such circumstances, the Code allows the use of Depreciated Replacement Cost as the basis of valuation.

Leases

Leases are categorised between operating and finance leases according to management judgement on the basis of relevant accounting standards, with the premise that long term land leases, typically greater than 110 years, and long term building leases, typically greater than 50 years, are accounted for on the basis of finance leases.

The Better Care Fund

The Better Care Fund was announced in June 2013 with the intention to drive the transformation of local services and was to be operated through pooled budget arrangements between the Council and local Clinical Commissioning Groups. Specific resources were earmarked for the Better Care Fund by NHS England in its allocation to Clinical Commissioning Groups. The remainder of the fund was made up of the Social Care Capital Grant and the Disabled Facilities Grant which were paid to local authorities.

In accounting for the pooled resources, in agreement with the Clinical Commissioning Groups:

- Activity where funding was received and expended under the control of Clinical Commissioning Groups has been accounted for in their accounts
- Activity where funding was received and expended under the control of the Council has been accounted for in its accounts
- Activity where funding was under joint control has been accounted for on the basis of the share for each organisation.

Further details on the Better Care Fund are provided in Note 48, Related Parties.

The Council acting as Agent

The Council acts as agent for a range of funding resources. In its role as agent, transactions relating to agency activity are not included in the Council's financial statements. Two of the largest schemes where the Council acts as agent are:

- Growing Places Fund
- Regional Growth Fund - Advanced Manufacturing Supply Chain Initiative

These resources are under the control of the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership with decisions taken by impartial and independent Investment Boards and Committees. All governance processes are overseen by the Council.

Whilst the Council has received the funding, it is on the basis of an Accountable Body to ensure that resources are spent in compliance with the grant offer letters. Decisions in

respect of the use of funds are not in the hands of the Council. The Council can only obtain use of the resources as a recipient of the normal resource allocation process.

Given the basis of control, the Council has determined that it acts as agent rather than principal for these resources which are, therefore, not included in the Council's financial statements.

Details of the Council's role as agent for external resources are included in Note 49 to these financial statements.

Sale of the NEC

As part of the arrangements involved in the sale of the NEC Group on 1 May 2015, the Council has continued to guarantee the £73m National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc loan stock and has recognised the liability in its balance sheet. The Council has determined that Regulation 30(D) of The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended to 1 April 2016 does not apply.

Note 3

Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued But Have Not Yet Been Adopted

Impact of the adoption of new standards on the 2017/18 financial statements.

The Council is required to disclose information relating to the impact of the accounting change on the financial statements as a result of the adoption by the Code of a new or amended standard that has been issued, but is not required to be adopted by the Council for the 2017/18 accounting period. For these financial statements the relevant standards are detailed:

- IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments
- IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers including amendments to IFRS 15 *Clarifications to IFRS 15 Revenue Contracts with Customers*
- Amendments to IAS 12 *Income Taxes*: Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Assets
- Amendments to IAS 7 *Statement of Cash Flows*: Disclosure Initiative

IFRS 9 – Financial Instruments

This standard was issued in 2014 and is effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Council will adopt the standard for the financial year beginning 1 April 2018.

This is the new accounting standard replacing IAS39 Financial Instruments Recognition and Measurement. It relates to investments, borrowing, receivables and payables. There are two potential impacts:-

- Potential losses on investments and debtors must be charged to revenue in case actual losses are incurred in the future, the largest impact being on loans and receivables to high risk debtors where a provision is not already in place;
- Changes to the treatment of unrealised gains and losses on certain investments, where movements in market value must now be charged to revenue.

The Code has adopted transitional reporting requirements such that on implementation the preceding year will not be restated.

This standard is not anticipated to have a material impact on the Council's Statement of Accounts.

IFRS 15 – Revenue from Contracts with Customers

This standard was issued in May 2014 and is effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Council will adopt the standard for the financial year beginning 1 April 2018.

This standard specifies how and when an entity will recognise revenue as well as the requirement to provide users of financial statements with more informative, relevant disclosures.

The Code has adopted transitional reporting requirements such that on implementation the preceding year will not be restated.

This standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Council's Statement of Accounts.

Amendments to IAS 12 Income Taxes: Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses

The amended standard was issued in January 2016. The Council will adopt the standard for the financial year beginning 1 April 2018 in line with the Code requirements.

This standard sets out the accounting treatment for income taxes, including all domestic and foreign taxes which are based on taxable profits and those payable by a subsidiary, associate or joint venture on distributions to the reporting entity.

This standard is not expected to have a material impact on the Council's Statement of Accounts.

Amendments to IAS 7 Statement of Cash Flows: Disclosure Initiative

The amended standard was issued in January 2016. The Council will adopt the standard for the financial year beginning 1 April 2018 in line with the Code requirements.

This standard establishes requirements for cash flow reporting via the presentation of information about the historical changes in cash and cash equivalents of an entity by means of a statement of cash flows, which classifies cash flows during the period according to operating, investing, and financing activities.

This standard relates to presentation of the Cash Flow Statement and will not materially impact on the 2018/19 Financial Statements.

Note 4**Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

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

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2018 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property, Plant and Equipment Valuations	<p>Valuations are undertaken on the basis of a five year rolling programme, which is supplemented by annual reviews to reflect significant changes in market values. HRA assets are subject to a full revaluation every five years, following MHCLG guidance, with a desktop review in the intervening years.</p> <p>The valuation of specialist assets using Depreciated Replacement Cost includes the use of building cost factors. For those assets not valued in year, updated building factors have been applied to estimate carrying values at 31 March.</p>	For those assets not valued this year, an increase of 1% in the average valuation of assets that have not been amended for a variation in building indices would have the effect of increasing the carrying value of these assets by £5.8m, with a corresponding increase in the level of unusable reserves.
Heritage Asset Valuations (Museum's and Libraries' Archive Collections)	In the absence of recent transactions in a number of assets held in the Museum's and Libraries' Collections, the Council has used the associated insurance valuations as the most reasonable measure of value of the assets.	If the value of the assets were to vary from the insurance valuations by 1%, this would change the carrying value of Heritage Assets on the Balance Sheet by £2.5m with a corresponding adjustment in the unusable reserves.
Financial Instruments	Interest rate risk - the Council is exposed to significant risk in relation to interest rate movements on its borrowing and investments.	An analysis of the impact if interest rates were 1% higher, with all other variables held constant, is set out in Note 40.
Long term obligations under, for example, PFI schemes	For service concessions, the fair value of the long term obligations has been based on financial models, including future assumptions on inflation and interest rates.	The financial models assume an inflation rate of 2.5% If the annual inflation rate was to increase to 3.5% each year of the contracts, this would result in an increase in running costs of £30.3m in 2018/19, and a further £351.3m over the remaining lives of the contracts.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Equal Pay	The Council has included a provision of £151.8m for the settlement of claims for back pay arising from the Equal Pay initiative. The Council has based its estimate on the number of claims received and on historical information on settlement of similar claims and on the current negotiations with claimants' representatives.	An increase of 1% in the average level of settlement would have the effect of increasing the provision required by £1.5m.
Business Rate Appeals	An estimate of the impact of Business Rate appeals has been based on the number of claims lodged and the experience of levels of success in settlement of those claims.	An increase of 1% in the average level of settlement would have the effect of £4.0m on the provision set aside.
Defined Benefit Pension Liability	The estimate for the Local Government Pension Scheme has been based on the latest actuarial valuation and transaction information from 2017/18.	A number of factors can impact on the valuation of the scheme liability. A sensitivity analysis of the factors is set out in more detail in Note 21 of these financial statements.

Note 5**Events After the Reporting Period**

The draft Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Corporate Director, Finance & Governance and Section 151 Officer on 31 May 2018. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2018, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

Chief Executive

Dawn Baxendale, the Council's new Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service took up her post on 1 April 2018. Dawn replaced Stella Manzie CBE who had been Interim Chief Executive from 5 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.

Local Elections

Council elections were held on 3 May 2018 which, for the first time, were on the basis of all 101 seats being contested with councillors serving a four year term until May 2022. Previously, council elections were on the basis of a third of council seats being contested three years in four. The political composition of the Council is set out below.

Party	Pre May 2018 Election	Post May 2018 Election
Labour	79	67
Conservative	29	25
Liberal Democrat	10	8
Independent	1	-
Green	-	1
Vacant Seat	1	-
Total Councillors	120	101

Transfer of Academy Schools

Academy Schools are not accounted for within the Council's financial statements. Where a school transfers to Academy status, it is deemed to be disposed of within the financial statements for nil consideration. Between 1 April 2018 and 31 May 2018, no schools have transferred to Academy School Trust status. To date six schools, with assets having a net book value of £56.2m have confirmed their proposals to transfer to Academy School Trust status.

Transfer of Council Services

On 1 April 2018, Birmingham Children's Trust became responsible for the delivery of children's care services previously delivered by the Council. The Trust, a company limited by guarantee with the Council as sole member, was created on 9 May 2017. Cabinet, in July 2017, approved the details for the transfer of services to the Trust, which included the transfer of some 1,800 staff from the Council to the Trust. The governance of the Trust has

been confirmed with the appointments of Andrew Christie (Chair), Andy Couldrick (Chief Executive) and six Non-Executive Directors.

Children's Services have been operating as a Shadow Trust within the Council to ensure a smooth transfer to the new model of operation in 2018/19.

The contract for the first year of the Trust is £201m.

Future Resource Allocations

The Council faces reducing Government grants, reducing capital receipts and lower income from services. These pose challenges to the financial resilience of the Council. In this context, the Council Plan and Budget 2018+ sets out medium to long-term strategies for business changes and the management and development of its services. A key focus of business planning has been the achievement of the Council's priority outcomes through the adoption of a core set of corporate principles to inform service and organisational redesign where appropriate. The Council is planning to meet its anticipated expenditure reductions through a number of activities, including potential staff redundancies in 2018/19.

Sale of Innovation Birmingham

Innovation Birmingham (IBL) Group is a group of companies that aims to promote, encourage, and secure the development and management of a science park in Birmingham. IBL comprises Innovation Birmingham Limited, a company limited by guarantee with the Council as sole member, and several subsidiary companies.

At its meeting on 14 February 2017, Cabinet gave approval for the invitation of expressions of interest for either a majority stake or whole of IBL Group which would enable it to enter the next stage of development. Cabinet, on 6 March 2018 agreed the form of disposal of IBL assets which was completed on 18 April 2018.

Other Events

There were no other significant events after the reporting period.

Note 6

Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how the Council allocates expenditure for decision making purposes between the Council's Directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the change in Directorate structure.

	Net Expenditure Reported to Cabinet	Adjustment to arrive at the Net Amount Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances (Note 7)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis (Note 7)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
2016/17 (Restated)	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	353.5	(27.5)	326.0	0.5	326.5
Children & Young People Place	181.1	0.4	181.5	41.0	222.5
Economy	160.2	(48.8)	111.4	24.5	135.9
Strategic Services	68.7	(64.1)	4.6	62.7	67.3
Finance & Governance	29.2	7.3	36.5	(0.5)	36.0
Centrally Managed	21.4	(2.9)	18.5	2.4	20.9
Housing Revenue Account	21.2	221.4	242.6	(225.7)	16.9
	-	(51.4)	(51.4)	31.9	(19.5)
Net Cost of Services	835.3	34.4	869.7	(63.2)	806.5
Other Income and Expenditure	(835.3)	52.9	(782.4)	103.9	(678.5)
(Surplus)/Deficit	-	87.3	87.3	40.7	128.0
Opening General Fund and HRA Balance			504.9		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year			(87.3)		
Closing General Fund and HRA Balance			417.6		

	Net Expenditure Reported to Cabinet	Adjustment to arrive at the Net Amount Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances (Note 7)	Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis (Note 7)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
2017/18	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	351.1	(12.3)	338.8	8.7	347.5
Children & Young People Place	213.4	23.9	237.3	73.2	310.5
Economy	157.9	(7.7)	150.2	27.3	177.5
Strategic Services	70.6	(49.1)	21.5	38.1	59.6
Finance & Governance	32.8	14.0	46.8	6.5	53.3
Centrally Managed	23.9	(28.9)	(5.0)	3.2	(1.8)
Housing Revenue Account	(27.9)	(2.0)	(29.9)	(0.1)	(30.0)
	-	(27.4)	(27.4)	(112.9)	(140.3)
Net Cost of Services	821.8	(89.5)	732.3	44.0	776.3
Other Income and Expenditure	(821.8)	(6.8)	(828.6)	23.9	(804.7)
(Surplus)/Deficit	-	(96.3)	(96.3)	67.9	(28.4)
Opening General Fund and HRA Balance			417.6		
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year			96.3		
Closing General Fund and HRA Balance			513.9		

Note 7**Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis**

This analysis provides detail of the main adjustments from the Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA balances to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the change in Directorate structure.

2016/17 (Restated)	Depreciation reported at Directorate Level	Reserve Appropriation	Other Adjustments (Note (a))	Total to arrive at amount charged to the General Fund and HRA	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustment	Other Adjustments (Note (b))	Total Adjustment Between Funding and Accounting Basis
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	(7.3)	9.1	(84.0)	(82.2)	6.1	(5.4)	(0.2)	0.5
Children & Young People	(77.3)	13.8	118.5	55.0	54.7	(17.9)	4.2	41.0
Place	(44.0)	(5.7)	0.9	(48.8)	25.2	(5.6)	4.9	24.5
Economy	(97.9)	(18.4)	56.8	(59.5)	63.6	(1.4)	0.5	62.7
Strategic Services	(4.3)	6.1	(64.8)	(63.0)	2.9	(3.4)	-	(0.5)
Finance & Governance	(4.7)	1.9	65.7	62.9	3.4	(1.3)	0.3	2.4
Centrally Managed	360.4	81.6	(220.6)	221.4	(22.7)	(0.1)	(202.9)	(225.7)
Housing Revenue Account	(124.9)	(1.1)	74.6	(51.4)	158.6	(1.9)	(124.8)	31.9
Net Cost of Services	-	87.3	(52.9)	34.4	291.8	(37.0)	(318.0)	(63.2)
Other Income and Expenditure			52.9	52.9	88.6	72.0	(56.7)	103.9
(Surplus)/Deficit	-	87.3	-	87.3	380.4	35.0	(374.7)	40.7

2017/18	Depreciation reported at Directorate Level	Reserve Appropriation	Other Adjustments (Note (a))	Total to arrive at amount charged to the General Fund and HRA	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustment	Other Adjustments (Note (b))	Total Adjustment Between Funding and Accounting Basis
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Adult Social Care & Health	(2.7)	(13.3)	3.7	(12.3)	3.0	6.1	(0.4)	8.7
Children & Young People	(41.9)	4.5	61.3	23.9	55.6	20.4	(2.8)	73.2
Place	(16.4)	3.8	4.9	(7.7)	20.5	6.8	-	27.3
Economy	(25.8)	(23.4)	0.1	(49.1)	37.6	2.0	(1.5)	38.1
Strategic Services	(1.4)	2.4	13.0	14.0	2.0	4.6	(0.1)	6.5
Finance & Governance	(2.4)	5.8	(32.3)	(28.9)	1.2	1.7	0.3	3.2
Centrally Managed	91.1	(73.9)	(19.2)	(2.0)	13.2	0.8	(14.1)	(0.1)
Housing Revenue Account	(0.5)	(2.2)	(24.7)	(27.4)	33.2	2.3	(148.4)	(112.9)
Net Cost of Services	-	(96.3)	6.8	(89.5)	166.3	44.7	(167.0)	44.0
Other Income and Expenditure			(6.8)	(6.8)	14.9	73.9	(64.9)	23.9
(Surplus)/Deficit	-	(96.3)	-	(96.3)	181.2	118.6	(231.9)	67.9

Notes

- (a) – includes levies, PFI grants and interest receipts and payments that are reported as part of Outturn but not included in Net Cost of Services within the CIES
- (b) – includes employee benefits accruals, the difference between amounts charged to the CIES for equal pay claims and the cost of settlements chargeable in year in accordance with statutory requirements; timing differences between what is chargeable under statutory regulation for Council Tax and Business Rates that were forecast to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practice.

Note 8**Prior Period Restatement of Service Expenditure and Income**

The Council realigned its reporting structure in 2017/18. The impairment of assets within the HRA was incorrectly allocated against Place Directorate in 2016/17. The allocation had no impact on either General Fund or HRA balances as the impact of the impairment is reversed out under statutory requirements through the Movement in Reserves Statement. The implications of the realignment on the CIES are detailed below.

Directorate Reporting 2016/17	(Restated) As Reported in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/17 £m	Adjustments in Internal Directorate Reporting Classifications between years £m	As Restated in 2016/17 £m	New Directorate Reporting 2016/17
Net Expenditure				
<u>Continuing Operations</u>				
People	548.9	(222.4)	326.5	Adult Social Care & Health
	-	222.5	222.5	Children & Young People
Place	213.0	(77.1)	135.9	Place
Economy	71.9	(4.6)	67.3	Economy
Corporate Resources	52.4	(16.4)	36.0	Strategic Services
	-	20.9	20.9	Finance & Governance
Corporately Managed	16.9	-	16.9	Centrally Managed
Housing Revenue Account	(96.6)	77.1	(19.5)	Housing Revenue Account
Net Cost of Services	806.5	-	806.5	
Gross Expenditure				
<u>Continuing Operations</u>				
People	1,595.4	(1,065.5)	529.9	Adult Social Care & Health
		1,065.6	1,065.6	Children & Young People
Place	291.5	(77.1)	214.4	Place
Economy	117.9	33.0	150.9	Economy
Corporate Resources	684.0	(62.1)	621.9	Strategic Services
		29.0	29.0	Finance & Governance
Corporately Managed	23.0	-	23.0	Centrally Managed
Housing Revenue Account	193.2	77.1	270.3	Housing Revenue Account
Gross Cost of Services	2,905.0	-	2,905.0	
Gross Income				
<u>Continuing Operations</u>				
People	(1,046.5)	843.1	(203.4)	Adult Social Care & Health
		(843.1)	(843.1)	Children & Young People
Place	(78.5)	-	(78.5)	Place
Economy	(46.0)	(37.6)	(83.6)	Economy
Corporate Resources	(631.6)	45.7	(585.9)	Strategic Services
		(8.1)	(8.1)	Finance & Governance
Corporately Managed	(6.1)	-	(6.1)	Centrally Managed
Housing Revenue Account	(289.8)	-	(289.8)	Housing Revenue Account
Gross Income of Services	(2,098.5)	-	(2,098.5)	

Note 9**Expenditure and Funding Analysis by Nature of Activity**

This analysis provides detail of the expenditure and income of the Council on a subjective basis.

2016/17		2017/18
£m	Expenditure	£m
938.0	Employee Benefits Expenses	1,071.1
1,779.3	Other Service Expenses	1,762.6
229.7	Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	108.3
253.3	Interest Payments	253.1
51.1	Precepts and Levies	52.9
6.3	Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	6.3
148.8	Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	14.0
3,406.5	Total Expenditure	3,268.3
	Income	
(613.7)	Fees, Charges and Other Services Income	(634.6)
(508.1)	Income from Council Tax and Business Rates	(737.4)
(2,133.1)	Government Grants and Contributions	(1,905.7)
(23.6)	Interest and Investment Income	(19.0)
(3,278.5)	Total Income	(3,296.7)
128.0	(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(28.4)

Note 10**Other Operating Expenditure**

Other Operating Expenditure disclosed in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is detailed below.

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
1.9	Parish Council Precepts	1.9
6.3	Enterprise Zone Growth Payment	2.4
49.0	Integrated Transport Authority Levy	47.7
0.3	Environment Agency Levy	0.3
-	Apprenticeship Levy	3.0
6.3	Payments re: Housing Capital Receipt Pool	6.3
148.7	(Gains)/Losses on the Disposal of non-current assets	13.9
212.5	Total	75.5

The Gain/Loss on the disposal of non-current assets recognises the difference between the payment for the sale of a non-current asset and the carrying value of that asset within the accounts, which may not be the same as the market value or the historical cost of that asset.

Note 11**Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure**

Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure disclosed in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is detailed below.

2016/17			2017/18		
Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m	Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m
181.3	-	181.3	179.2	-	179.2
71.9	-	71.9	73.9	-	73.9
-	(12.0)	(12.0)	-	(12.9)	(12.9)
-	-	-	-	(1.6)	(1.6)
29.8	(33.0)	(3.2)	31.1	(31.7)	(0.6)
-	(11.6)	(11.6)	-	(6.1)	(6.1)
283.0	(56.6)	226.4	284.2	(52.3)	231.9
Total			Total		

Note 12**Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure**

Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure disclosed in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement comprises the following:

2016/17			2017/18		
Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m	Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m
-	(289.8)	(289.8)	-	(310.4)	(310.4)
-	(212.1)	(212.1)	-	(401.7)	(401.7)
-	(3.6)	(3.6)	-	(2.0)	(2.0)
6.0	(2.6)	3.4	1.7	(23.3)	(21.6)
-	(491.0)	(491.0)	-	(281.0)	(281.0)
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	(124.3)	(124.3)	-	(95.5)	(95.5)
-	-	-	0.1	-	0.1
6.0	(1,123.4)	(1,117.4)	1.8	(1,113.9)	(1,112.1)
Total			Total		

Further information on grant income received is provided in Note 14.

Note 13 Trading Operations

Trading operations are those activities where the service manager is required to operate in a commercial environment and balance their budget by generating income from other parts of the Council or other organisations.

The internal trading expenditure and income is incorporated within the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. External trading income and expenditure is identified in Note 11, Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure. Details of units with significant trading activity are as follows.

2016/17			Trading activity	2017/18		
Turnover £m	Expenditure £m	(Surplus) / Deficit £m		Turnover £m	Expenditure £m	(Surplus) / Deficit £m
(42.6)	38.6	(4.0)	Cityserve (Direct Services)	(41.0)	40.3	(0.7)
(10.9)	8.9	(2.0)	Trade Refuse	(10.3)	9.1	(1.2)
(6.5)	6.3	(0.2)	Birmingham Parks and Nurseries	(6.0)	6.3	0.3
(0.7)	0.9	0.2	Pest Control	(0.6)	1.1	0.5
(2.8)	3.5	0.7	Procurement	(2.6)	3.7	1.1
(3.8)	3.2	(0.6)	Schools' Human Resources	(3.6)	3.8	0.2
(1.9)	1.9	-	Central Payroll	(1.9)	2.1	0.2
(3.1)	3.0	(0.1)	Other Trading Activities	(3.5)	3.3	(0.2)
(72.3)	66.3	(6.0)		(69.5)	69.7	0.2
			Allocation of Surplus/Deficit on Trading Operations			
(39.3)	36.5	(2.8)	- consolidated in CIES	(37.8)	38.6	0.8
(33.0)	29.8	(3.2)	- consolidated in Note 11, Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	(31.7)	31.1	(0.6)
(72.3)	66.3	(6.0)		(69.5)	69.7	0.2

Details of Trading Activities

Cityserve

During 2017/18, Cityserve provided facilities management services to primary, secondary and special schools, plus community day nurseries and children's centres. The core services provided are Education Catering, Cleaning and a Mobile Building Services Supervisor (Mobile BSS) Caretaking Service.

Education Catering provides a range of services which support the nutritional wellbeing of students whilst meeting the governments mandatory Nutritional Standards for School Food compliance. Due to the diverse nature of the pupil base across the city, the provision for each school is tailored to meet the individual needs of the school and pupil.

Cleaning services are provided in all types of education establishments including primary, secondary, nursery schools and children's centres. The main aim of the service is to provide a safe and healthy environment for the pupils, children and staff by achieving and maintaining high standards of cleaning in all establishments.

The Mobile BSS Caretaking Service provides a range of caretaking and janitorial duties that supports schools and establishments on sickness, holiday and vacancy cover.

Trade Refuse

Trade Refuse offers a competitive waste management service to businesses and provides Containers and Skips, Prepaid Sacks, Hire of Equipment and Special Collections.

Birmingham Parks and Nurseries

Birmingham Parks and Nurseries is responsible for the maintenance of all of the Council's parks and open spaces, as well as the floral displays that have helped to promote the City over the years. In addition, it looks after all of the 'green' maintenance of Council estates, highway verges, traffic islands, schools, residential care homes, cemeteries and crematoria, playing fields, allotments and children's outdoor playgrounds.

Pest Control

The Pest Control service provides treatment to commercial and domestic properties for rats, mice, insect control including wasps, fleas and ants and control of squirrels and pigeons. Rat pest control services are free for domestic users.

Procurement Services

In addition to providing the Council's in house procurement service, schools may choose to subscribe to utilise the procurement service and are charged for work undertaken.

Schools' Human Resources

Schools have a choice to make in deciding who will support them with a Human Resources function. The Schools' Human Resources team has won competitive contracts to provide a range of schools with this function.

Payroll Services

In addition to providing the Council's payroll service, SLAs or contracts are in place to provide payroll & pensions services to schools, academies and other external bodies.

Other

Other trading activities include Shelforce and Schools' Management. Shelforce is part of the Council's employment support services to registered disabled people and through the direct employment of registered disabled people in the manufacture of PVCu windows and doors.

Note 14

Grant Income

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

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
	Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	
226.6	Revenue Support Grant	-
127.1	Business Rates Top Up Grant	125.3
21.8	New Homes Bonus Grant	15.0
18.2	Schools PFI Grant	18.2
50.3	Highways Management and Maintenance PFI Grant	50.3
4.7	Troubled Families Grant	5.1
5.9	Housing Benefit Administration Grant	5.3
3.8	Discretionary Housing Payment	5.3
12.0	Education Services Grant	3.0
6.6	Small Business Rate Relief Grant	24.6
4.8	Business Rates S31 Grant	6.3
3.8	Children's Trust Grant	3.8
-	Adult Social Care Support Grant	5.6
5.4	Other	13.2
491.0	Revenue Grants credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	281.0
	Credited to Cost of Services	
10.5	Adult Education (Skills Funding Agency)	10.5
544.8	Housing Benefit Subsidy	533.7
681.1	Dedicated Schools Grant	657.2
16.7	Education Funding Agency	13.6
54.1	Pupil Premium Grant	48.0
3.1	Illegal Money Lending	3.6
10.3	Universal Infants Free School Meals Grant	9.6
11.1	NHS Clinical Commissioning Group contributions	9.7
95.6	Public Health Grant	93.2
33.8	Improved Better Care Fund	69.1
4.5	Independent Living Fund Grant	4.3
3.2	Youth Promise	10.2
39.9	Grants and contributions of less than £3m	51.9
1,508.7	Total Revenue Grants Credited to Cost of Services	1,514.6
1,999.7	Total Revenue Grants	1,795.6

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
	Capital Grants	
67.5	Education Funding Agency	42.3
-	Lottery	3.2
2.5	Department of Health - Better Care Fund	4.7
5.2	Integrated Transport Block	4.9
8.1	Kickstart	-
	Homes & Communities Agency - New Build	
0.3	Programme	4.8
7.8	Department for Transport	18.2
0.9	Homes & Communities Agency	-
2.2	Growing Places	-
13.1	Local Growth Fund	10.9
11.7	Skills Funding Agency	-
5.0	Other Grants and Contributions	6.5
124.3	Capital Grants credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income	95.5
	Capital Grants funding Revenue Expenditure Under Statute credited to Cost of Services	
1.0	Education Funding Agency	-
6.3	Department of Health - Better Care Fund	6.0
0.3	Urban Broadband Grant	-
0.9	European Regional Development Fund	4.0
0.6	Other Grants and Contributions	4.6
9.1	Total Capital Grants funding Revenue Expenditure Under Statute	14.6
133.4	Total Capital Grants Received	110.1

All Capital Grants received are either non-conditional or the conditions have been met, therefore there are no entries to the Capital Grants Receipts in Advance Account for 2017/18. The Capital Grants received have been credited to the Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income line on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement except where the grant is used to finance Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS) where the grant is credited to the service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Note 15**Dedicated Schools Grant**

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Education Funding Agency (EFA) through the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). An element of DSG is recouped by the EFA to fund academy schools in Birmingham. DSG is ringfenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget, as defined in the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2017. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on a Council wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2017/18 are as follows:

	Central Expenditure £m	Individual Schools Budget £m	Total £m
Final DSG for 2017/18 before academy recoupment	114.9	1,026.2	1,141.1
Academy figure recouped for 2017/18	-	(483.1)	(483.1)
Total DSG after academy recoupment for 2017/18	114.9	543.1	658.0
Brought forward from 2016/17	(7.8)	-	(7.8)
Less: Carry forward to 2018/19 agreed in advance	-	-	-
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2017/18	107.1	543.1	650.2
In-year adjustments	0.4	(1.2)	(0.8)
Final budgeted distribution for 2017/18	107.5	541.9	649.4
Less: Actual Central Expenditure	(119.0)	-	(119.0)
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools	-	(541.9)	(541.9)
Plus: Council contribution for 2017/18	-	-	-
Carry forward to 2018/19	(11.5)	-	(11.5)

The year end net deficit of £11.5m is composed of two elements:

- A deficit of £13.8m on the High Needs Block which reflects the demographic impact of increased numbers of placements with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities requiring high cost provision. This has been compounded by increases in the costs of provision particularly where the placements are in the independent sector. The service is looking to implement savings and efficiencies in 2018/19 and future years in order to address the deficit and forecast pressures
- A surplus of £2.3m on the Schools Block composed primarily of lower than anticipated commitments against prescribed centrally managed DSG budgets, specifically the pupil growth fund and falling pupils fund.

Note 16**Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations**

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

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

General Fund Balance

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

Housing Revenue Account Balance

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

Major Repairs Reserve

The Council is required to maintain the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR), which controls an element of the capital resources limited to being used on capital expenditure on HRA assets or the financing of historical capital expenditure by the HRA. The balance on the reserve shows the resources that have yet to be applied at the year-end.

Capital Receipts Reserve

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

Capital Grants Unapplied

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

2017/18

2017/18	General Fund Balance £m	Housing Revenue Account £m	Capital Receipts Reserve £m	Major Repairs Reserve £m	Capital Grants Unapplied £m
Adjustments to Revenue Resources					
Adjustments by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:					
Pension costs (transferred to/from the Pensions Reserve)	112.4	6.2	-	-	-
Financial Instruments (transferred to/from the Financial Instrument Adjustments Account)	16.7	-	-	-	-
Council Tax and Business Rates (transfers to/from the Collection Fund)	(28.6)	-	-	-	-
Holiday Pay (transferred to/from the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(0.5)	-	-	-	-
Equal pay settlements (transferred to/from the Unequal Pay Backpay Account)	7.5	(0.9)	-	-	-
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	147.8	33.3	-	-	62.2
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	255.3	38.6	-	-	62.2
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources					
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(71.9)	(59.0)	123.1	-	-
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	1.7	-	(1.7)	-	-
Contribution to the costs of Equal Pay (funded by the Capital Receipts Reserve)	19.0	-	(19.0)	-	-
Reclassification of grants originally treated as capital grants	2.4	-	-	-	(2.4)
Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	6.3	-	(6.3)	-	-
Posting of HRA resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	-	(50.3)	-	50.3	-
Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(29.2)	(37.9)	-	-	-
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(6.8)	(0.3)	-	-	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	(78.5)	(147.5)	96.1	50.3	(2.4)
Adjustments to Capital Resources					
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	(49.2)	-	-
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to repay debt	-	-	(10.3)	-	-
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	(60.7)	-
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	(47.9)
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	5.1	-	-
Other	-	-	0.5	-	(0.1)
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	-	-	(53.9)	(60.7)	(48.0)
Total Adjustments	176.8	(108.9)	42.2	(10.4)	11.8

2016/17

Adjustments to Revenue Resources

Adjustments by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:

	General Fund Balance £m	Housing Revenue Account £m	Capital Receipts Reserve £m	Major Repairs Reserve £m	Capital Grants Unapplied £m
Pension costs (transferred to/from the Pensions Reserve)	34.1	0.9	-	-	-
Financial Instruments (transferred to/from the Financial Instrument Adjustments Account)	4.4	-	-	-	-
Council Tax and Business Rates (transfers to/from the Collection Fund)	(12.3)	-	-	-	-
Holiday Pay (transferred to/from the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	3.6	-	-	-	-
Equal pay settlements (transferred to/from the Unequal Pay Backpay Account)	(144.5)	(9.9)	-	-	-
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	221.6	158.6	-	-	69.1
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	106.9	149.6	-	-	69.1

Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources

Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve

	(62.5)	(36.1)	88.5	-	-
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	0.6	-	(0.6)	-	-
Contribution to the costs of Equal Pay (funded by the Capital Receipts Reserve)	83.9	-	(83.9)	-	-
Reclassification of grants originally treated as capital grants	2.1	-	-	-	(2.1)
Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	6.3	-	(6.3)	-	-
Posting of HRA resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	-	(47.5)	-	47.5	-
Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(130.4)	(2.9)	-	-	-
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(1.5)	(27.8)	-	-	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	(101.5)	(114.3)	(2.3)	47.5	(2.1)

Adjustments to Capital Resources

Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	(32.0)	-	-
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to repay debt	-	-	(0.3)	-	-
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	(14.3)	-
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	(44.8)
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	0.5	-	-
Other	-	-	0.3	-	-
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	-	-	(31.5)	(14.3)	(44.8)

Total Adjustments

5.4	35.3	(33.8)	33.2	22.2
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Note 17**Transfers To/(From) Earmarked Reserves**

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund Balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2017/18.

	Balance at 1 April 2016	Transfers Out 2016/17	Transfers In 2016/17	Balance at 31 March 2017	Transfers Out 2017/18	Transfers In 2017/18	Balance at 31 March 2018
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Earmarked Reserves	187.8	(117.4)	65.8	136.2	(65.2)	59.9	130.9
Grant Related Reserves	137.9	(47.1)	42.6	133.4	(37.0)	75.6	172.0
Schools' Reserves	63.6	(22.7)	1.6	42.5	(9.7)	3.0	35.8
General Fund Reserves	389.3	(187.2)	110.0	312.1	(111.9)	138.5	338.7

Further details of the usable balances available to the Council, including earmarked reserves, are shown in Note 18 of these financial statements.

Note 18**Usable Reserves**

Details of the major reserves held by the Council are set out below. Further information on the movements in reserves is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement and Note 16. Opening balances have been restated to aggregate reserves, this does not affect the overall value of reserves.

The Reserves have been split into the major categories of reserves:

- Unearmarked Reserves – Reserves that the Council can use for any purpose within the General Fund
- Earmarked Reserves – Reserves that the Council has set aside to meet specific future liabilities
- Grant Reserves – Reserves arising as a result of revenue grants received by the Council for specific projects that haven't been fully utilised by 31 March 2018 but will be used to offset expenditure incurred in subsequent years
- Ringfenced Reserves – Reserves that are required to be used for specific activities undertaken by the Council. These are mainly for schools or for the Housing Revenue Account and cannot be used to support general Council activity
- Capital Reserves – Reserves that have been set aside to finance capital schemes. These reserves cannot be used to support revenue expenditure without the consent of the Secretary of State.

Usable Reserves	(Restated) Balance at 31 March 2017 £m	Transfers Out 2017/18 £m	Transfers In 2017/18 £m	Balance at 31 March 2018 £m
Unearmarked Reserves				
General Fund Balances	28.9	-	-	28.9
Carry Forward Balance	2.1	(0.3)	-	1.8
Organisation Transition Reserve	69.8	(34.0)	5.7	41.5
Financial Resilience Reserve	-	-	98.2	98.2
Total Unearmarked Reserves	100.8	(34.3)	103.9	170.4
Earmarked Reserves				
Insurance Fund	13.7	(2.5)	-	11.2
Highways PFI	5.2	-	1.2	6.4
Sums set aside to finance Capital Expenditure	49.7	(28.0)	21.6	43.3
Treasury Management	1.8	-	-	1.8
Housing Benefit Subsidy	2.7	-	1.5	4.2
Cyclical Maintenance	6.0	-	2.5	8.5
Equipment Renewal	5.0	(0.2)	0.7	5.5
Support to the Budget	0.7	-	3.0	3.7
Management Capacity for Change	7.7	(5.9)	5.0	6.8
Troubled Families	3.5	-	0.2	3.7
Children's Trust	3.4	(3.3)	1.9	2.0
Business Rates	-	-	10.6	10.6
Other Earmarked Reserves	36.8	(25.3)	11.7	23.2
Total Reserves Earmarked by the Council	136.2	(65.2)	59.9	130.9
Revenue Grant Reserves				
Section 256 Grant from the NHS	5.1	(3.9)	-	1.2
Public Health	7.2	(4.4)	-	2.8
Better Care Fund	0.2	(0.4)	21.6	21.4
Highways PFI Grant	81.8	(18.3)	36.2	99.7
Section 106 Grants – General Fund	20.4	(3.7)	4.8	21.5
Non-Schools' DSG	1.3	(1.3)	2.3	2.3
Other Grant Reserves	17.4	(5.0)	10.7	23.1
Total Revenue Grant Reserves	133.4	(37.0)	75.6	172.0
Ringfenced Reserves				
Schools' Balances	42.5	(9.7)	3.0	35.8
Housing Revenue Account	4.7	-	0.1	4.8
HRA Major Repairs Reserve	39.0	(60.7)	50.3	28.6
Total Ringfenced Reserves	86.2	(70.4)	53.4	69.2

Usable Reserves	(Restated) Balance at 31 March 2017 £m	Transfers Out 2017/18 £m	Transfers In 2017/18 £m	Balance at 31 March 2018 £m
Capital Reserves				
Capital Receipts Reserve	278.3	(86.5)	128.6	320.4
Capital Grants Unapplied	95.2	(50.4)	62.2	107.0
Total Capital Reserves	373.5	(136.9)	190.8	427.4
Total Usable Reserves	830.1	(343.8)	483.6	969.9

Details of the major usable reserves are set out below.

Unearmarked Reserves comprising:

General Fund Balances and Carry Forward Balances- that reflect the accumulated surpluses of income over expenditure from previous years and any resources set aside as general contingency against adverse future events.

Organisation Transition Reserve (OTR) - to provide a contingency against delays in the implementation of savings, and to make funding available to assist in making changes to the way services are provided and in ways which will reduce costs in the long term.

Financial Resilience Reserve (FRR) – created in 2017/18 to provide contingency funding in case the Council faces financial difficulties in the future.

Earmarked Reserves comprising:

Insurance Fund – the Council is sufficiently large to be able to self-insure against all but the most catastrophic business risks. A budget is held to cover insurance losses in-year and the Insurance Fund exists to act as a buffer should losses exceed budgeted expectations in any given financial year. The fund increases in those years where losses incurred do not exceed the budget.

Highways PFI – has been earmarked to support the Highways PFI Business Model.

Sums set aside to finance Capital Expenditure – has arisen from revenue contributions set aside to fund budgeted capital expenditure, Equal Pay settlements and associated costs in line with the Council's Capital Financing and Equal Pay funding plans.

Treasury Management – has been earmarked to manage uneven treasury costs arising from, for example, debt rescheduling activity or borrowing earlier than planned to take advantage of lower interest rates.

Housing Benefit Subsidy – has been earmarked as a contingency reserve should there be any adjustments to funding arising from the audit of grant claims.

Cyclical Maintenance – has been earmarked to fund major maintenance work on the Council's assets including the Library of Birmingham.

Equipment Renewal – has been earmarked to fund equipment renewal for bus lane enforcement.

Support to the Budget – has been earmarked to support the budget in 2018/19.

Management Capacity for Change – the net underspend identified on central accounts has been set aside for future year contingencies.

Troubled Families – to support, the delivery of specified outcomes within the Troubled Families cohort within the next two years.

Children's Trust – Department for Education funding to support the development, set up and transition costs of Birmingham's Children's Trust.

Business Rates – An overall reserve for Business Rates related activities is required at 31 March 2018. This is required for the following reasons:

- A contingency in case there is a requirement to make a payment under the Council's "no detriment" agreement with the other West Midlands Business Rates Retention Pilot authorities.
- To address the timing difference between grant received and when the Council has assumed it will be required.

Other Earmarked Reserves – there are a large number of small value reserves which cover a wide range of services that have been set aside to support future years' service delivery. The reserves cover a wide range of areas and include, for example, resources earmarked for special educational needs reform, a local innovations fund, highways initiatives, subvention for major events, replacement IT systems and repairs and maintenance for specific service chargeable buildings.

Revenue Grant reserves comprising:

Grant Reserves – relate to the unused element of grant support for which the conditions of the grant are expected to be met or for which there are no conditions of grant. The reserves will be used to meet future years' expenditure for the service for which the grant was awarded.

Ringfenced reserves comprising:

Schools' Balances - are the net cumulative balances held by the local authority maintained schools which, under national school funding regulations, the schools are entitled to retain for unexpected commitments and/or for planned school curriculum/infrastructure improvements and investment. Within the total Schools' Balances there are 37 schools with deficit balances totalling £11.0m and a deficit balance on the Non-Schools Dedicated Schools Grant of £13.8m as a result of the impact of increasing numbers of pupils with Special Educational Needs.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) – the HRA is a statutory account, ringfenced from the rest of Council funds, so that rents charged to tenants in respect of dwellings cannot be subsidised from Council Tax. Similarly, rents collected from HRA tenants cannot be used to subsidise the General Fund. The balances on the HRA reflect the accumulated surpluses of income over expenditure.

HRA Major Repairs Reserve – the Council is required by The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 to maintain the Major Repairs Reserve. The reserve controls an element of the capital resources required to be used on HRA assets or for capital financing purposes.

Capital reserves comprising:

Capital Receipts Reserve – reflects the income received from the disposal of capital assets prior to being used to fund future capital expenditure or for the redemption of debt. Capital receipts cannot be used to fund revenue expenditure except where allowed by statute, for example to meet costs of Equal Pay.

Capital Grants Unapplied – reflect the unused element of capital grants or capital contributions awarded to the Council, for which the conditions of the grant support are expected to be met or for which there are no conditions. The reserve will be used to meet future years' capital expenditure.

Note 19

Unusable Reserves

The following table shows the value of reserve balances that have come about as a result of accounting adjustments and are not therefore available to spend.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
1,542.1	Revaluation Reserve	1,738.0
0.5	Available for Sale Financial Instruments Reserve	(0.3)
(411.9)	Capital Adjustment Account	(378.6)
(26.8)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(25.9)
(2,870.7)	Pensions Reserve	(2,836.1)
39.6	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	41.8
(10.6)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	18.0
(145.2)	Equal Pay Back Pay Account	(151.8)
(20.5)	Accumulated Absences Account	(19.9)
(1,903.4)	Total Unusable Reserves	(1,614.7)

Revaluation Reserve

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

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

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

2016/17		2017/18	
£m	£m	£m	£m
	977.1		1,542.1
	Balance at 1 April		
734.6	Upward revaluation of assets	682.2	
(89.6)	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services	(434.4)	
	Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services		247.8
(19.5)	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(19.0)	
(60.5)	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(32.9)	
	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account		(51.9)
	1,542.1		1,738.0
	Balance at 31 March		

Capital Adjustment Account

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

The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 16 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2016/17			2017/18	
£m	£m		£m	£m
	(290.7)	Balance at 1 April		(411.9)
		Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES):		
(214.7)		Charges for depreciation and impairment of non current assets	(86.7)	
(1.0)		Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	5.7	
(8.3)		Amortisation and impairment of intangible assets	(8.0)	
		Changes in the Fair Value of Investment Properties	1.6	
(5.4)		Impairment of Capital Debtors/Grants	(17.7)	
(43.0)		Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(60.1)	
(246.8)		Amounts of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/(loss) on disposal to the CIES	(143.1)	
	(519.2)			(308.3)
	80.0	Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve		51.9
	(439.2)	Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year		(256.4)
		Capital financing applied in the year:		
32.0		Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	49.2	
14.3		Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	60.7	
64.4		Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES that have been applied to capital financing	47.9	
44.8		Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	47.9	
0.3		Application of capital receipts to repay debt	10.3	
133.3		Provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	67.1	
29.3		Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	7.1	
	318.4			290.2
	-	Financing of capital grant repayment		0.1
	(0.4)	Repayment of long term debtors		(0.6)
	(411.9)	Balance at 31 March		(378.6)

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council uses this account to manage premia paid and discounts received on the early redemption of loans and the recognised losses on loans advanced at less than a commercial interest rate. These values are debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, these values are posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on Council Tax. For premia and discounts, this period is the unexpired term that was outstanding on the loans when they were redeemed.

2016/17		2017/18	
£m	£m	£m	£m
	(27.8)		(26.8)
	Balance at 1 April		
1.0	Proportion of premia incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	0.9	
	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		0.9
	(26.8)		(25.9)
	Balance at 31 March		

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

Generally the Pensions Reserve will match exactly the Pension Liabilities recorded on the Balance Sheet at the end of each year. However, the Council made an advance payment of £373.2m to cover its estimated contributions for the three-year period to 31 March 2020 but, as indicated above, the Council is only required to account for the amount payable in year. The difference of £248.2m between the Pensions Reserve and the Pension Liabilities at 31 March 2018 reflects the anticipated contributions in 2018/19 and 2019/20.

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
(2,087.7)	Balance at 1 April	(2,870.7)
(748.0)	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability	153.1
(149.7)	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(242.4)
114.7	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to retirees payable in the year	123.9
(2,870.7)	Balance at 31 March	(2,836.1)

Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve

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

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
30.0	Balance at 1 April	39.6
(0.1)	Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited to the General Fund under capital finance regulations	(0.5)
10.1	Transfer of deferred sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	7.8
(0.4)	Transfer to the Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	(5.1)
39.6	Balance at 31 March	41.8

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
(22.9)	Balance at 1 April	(10.6)
12.3	Amount by which Council Tax/Business Rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from Council Tax/Business Rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	28.6
(10.6)	Balance at 31 March	18.0

Available for Sale Financial Instruments Reserve

The Available for Sale Financial Instruments Reserve contains the changes in fair value recognised by the Council arising from changes in the value of its investments that have quoted market prices or otherwise do not have fixed or determinate payments.

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
0.2	Balance at 1 April	0.5
0.7	Upward revaluation of investments	-
(0.4)	Downward revaluation of investments not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(0.8)
0.5	Balance at 31 March	(0.3)

Equal Pay Back Pay Account

The Equal Pay Back Pay Account compensates for the differences between the rate at which the Council provides for the potential costs of back pay settlements in relation to Equal Pay cases and the ability under statutory provisions to defer the impact on the General Fund Balance until such time as cash might be paid out to claimants.

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
(299.6)	Balance at 1 April	(145.2)
59.9	(Increase)/reduction in provision for back pay in relation to Equal Pay cases	(26.6)
94.5	Cash settlements paid in the year	20.0
154.4	Amount by which amounts charged for Equal Pay claims to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from the cost of settlements chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(6.6)
(145.2)	Balance at 31 March	(151.8)

Accumulated Absences Account

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

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
(16.9)	Balance at 1 April	(20.5)
0.6	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	1.1
(4.2)	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(0.5)
(3.6)	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	0.6
(20.5)	Balance at 31 March	(19.9)

Note 20**Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes**Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme. The scheme is unfunded and the Department for Education uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. Valuations of the notional fund are undertaken every four years.

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

In 2017/18, the Council paid £35.0m (2016/17: £38.2m) to the Teachers' Pensions Scheme in respect of teachers' retirement benefits, representing 16.48% (2016/17 16.48%) of pensionable pay. The contributions due to be paid in the 2018/19 financial year are estimated to be £35.0m on the basis of employer contributions of 16.48%.

The Council is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and detailed in Note 21.

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

NHS Pension Scheme

Staff who joined the Council on 1 April 2014 upon the transfer of Public Health responsibilities from the National Health Service were members of the NHS Pension Scheme. The scheme provides its members with specified benefits upon their retirement and the Council has taken responsibility for making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The scheme is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme covering NHS employers, GP practices and other bodies allowed under the direction of the Secretary of State in England and Wales. The scheme is unfunded and is not designed to be run in a way that would enable member organisations to identify their share of the underlying assets and liabilities. Actuarial valuations of the scheme are undertaken every four years with a valuation of the scheme liability carried out on an annual basis by the scheme actuary through an update of the result of the full actuarial valuation. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, the scheme is accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2017/18, the Council paid £0.15m (2016/17: £0.2m) to the NHS Pensions Scheme in respect of employees' retirement benefits, representing 14.3% (2016/17: 14.3%) of pensionable pay. The contributions due to be paid in the 2018/19 financial year are estimated to be £0.15m on the basis of an employer contribution rate of 14.38%.

The Council is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the NHS pension scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and detailed in Note 21.

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

Note 21

Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

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

The Council participates in two post-employment schemes accounted for as defined benefit schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered locally by the West Midlands Pension Fund offices at Wolverhampton City Council – this is a funded defined benefit career average salary scheme for benefits accrued since 1 April 2014, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets. Benefits accrued to 31 March 2014 are based on final salary. An employer's future service contribution rate of 15.3% was set for the Council for 2017/18 (2016/17: 13.4%).
- Arrangements for the award of discretionary post-retirement benefits upon early retirement – this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pensions liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.

The pension scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the pensions committee of Wolverhampton City Council. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pensions Fund Regulations.

The principal risks to the Council of the scheme are:

- the longevity assumptions
- statutory changes to the scheme
- structural changes to the scheme (for example, large-scale withdrawals)
- changes to inflation
- bond yields, and
- the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme.

These risks are mitigated, to a certain extent, by the statutory requirements to charge to the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

Transactions relating to Post-employment benefits

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge the Council is required to make against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The table below shows the transactions that have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits Arrangements	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement				
Cost of Services:				
current service cost	97.6	154.6		
past service costs	-	-		
effect of curtailments	2.9	4.1		
effect of settlements	(24.5)	24.7		
administration expenses	1.7	1.7		
Financing and investment income and expenditure:				
Net interest expense	70.3	72.8	1.6	1.1
Total post-employment benefit charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the provision of services	148.0	257.9	1.6	1.1
Movement in Reserves Statement				
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus/Deficit on the provision of services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(39.7)	124.8	4.7	4.9
Net charge against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year comprising:				
employer's contributions payable to scheme	108.3	382.7		
retirement benefits payable to retirees			6.3	6.0

	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits Arrangements	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement				
Total post-employment benefit charged to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the provision of services	148.0	257.9	1.6	1.1
Other post-employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement				
remeasurements (liabilities and assets)	747.5	(162.2)	0.5	9.1
Total Post Employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	895.5	95.7	2.1	10.2

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Present Value of Liabilities					
- Local Government Pension Scheme	(4,649.9)	(5,548.6)	(5,284.8)	(6,863.0)	(6,919.7)
- Unfunded Teachers' Scheme	(67.9)	(69.3)	(68.5)	(64.2)	(68.5)
Total Present Value of Liabilities	(4,717.8)	(5,617.8)	(5,353.3)	(6,927.2)	(6,988.2)
Fair Value of Assets in the Local Government Pension Scheme	2,913.2	3,324.2	3,265.6	4,056.6	4,400.3
Surplus/(Deficit) in the scheme					
- Local Government Pension Scheme	(1,736.7)	(2,224.3)	(2,019.2)	(2,806.4)	(2,519.4)
- Unfunded Teachers' Scheme	(67.9)	(69.3)	(68.5)	(64.2)	(68.5)
Net Liability arising from defined benefit obligation	(1,804.6)	(2,293.6)	(2,087.7)	(2,870.7)	(2,587.9)

Pension Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans is as follows:

	Local Government Pension Scheme				Unfunded Teachers' Pension Scheme		Total	
	Funded		Unfunded					
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Benefit Obligation at 1 April	5,207.6	6,793.2	77.4	69.8	68.5	64.2	5,353.4	6,927.2
Current Service Cost	97.6	154.6					97.6	154.6
Interest on Pension Liabilities	184.7	189.3	2.7	1.8	1.6	1.1	189.0	192.2
Member Contributions	27.0	26.8					27.0	26.8
Past service cost/(gain)	-							
Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	1,461.3	(252.7)	(4.5)	(1.2)	0.5	9.1	1,457.3	(244.8)
Curtailments	2.9	4.1					2.9	4.1
Settlements	(18.3)	134.9					(18.3)	134.9
Benefits/Transfers paid	(169.6)	(195.4)	(5.7)	(5.5)	(6.4)	(5.9)	(181.7)	(206.8)
Benefit Obligation at 31 March	6,793.2	6,854.8	69.8	64.9	64.2	68.5	6,927.2	6,988.2

Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme Assets

	Local Government Pension Scheme				Unfunded Teachers' Pension Scheme		Total	
	Funded		Unfunded					
	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Fair Value of Assets at 1 April	3,265.6	4,056.6	-				3,265.6	4,056.6
Interest on Plan Assets	117.1	118.4	-				117.1	118.4
Remeasurements (assets)	709.3	(91.7)	-				709.3	(91.7)
Administration expenses	(1.7)	(1.8)	-				(1.7)	(1.8)
Settlements	6.2	110.1	-				6.2	110.1
Employer contributions	102.6	377.3	5.7	5.5	6.4	6.0	114.7	388.8
Member contributions	27.0	26.8	-				27.0	26.8
Benefits/transfers paid	(169.6)	(195.4)	(5.7)	(5.5)	(6.4)	(6.0)	(181.7)	(206.9)
Fair Value of Assets at 31 March	4,056.6	4,400.3	-	-	-	-	4,056.6	4,400.3

Local Government Pension Scheme assets

An analysis of the Local Government Pension Scheme assets is set out below.

	31 March 2017				31 March 2018			
	Quoted £m	Unquoted £m	Total £m	Percentage of Total %	Quoted £m	Unquoted £m	Total £m	Percentage of Total %
Equity Instruments								
UK Quoted	337.5		337.5	8.3%	431.4		431.4	9.8%
UK Unquoted		49.1	49.1	1.2%		61.1	61.1	1.4%
Global Quoted	484.0		484.0	11.9%	417.3		417.3	9.5%
Global Unquoted		334.8	334.8	8.3%		283.9	283.9	6.5%
Europe	347.2		347.2	8.6%	382.0		382.0	8.7%
Japan	179.3		179.3	4.4%	190.9		190.9	4.3%
Pacific Basin	195.9		195.9	4.8%	196.7		196.7	4.5%
North America	380.0		380.0	9.4%	389.5		389.5	8.9%
Emerging Markets	333.6		333.6	8.2%	356.8		356.8	8.1%
Sub-total Equity	2,257.5	383.9	2,641.4	65.1%	2,364.7	344.9	2,709.6	61.6%
Bonds								
UK Government		294.8	294.8	7.3%		300.9	300.9	6.8%
Other	226.7	146.5	373.2	9.2%	198.4	208.6	406.9	9.2%
Sub-total Bonds	226.7	441.3	668.0	16.5%	198.4	509.4	707.8	16.1%
Property								
UK		215.9	215.9	5.3%		249.9	249.9	5.7%
Overseas		-	-	-%				
Property Funds		92.2	92.2	2.3%		99.4	99.4	2.3%
Sub-total Property		308.1	308.1	7.6%		349.2	349.2	7.9%
Alternatives								
Infrastructure	4.7	112.6	117.3	2.9%		182.9	182.9	4.2%
Absolute Return		207.8	207.8	5.1%		174.2	174.2	4.0%
Sub-total Alternatives	4.7	320.4	325.1	8.0%		357.1	357.1	8.1%
Cash								
Cash Instruments		102.8	102.8	2.5%		238.8	238.8	5.4%
Cash Accounts		11.2	11.2	0.3%		37.8	37.8	0.9%
Sub-total Cash		114.0	114.0	2.8%		276.6	276.6	6.3%
Total Assets	2,488.9	1,567.7	4,056.6	100.0%	2,563.1	1,837.2	4,400.3	100.0%

Basis for estimating assets and liabilities

Liabilities for both the Local Government Pension Scheme and the unfunded Teachers' Pension Scheme have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham Limited, an independent firm of actuaries. The assessment has been on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method, an estimate of the pensions that will have to be paid in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. The estimates for the Local Government Pension Scheme have been based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2016. The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been:

Assumptions	Local Government Pension Scheme		Discretionary Benefits	
	2016/17	2017/18	2016/17	2017/18
Mortality assumptions:				
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners:				
Men (years)	21.8	21.9	21.8	21.9
Women (years)	24.2	24.3	24.2	24.3
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners retiring in 20 years:				
Men (years)	23.9	24.0	23.9	n/a
Women (years)	26.5	26.6	26.5	n/a
Rate of CPI inflation	2.7%	2.4%	2.2%	2.4%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.2%	3.9%	n/a	n/a
Rate of increase in pensions	2.7%	2.4%	2.2%	2.4%
Rate for discounting of scheme liabilities	2.7%	2.6%	1.8%	2.4%

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes to the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all the other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, it is unlikely that isolated changes occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, that is, on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analyses below did not change from those used in the previous period.

	Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme		
	Change in assumption	Impact on Council Liability	Impact on Council Deficit
	£m	%	%
Longevity assumptions (increase by 1 year)	264.1	3.8	10.2
Pension increase assumptions (increase by 0.1%)	113.6	1.6	4.4
Salary increase assumption (increase by 0.1%)	11.5	0.2	0.5
Discount scheme liability assumptions (increase by 0.1%)	(122.1)	(1.8)	(4.8)

Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

The objectives of the scheme are to keep employers' contributions at as constant a rate as possible. The Council has agreed a strategy with the scheme's actuary to achieve a funding level of 100% over the next 19 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation will be carried out as at 31 March 2019 and will set contributions for the period for 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2023.

The Council made a one-off contribution of £373.2m to the scheme in 2017/18 to cover the anticipated contributions for the three year period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2020 on the basis of the equivalent employer's contribution rates plus additional payments to fund the pension deficit in respect of past service costs as detailed below.

Financial Year	Employer's Future Service Contribution Rate	Past Service Cost Deficit Payment
	%	£m
2017/18	15.3	61.8
2018/19	16.8	61.8
2019/20	18.3	61.5

Note 22

Property, Plant and Equipment

The following tables analyse movements in the carrying values of non-current assets during the year.

Movements in Balances: 2017/18

	Council dwellings	Other land and buildings	Vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment	Infrastructure assets	Community assets	Surplus assets	Assets under construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	PFI / Service Concession assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2017	2,278.7	2,364.0	184.1	583.0	60.3	6.0	170.6	5,646.7	747.9
Additions	94.1	33.7	5.4	39.0	1.6	-	84.3	258.1	51.3
Assets reclassified between categories	(3.2)	18.8	2.2	9.2	0.3	29.6	(57.9)	(1.0)	
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	(0.8)	-	-	-	-	-	(0.8)	
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(143.0)	125.7	-	-	-	103.7	-	86.4	9.1
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	11.6	-	-	-	(7.2)	(0.3)	4.1	4.4
Derecognition - Disposals	(37.9)	(80.4)	(15.2)	(1.6)	-	(19.9)	-	(155.0)	(0.8)
Derecognition - other	(2.0)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2.0)	
Other movements in cost or valuation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
At 31 March 2018	2,186.7	2,472.6	176.5	629.6	62.2	112.2	196.7	5,836.5	811.9
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment									
At 1 April 2017	(124.7)	(26.9)	(69.7)	(89.2)	-	-	-	(310.5)	(93.9)
Depreciation charge	(50.3)	(56.3)	(18.3)	(24.4)	-	(0.2)	-	(149.5)	(30.2)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	123.5	34.9	-	-	-	0.5	-	158.9	2.0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	50.3	12.5	-	-	-	-	-	62.8	0.8
Revaluation (losses)/reversals recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	-	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	2.6	
Impairment (losses)/reversals recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	1.5	
Derecognition - Disposals	1.2	3.3	14.3	1.7	-	-	-	20.5	0.2
Other movements in depreciation and impairment	0.0	0.3	-	-	-	(0.3)	-	(0.0)	
At 31 March 2018	-	(28.1)	(73.7)	(111.9)	-	-	-	(213.7)	(121.1)
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2018	2,186.7	2,444.5	102.8	517.7	62.2	112.2	196.7	5,622.8	690.8
At 31 March 2017	2,154.0	2,337.1	114.4	493.8	60.3	6.0	170.6	5,336.2	654.0

Movements in Balances: 2016/17

	Council dwellings	Other land and buildings	Vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment	Infrastructure assets	Community assets	Surplus assets	Assets under construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	PFI / Service Concession assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2016	1,778.0	2,407.4	198.4	541.0	92.7	7.4	110.2	5,135.1	725.8
Additions	95.9	60.6	6.9	38.1	0.6	-	100.1	302.2	43.6
Assets reclassified between categories	-	34.6	0.4	3.9	0.7	-	(39.6)	-	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	(6.8)	-	-	-	(1.6)	-	(8.4)	-
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	437.7	48.3	-	-	-	0.3	-	486.3	(6.9)
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	(0.6)	-	-	-	-	(0.1)	(0.7)	2.9
Derecognition - Disposals	(31.4)	(179.5)	(21.6)	-	(33.7)	(0.1)	-	(266.3)	(17.5)
Derecognition - other	(1.5)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1.5)	-
At 31 March 2017	2,278.7	2,364.0	184.1	583.0	60.3	6.0	170.6	5,646.7	747.9
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment									
At 1 April 2016	(111.1)	(32.1)	(70.2)	(66.4)	-	-	-	(279.8)	(68.3)
Depreciation charge	(47.5)	(56.4)	(20.4)	(22.8)	-	(0.1)	-	(147.2)	(29.0)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	111.1	37.7	-	-	-	-	-	148.8	2.0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	10.1	-	-	-	-	-	10.1	0.8
Revaluation (losses)/reversals recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	-	8.1	-	-	-	0.1	-	8.2	-
Impairment (losses)/reversals recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(77.2)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(77.2)	-
Derecognition - Disposals	-	4.3	20.9	-	-	-	-	25.2	0.6
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	1.4	-	-	-	-	-	1.4	-
At 31 March 2017	(124.7)	(26.9)	(69.7)	(89.2)	-	-	-	(310.5)	(93.9)
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2017	2,154.0	2,337.1	114.4	493.8	60.3	6.0	170.6	5,336.2	654.0
At 31 March 2016	1,666.9	2,375.3	128.2	474.6	92.7	7.4	110.2	4,855.3	657.5

Revaluations

Operational (other than Housing)

The Council carries out valuations of its property assets over a five year cycle and reviews those assets that are not in the valuation cycle for the year to ensure that carrying values remain materially correct at the Balance Sheet date. Azmat Mir, Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS), Head of Property Consultancy and other similarly qualified staff within the Council's Property Services section carried out the valuations. A Valuation Certificate was issued on 30 May 2018 in accordance with the Appraisal and Valuation Standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The effective date of the current year's valuation was 1 April 2017, with a review of any significant changes to assets during the year to ensure that any material changes in asset values at the Balance Sheet date were identified. The review concluded that, for assets valued at Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC), there had been a significant increase in building costs during the year to 31 March 2018. As a result, the valuations reflect these higher building costs. During the annual revaluation exercise material assets were componentised in line with the accounting policy.

In light of the identified increase in building costs used to inform DRC valuations, a review was undertaken to assess the impact on the value of those assets not subject to revaluation in 2017/18. As a result, a desktop exercise was undertaken to update those values in the Balance Sheet, reflecting a more up to date value as at 31 March 2018.

Housing

The Council's housing stock was valued as at 1 April 2017 by Azmat Mir MRICS, and similarly qualified staff within the Council's Property Services section in line with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's Guidance on Stock Valuation for Resource Accounting published in November 2016. The basis of the valuation for the housing stock element is in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors using the Existing Use Value – Social Housing basis, which takes open market value for the underlying dwellings and applies a multiplier to reflect the reduced value as a result of the use for social housing for 2017/18 of 40% (2016/17: 40%).

There has been no identified impairment in HRA asset values in 2017/18. HRA dwellings have seen a net increase in value of £32.7m since 2016/17. Details are included in Notes H1 and H3 of the Supplementary Statements.

Infrastructure and Community Assets

Infrastructure assets are valued at Depreciated Historical Cost, with the amount of outstanding debt as at 31 March 1994, when a new system of capital accounting was introduced, used as a proxy for the opening balance of historical cost with adjustments for subsequent capital expenditure and depreciation. Community Assets are valued at Historical Cost.

Investment Property

The Council has one asset where it is anticipated that the major return from holding it will be through capital appreciation in the value of the site.

Surplus Assets

A small number of assets have been deemed surplus to the requirement of the Council but do not yet meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale. As such they have been reclassified as surplus assets, and revalued at 31 March 2018 at fair value, assessing the assets in their highest and best use, using Level 2 inputs.

Recurring Fair Value Measurements	Input Level in Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation technique used to measure Fair Value	31 March 2017 Fair Value £m	31 March 2018 Fair Value £m
Highest and Best Use	Level 2	The fair value of surplus properties has been measured using a market approach, which takes into account quoted prices for similar assets in active markets, existing lease terms and rentals, research into market evidence including market yields, the covenant strength for existing tenants, and data and market knowledge gained in managing the Council's Property Portfolio. Market conditions are such that similar properties are actively purchased and sold and the level of observable inputs is significant, leading to the properties being categorised as Level 2 on the fair value hierarchy.	6.0	131.7

An analysis of the valuations, by class of asset, broken down by the basis and date of formal valuation is set out on the following table.

	Council dwellings	Other land and buildings	Vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment	Infrastructure assets	Community assets	Surplus assets	Assets under construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Carried at Historical Cost					62.2		196.7	258.9
Carried at Depreciated Historical Cost			126.1	629.6				755.7
Valued at current value as at:								
31 March 2018	2,186.7	1,523.9				112.2		3,822.8
31 March 2017		270.7						270.5
31 March 2016		269.3						269.3
31 March 2015		275.0	50.4					325.4
31 March 2014		133.7						133.7
Total cost or valuation	2,186.7	2,472.6	176.5	629.6	62.2	112.2	196.7	5,836.5

Capital Commitments

At 31 March 2018, the Council has entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment in 2018/19 and future years budgeted to cost £1,001.1m. Similar contracts at 31 March 2017 were £1,115.9m. The major commitments are:

	£m
PFI Lifecycle Costs	588.8
HRA New Build & Investment	168.2
Additional School Places	52.4
Revenue Reform Projects	41.9
Birmingham Cycle Routes	24.8
Clean Air Hydro Bus	12.3
Iron Lane Highway Improvements	12.0
Paradise Circus Enterprise Zone	11.3
Selly Oak Highway Widening	8.8
Equity Fund	8.3
Swimming Pools – New Build	7.4
Unlocking Housing Sites	6.1
Ashted Circus	5.7
East Aston Regional Investment Sites	5.5
Magnolia House	5.5
Battery Way Extension	5.0
Other Projects <£5m	37.1
Total Capital Commitments	1,001.1

Capitalisation of Borrowing Costs

The Council has adopted an accounting policy, detailed in Note1 - section xi., of capitalising borrowing costs in relation to qualifying assets. In 2017/18 the amount of borrowing costs capitalised during the period was £3.6m (2016/17: £2.7m). The interest does not relate to a specific loan and was calculated using the Council's average borrowing rate in the year expenditure was incurred. This was 4.32% in 2017/18 (2016/17: 4.76%). For 2017/18, interest capitalised by scheme was as follows:

	£m
Enterprise Zone	2.3
Wholesale Market	1.3

Note 23

Heritage Assets

Heritage Assets are identified as those which are considered to have historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities and that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture.

Heritage Assets held by the Council:

	Museum Collections	Historic Buildings	Public Art	Libraries and Archive collections	Civic Regalia and Plate	Total Assets
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
01 April 2016						
- At Cost	3.7	11.1	0.5	-	-	15.3
- At Valuation	214.3	-	-	18.4	1.8	234.5
Additions	0.2	-	-	-	-	0.2
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	1.5	-	-	-	-	1.5
31 March 2017	219.7	11.1	0.5	18.4	1.8	251.5
- At Cost	3.9	11.1	0.5	-	-	15.5
- At Valuation	215.8	-	-	18.4	1.8	236.0
31 March 2017	219.7	11.1	0.5	18.4	1.8	251.5
01 April 2017						
- At Cost	3.9	11.1	0.5	-	-	15.5
- At Valuation	215.8	-	-	18.4	1.8	236.0
Additions	0.1	-	-	-	-	0.1
31 March 2018	219.8	11.1	0.5	18.4	1.8	251.6
- At Cost	3.9	11.1	0.5	-	-	15.5
- At Valuation	215.9	-	-	18.4	1.8	236.1
31 March 2018	219.8	11.1	0.5	18.4	1.8	251.6

The Council has significant collections of assets that contribute towards the rich and diverse heritage of the City, reflecting two thousand years of historic development, across Museums, historic buildings, Public Art, Libraries and Civic collections.

Where historical cost information is available, the Council has used this when compiling the balance sheet; otherwise insurance valuations have been used, where applicable. Where there is evidence of a movement in valuations as a result of material acquisitions or disposals, or a significant movement in comparable market values, a revaluation will be considered.

Museum Collections

The Council holds collections of artworks, ceramics, jewellery and items of archaeological and scientific significance. The vast majority of the Museum's Loan collection is held within the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, which holds one of the finest collections of art, history and science in the UK and the best collection of Pre-Raphaelite works in the world. The collection includes a number of highly valued items including works of art in oil by the 19th Century artist Ford Madox Brown, together with substantial works by Burne-Jones, Holman Hunt, Bellini and Canaletto amongst others. There have been some significant additions to the collections, in particular the Staffordshire Hoard, the largest hoard of Anglo-

Saxon gold and silver metalwork yet found. There are significant exhibits and artwork comprising the Permanent Collection on display in community museums, for example Aston Hall and Soho House, together with items held in storage at the Museum's Collection Centre. In addition there is a collection of Boulton silverware, a set of 24 pieces in silver jointly owned by the Council and the Birmingham Assay Office.

Historic Buildings and the Historical Environment

The Council either owns or holds on trust in excess of 150 listed buildings and structures, with Grade I and Grade II properties being the most significant. These include Aston Hall, a Grade I listed Jacobean manor house completed in 1635, Blakesley Hall, an Elizabethan timber house built by a local merchant in 1590 and Soho House, home of Birmingham industrialist and entrepreneur Matthew Boulton, all of which are included as Heritage Assets.

Public Art

The Council owns over 80 pieces of public art, including statues, sculpture and fountains, some of which are listed structures. Victoria Square fountain and the King Edward VII statue are included in the balance sheet as reliable information is available for these works of art.

Libraries and Archive Collections

The Library of Birmingham is unique amongst UK public libraries for the range and depth of the collections it houses. The library houses a large photography collection including those of pioneers Francis Frith and Sir Benjamin Stone. The Council also holds over 6,000 archive collections including major collections of national importance, such as those relating to the industrial innovators James Watt and Matthew Boulton. In addition there are significant collections of early and fine printing, incorporating over 8,000 books printed before 1701, and an extensive collection of literature and rare books, including Audobon's 19th Century work, The Birds of America, and one of the world's most comprehensive Shakespeare collections.

Civic Regalia and Plate

The Council owns in excess of 230 items of civic regalia and plate, kept either on display, in storage or used on ceremonial and other formal occasions. There is a large variety of items within the collection, the main ones being the Mayoral Chains of Office and Mace, which was cast in silver, in the late 19th Century, by Elkington and Co.

The Council has developed a Heritage Strategy, which provides a framework and context for how it preserves, manages, interprets and promotes the Council's Heritage Assets, and how they are taken forward during the 21st Century. This is supported by a more detailed collecting policy within the Museums service, which informs the Council's policy on acquisition, management and disposal, together with Documentation and Conservation policies, which detail how the service manages and cares for the collections. These are all available on the Council's website, or via the relevant service area. Both Libraries and Museums use database systems to manage their collections.

Access to heritage assets is provided through permanent displays of historical material, temporary exhibitions and events, publications, catalogues and digital and web-based

resources. In addition the Museum's Collection Centre schedules occasional open days, allowing public access to some of the Museum's stored historical artefacts. For the wider historical environment guided tours, printed leaflets and publications, heritage trails and interpretive panels are effective in enabling intellectual access.

Birmingham Museums Trust exists to promote heritage within Birmingham, with the aims of advancing education through the operation, maintenance, development and promotion of museums, galleries and libraries in Birmingham. The Council continues to retain ownership of the buildings and collections.

Note 24

Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its software as intangible assets, to the extent that the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant, Furniture and Equipment.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis over a five year period, which is deemed to be the period that intangible assets are expected to be of use to the Council.

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

	2016/17			2017/18		
	Internally Generated Assets £m	Other Assets £m	Total £m	Internally Generated Assets £m	Other Assets £m	Total £m
Balance at start of year:						
- Gross carrying amounts	-	41.6	41.6	-	43.3	43.3
- Accumulated amortisation	-	(16.1)	(16.1)	-	(23.6)	(23.6)
Net carrying amount at start of year	-	25.5	25.5	-	19.7	19.7
Additions:						
- Internal development	-	2.4	2.4	-	1.0	1.0
Assets reclassified as held for sale	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.0
Other disposals	-	(0.8)	(0.8)	-	(3.9)	(3.9)
Amortisation for the period	-	(8.3)	(8.3)	-	(8.0)	(8.0)
Amortisation written out on revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Amortisation written out for disposals/transfers	-	0.8	0.8	-	3.9	3.9
Other changes	-	0.1	0.1	-	-	-
Net carrying amount at end of year	-	19.7	19.7	-	13.7	13.7
Comprising:						
Gross carrying amounts	-	43.3	43.3	-	41.4	41.4
Accumulated amortisation	-	(23.6)	(23.6)	-	(27.7)	(27.7)
	-	19.7	19.7	-	13.7	13.7

Note 25

Long Term Investments

Details of the Council's long term investments are summarised below.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
26.4	Investment in Subsidiary and Associated Companies	26.3
6.8	Available for Sale Financial Assets	15.3
0.3	Unquoted Equity Investment at Cost	0.1
33.5	Total	41.7

Note 26

Long Term Debtors

The table below shows amounts owed to the Council that are due for payment more than 12 months after the Balance Sheet date. These balances have been split by type of debt.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
55.0	External Loans	88.8
0.9	Employee Loans	1.0
0.3	Mortgages: former Council House Tenants	0.3
36.7	Other Debtors	36.1
92.9	Total	126.2

Note 27

Short Term Investments

Details of the amounts invested by the Council that are due for repayment within 12 months of the Balance Sheet date are detailed below.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
18.5	Money Market Funds	60.1
15.1	Financial Institutions	28.5
33.6	Total	88.6

Note 28**Assets Held for Sale**

The table below details the value of assets whose carrying amount will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through their continuing use.

	Current	
	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Balance outstanding at start of year	4.2	6.6
Assets newly classified as held for sale:		
- Property, Plant and Equipment	7.0	0.8
Impairments (losses)/reversals	(0.4)	-
Assets sold	(4.1)	(6.5)
Other Movements	(0.1)	-
Balance outstanding at year end	6.6	0.9

In 2017/18, two assets have been reclassified as held for sale, with disposal expected in 2018/19

If a programme of asset sales is undertaken the value of capital receipts may differ from the value of the assets within these financial statements for a number of reasons:

- The Council values a number of assets at 'fair value'. The size of a receipt from the sale of an asset is heavily dependent on how much the market is willing to pay for a particular asset at any one time and this can fluctuate
- In line with the Code, the Council values some of its assets at Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC). This includes those associated with the entities that are consolidated into the Group Accounts. Typically, where assets are valued at DRC it is likely that the asset values in the accounts will be higher than those the open market is willing to pay.

The potential difference in values cannot be quantified as those assets which may be disposed of may change and a 'fair' market valuation cannot be quantified with any accuracy. Given the size of the assets on the Council's Balance Sheet the sale of a small percentage of these could still result in a material difference.

Note 29

Short Term Debtors

The table below shows the amounts owed to the council at the end of the year that are due for payment within 12 months. The increase in debts associated with other entities and individuals is mainly as a result of the Council's participation in the 100% Local Business Rates Retention Pilot. Under the Pilot, the Council retains 99% of the Business Rates it collects rather than the 49% it retained under the previous arrangements. As a result, the Council now recognises 99% of amounts owed in respect of Business Rates rather than 49%. The amounts owed have been analysed by type of debtor.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
66.4	Central government bodies	78.4
7.2	Other local authorities	12.0
5.1	NHS bodies	6.0
6.7	Public corporations and trading funds	3.2
190.7	Other entities and individuals	229.8
276.1	Total	329.4

Note 30

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the elements detailed below.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
2.9	Cash held by the Council	3.3
42.5	Bank current accounts	36.3
(13.5)	Bank Overdrafts	(35.4)
31.9	Total	4.2

Note 31

Short Term Creditors

The table below shows amounts owed by the Council at the end of the year that are due for payment within 12 months. The amounts due have been analysed by type of creditor.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
(36.3)	Central government bodies	(28.6)
(6.3)	Other local authorities	(11.3)
(3.5)	NHS bodies	(2.0)
(99.9)	Public corporations and trading funds	(63.7)
(217.5)	Other entities and individuals	(228.1)
(363.5)	Total	(333.7)

Note 32

Provisions

The following table shows the value of the Council's liabilities that will probably result in a transfer of economic benefits in line with the Accounting Policy for Provisions:

Balance at 1 April 2016		Balance at 1 April 2017	Additional provisions made in 2017/18	Amounts used in 2017/18	Unused amounts reversed in 2017/18	Balance at 31 March 2018
£m		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Short Term						
258.0	Equal Pay	145.2	26.5	(19.9)	-	151.8
16.1	Business Rates Appeals	16.8	34.8	(28.8)	-	22.8
-	Pension Guarantees	3.5	1.6	-	(3.5)	1.6
9.2	Other Provisions	7.4	8.8	(2.0)	(2.3)	11.9
283.3	Total	172.9	71.7	(50.7)	(5.8)	188.1
Long Term						
52.1	Equal Pay	-	-	-	-	-
8.7	Business Rates Appeals	9.0	3.3	-	-	12.3
7.6	Pension Guarantees	21.0	11.2	-	(21.0)	11.2
-	Other Provisions	-	-	-	-	-
68.4	Total	30.0	14.5	-	(21.0)	23.5

Equal Pay

The Equal Pay Act 1970 was enacted at a time when it was not uncommon for employers to openly give different rates of pay to men and women performing the same job, or to reserve certain jobs for men and other (lower-paid) jobs for women. The Equality Act 2010 repealed and replaced the Equal Pay Act 1970 from 1 October 2010 and implemented in Great Britain the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work.

The Council has received a number of valid equal pay claims and, as a result, has set aside a provision of £151.8m (2016/17: £145.2m) in respect of outstanding claims as at 28 February 2018. The provision will be subject to review during the period of the audit. Furthermore, a significant proportion of claims remain to be settled or challenged.

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government issued regulations allowing Local Authorities to use capital receipts received on or after 1 April 2013 to meet back payments associated with issued and valid equal pay claims. The Council has included both the capital and revenue impacts of equal pay claims in its long term financial plan, Council Plan and Budget 2018+.

Business Rates Appeals

As a result of the change in the funding of Local Government in 2013/14, local authorities have assumed part of the liability for refunding Business Rates payers who have successfully appealed against the rateable value of their properties in the rating list. This liability includes amounts that were collected in respect of both the current year and prior years.

The Council, as Billing Authority, is required to make a provision for this liability on behalf of the major preceptors and itself. From 1 April 2017, the Council became part of a 100% Local Business Rates Retention Pilot. Under the pilot, the Council retains 99% of the Business Rates it collects including 99% of any amounts due to be collected in future. The other 1% is retained by the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority (WMFRA). Prior to 1 April 2017 the Council's share was 49% with 1% due to the WMFRA and the other 50% being due to Central Government. Under the pilot the Council has assumed responsibility to pay for 99% of backdated appeals, even those prior to 1 April 2017. However, the Council has also been allowed to take the Government's 50% share of the provision set aside for backdated appeals prior to 1 April 2017.

These accounts include a provision of £35.1m representing 99% of the total provision (2016/17: £25.8m – representing 49% of the total provision) set aside to cover the Council's share of the total estimated unpaid liability relating to the settlement of all appeals received up to 31 March 2018. The remaining 1% share of the liability is attributable to the WMFRA.

The Council has assessed the likely cost of settling appeals, based upon the history of appeals settled to date and details of those appeals that are still outstanding. The information used in this modelling has been provided by the Valuations Office Agency (VOA).

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government issued regulations allowing Local Authorities to spread the impact of accounting for their share of the backdated element of the appeals provision, based on the assessment made in 2013/14, up to a maximum of five years. The Council has opted to use this regulatory mitigation to spread the impact of the liability. 2017/18 is the final year.

Pensions Guarantees

The Council has, over a number of years, changed its way of operating from being one of a direct provider of a number of services to one where it purchases services from third parties. As part of this change in service delivery model, the Council has transferred staff from the Council to external providers under Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (TUPE). The Council has agreed that staff transferring to an external provider should continue to have the right to access equivalent pension benefits to that provided whilst employed by the Council. To ensure the smooth transfer of staff, the Council has provided guarantees for contribution rates and pension deficits in respect of continuing pension provision. As a result of the guarantees given, the Council has set aside a provision of £12.8m to meet future liabilities under these arrangements.

Other Provisions

Details of the major items included in other provisions are:

Subsidiaries

As part of the relationship with its subsidiary companies, the Council may have to provide a guarantee that it will support a company to enable it to continue meeting its liabilities as they fall due. The Council continues to review the likelihood of any call on the guarantees that it has given to determine whether it needs to set aside resources to meet any future liabilities. The Council has set aside a provision of £6.7m in 2017/18.

Equal Pay Legal Costs

The Council has set aside a provision for legal costs associated with the handling or defending of Equal Pay claims. The provision will be used when legal fees are agreed for each case and may be subject to assessment; the timing of which is uncertain. It is anticipated that this provision will be utilised fully by 31 March 2019.

Sleep-In Allowance

The Council, like other care providers/ commissioners, has a risk of potential back pay liability as a result of developments in the legal system in relation to sleep-in shifts. The *Mencap vs Tomlinson-Blake* EAT ruling found that care providers must pay the National Minimum Wage throughout a sleep-in shift rather than the fixed allowance that is currently paid. The current case law is complex, and currently subject to appeal. The Council has set aside a provision in its 2017/18 accounts of £1.1m in respect of potential payments relating to sleep-in allowances.

The Carbon Reduction Commitment

In 2018/19 the Council will have to purchase allowances as a result of mandatory participation in the Government's Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency scheme (CRCEES). The quantity of allowances that will be purchased is dependent on the amount of energy used in properties that the Council occupied in 2017/18. In line with the recommended treatment by CIPFA, a provision for this cost has been made in the 2017/18 accounts based on the estimated energy consumed in 2017/18.

Note 33

Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Contingent Liabilities

These relate to pending legal or contractual claims not included in the accounts and guarantees given by the Council for repayment of loans taken out by certain associated companies. The Council currently has the following contingent liabilities:

1. The Council has an on-going accountable body role for a range of grant funding regimes, both historical and current, which include supporting programmes and projects under its direct control as well as managing programmes involving wider partnerships with external organisations.

Direct

For arrangements managed under its control, the accountable body function covers projects and programmes where the Council accesses European or Domestic grant support either for itself or on behalf of another organisation. In accepting this role the Council underwrites the financial performance and delivery of the activity along with compliance with the funding regulations. Under this role there is, depending on the nature of the particular scheme, a potential liability to the Council arising from either non-delivery of outputs, claiming of ineligible expenditure or from the disposal of assets prior to any clawback liability expiring. The Council has quantified this potential liability at 31 March 2018 as £431.2m and has identified future commitments of £32.6m.

Partnerships

Where the Council has accepted the accountable body role for grant funding, which involves a wider partnership arrangement and management of the fund, for example Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) or the Regional Growth Fund (RGF), the Council's grant liability exists if it is deemed that it has been "unreasonable" in discharging its responsibilities. The Council has quantified this potential liability at 31 March 2018 as £513.6m and has identified future expenditure commitments of £503.9m.

To minimise the impact of any grant clawback liability for both Direct and Partnership accountable body type arrangements, the Council has put in place various controls and mechanisms, such as legal agreements and charges over assets, and supports financial management with detailed expenditure verification and monitoring procedures.

2. The Council's final Housing Benefit claim for 2017/18 is still being considered by the Department for Work and Pensions. There may be clawback of subsidy from the Council, above the level provided for in the accounts, which would reduce the level of benefit income shown and also reduce the General Fund balance carried forward.
3. Under the Equality Act 2010, employees are entitled to equal pay for work of equal value. The Council has received a number of claims under the Equality Act and, as a result, has set aside a provision of £151.8m (31 March 2017: £145.2m) which incorporates all claims received and negotiations agreed to 28 February 2018.

Whilst the provision reflects the forecast impact of claims made to date, there remain a number of uncertainties regarding any additional liabilities that the Council may face. There are uncertainties surrounding the volume and timing of any future claims and the determination of any settlements. The Council has developed a robust medium to long term financial plan, set out in the Council Plan and Budget 2018+, which recognises the impact of future spending and funding requirements. The Council also has the ability to use capital receipts generated between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2018 to meet the costs of equal pay.

4. The Council is facing a number of compensation claims from former employees for employment related and current health issues, from people who attended Council schools and from other service users. Currently the validity of any outstanding claims is being assessed.
5. The Council enters into a number of arrangements with external partners for the delivery of services or as part of infrastructure developments within the city. There are occasions where the Council faces claims from external partners where it is believed that specific outcomes have not been delivered. Currently the validity of any outstanding claims is being assessed.
6. The Council received insurance services from Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI). Due to financial difficulties, MMI ceased trading in October 1993 and entered into a solvent run off. MMI entered into a Scheme of Arrangement with its creditors, namely the Councils which were owed claim settlements. The Scheme of Arrangement stated that MMI would be able to claw back any claim settlements paid on behalf of its creditors after 1 October 1993 if a solvent run off was not likely to be achieved.

Following a decision of the Supreme Court in March 2012 regarding Employers' Liability Policy Trigger Litigation, MMI's liability in respect of asbestos related claims

has increased substantially. As a result, the Scheme of Arrangement was enacted in 2016/17 and an Administrator was appointed.

At present, the Administrator has announced a levy of 25% on claims paid since 1 October 1993 and the Council has incurred costs of £0.7m to cover its share together with a share, based on population, of the claims paid in respect of the former West Midlands County Council. The maximum remaining liability faced by the Council, less the payments already made, is £2.3m.

7. In the delivery of services, the Council may transfer staff to external organisations rather than directly deliver those services itself. As part of the staff transfer arrangements, continued access to the Local Government Pension Scheme may still be permitted. Where these arrangements exist, the Council has given guarantees in respect of pension liabilities to the Local Government Pension Scheme. Where the Council has an expectation that there will be a call on the guarantee, provision has been made as detailed in Note 32. However, there may be further calls on guarantees which will need to be considered in the future.
8. The Council, as with other care providers/commissioners, has an increased risk of potential back pay liability as a result of outcomes from Employment Tribunals in relation to sleep-in shifts. In the Employment Appeal Tribunal of *Mencap vs Tomlinson-Blake*, the judgement was that care providers must pay the National Minimum Wage throughout a sleep-in shift rather than a fixed allowance as is currently the case. The current case law is complex and is subject to appeal. It is, therefore, not possible to quantify fully the Council's potential exposure to this risk.

Contingent Assets

At 31 March 2018 the Council has identified the following material contingent assets.

1. The Council has been undertaking a review of its major contracts. It has identified that there have been payments made not in accordance with its interpretation of the full terms and conditions of the associated contracts. Through discussions with the relevant contractors, the Council has made a substantial recovery against one contract and is pursuing legal action to recover overpayments in other contracts. Given the current status of these discussions and their sensitivity, the Council does not consider that further disclosure would be in its best interests at this time.
2. When disposing of non-current assets which may be the subject of further development by the purchaser, the Council may include clauses within the disposal agreement that require the purchaser to make additional payments to the Council depending on the outcome of the development. The Council has included such clauses in the agreement for the disposal of a number of developments and anticipates generating additional capital receipts in future years.

Due to the commercially sensitive nature of the agreements, detailed information on further anticipated receipts has not been disclosed.

Note 34 Council Borrowing

A breakdown of the Council's borrowings is summarised below:

2016/17			2017/18	
Long Term £m	Short Term £m		Long Term £m	Short Term £m
90.5	78.1	Lender's Option Borrower's Option (LOBO) loans	0.4	163.9
444.5	6.5	Local Bonds	483.0	7.3
2,195.9	69.7	Public Works Loan Board	2,200.9	75.8
-	359.3	Other Borrowing (mainly Other Local Authorities)	55.7	552.8
2,730.9	513.6	Total	2,740.0	799.8

Note 35 Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows from operating activities include the following items:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
(12.0)	Interest received	(12.9)
181.3	Interest paid	179.2
(11.6)	Dividends received	(6.1)
157.7		160.2

Note 36 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

The cash flows from investing activities include the following:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
(278.3)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(256.3)
(1,929.3)	Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	(2,020.1)
89.1	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	128.0
1,954.5	Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	1,965.2
0.3	Other receipts from investing activities	0.4
(163.7)	Net cash flows from investing activities	(182.8)

Note 37**Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities**

The cash flows from financing activities include the following:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
124.3	Other receipts from financing activities	95.5
825.0	Cash receipts of short-term and long-term borrowing	1,558.6
(44.0)	Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and on-balance sheet PFI contracts	(46.0)
(782.0)	Repayments of short-term and long-term borrowing	(1,271.4)
16.5	Other payments for financing activities	-
139.8	Net cash flows from financing activities	336.7

Note 38**Cash Flow Statement – Other Adjustments**

The cash flow adjustments to the net surplus/deficit on the provision of services include:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
147.2	Depreciation/Impairment charge	149.5
8.3	Amortisation of Intangible Assets	8.0
0.3	Derecognition of Available for Sale Assets	17.6
68.5	Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	(70.0)
246.9	Derecognition of Non-Current Assets	143.1
(6.0)	(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(86.7)
30.6	Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(26.2)
(148.7)	Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	8.6
35.0	Pensions Liability	(129.7)
382.1	Net Cash Flow - Other Adjustments	14.2

The cash flow adjustments included in the net surplus/deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities include:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
(124.3)	Capital Grants	(95.5)
(89.4)	Capital Receipts	(128.6)
(16.5)	Council Tax and Business Rates Adjustments	(0.1)
(230.2)		(224.2)

Note 39

Financial Instruments

Categories of Financial Instruments

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

	Long Term		Current	
	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
<u>Investments</u>				
Loans and receivables	-	-	33.6	88.6
Available-for-sale financial assets	6.8	15.3	-	-
Unquoted equity investment at cost	0.3	0.1	-	-
Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-
Total	7.1	15.4	33.6	88.6
<i>Investments that are not financial instruments</i>	26.4	26.3	-	-
Total investments	33.5	41.7	33.6	88.6
<u>Debtors</u>				
Loans and receivables	55.8	88.9	11.1	14.6
Financial assets carried at contract amounts	-	-	186.0	206.8
Total	55.8	88.9	197.1	221.4
<i>Debtors that are not financial instruments</i>	37.1	37.3	79.0	108.0
Total debtors	92.9	126.2	276.1	329.4
<u>Cash</u>				
Loans and receivables			45.4	39.6
Total cash: asset			45.4	39.6
Financial liabilities at amortised cost			(13.5)	(35.4)
Total cash: liability			(13.5)	(35.4)
<u>Borrowings</u>				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(2,730.9)	(2,740.0)	(513.6)	(799.8)
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-
Total	(2,730.9)	(2,740.0)	(513.6)	(799.8)
<i>Borrowings that are not financial instruments</i>	-	-	-	-
Total borrowings	(2,730.9)	(2,740.0)	(513.6)	(799.8)
<u>Other Long Term Liabilities</u>				
PFI and finance lease liabilities	(423.2)	(405.6)		
Total	(423.2)	(405.6)		
<i>Transferred Debt</i>	(61.6)	(56.4)		
Total long term liabilities	(484.8)	(462.0)		
<u>Creditors</u>				
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	-	-	-	-
Financial liabilities carried at contract amount	-	-	(280.7)	(241.8)
Total	-	-	(280.7)	(241.8)
<i>Creditors that are not financial instruments</i>	-	(1.5)	(82.8)	(91.9)
Total creditors	-	(1.5)	(363.5)	(333.7)

Material Soft Loans Made by the Council

The Council has made the following material soft loans:

Warwickshire County Cricket Club was granted a loan of £20m in 2009 to support the major ground refurbishment undertaken. The loan is deemed to be a material soft loan and is carried in the accounts at £17.3m, paying a fixed interest rate of 5%. During the development phase of the project, interest was rolled up in the loan. In 2016/17, Warwickshire County Cricket Club exercised its right, under the terms of the loan agreement, to defer interest and principal repayment for two quarters from March 2013 and extend the loan maturity to make these payments. The club applied for a further 18 month interest and principal deferral, which was granted by the Council. Interest payments have resumed and a bullet principal payment is due in March 2020. All interest on the deferred payments is rolled up and the term of the loan has been extended to 2045.

West Midlands Growth Company (formerly Marketing Birmingham) received a loan of £1.1m in 2012 to support the creation of the Birmingham Business Hub at Baskerville House. The loan is deemed to be a material soft loan and is carried in the accounts at £0.5m, pays an interest rate of 2.2% and matures in 2022.

The treatment of soft loans in the financial statements is as follows:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Opening balance at 1 April	17.7	17.8
Nominal value of new loans granted in year	-	-
Fair value adjustment on initial recognition	-	-
Loans repaid	(0.1)	(0.1)
(Increase)/Reduction in discount	0.2	0.2
Closing Balance at 31 March	17.8	17.9
Nominal value at 31 March	22.4	22.3

Valuation Assumptions

The interest rate at which the fair value of soft loans has been made at recognition is arrived at by taking the Council's prevailing cost of borrowing and adding an allowance for the risk that the loan might not be repaid.

Income, Expenses, Gains and Losses

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments are shown in the following table:

	2016/17				2017/18			
	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables	Financial Assets: Available for Sale	Total	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables	Financial Assets: Available for Sale	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Interest Expense	181.3			181.3	179.2			179.2
Total expense in (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	181.3			181.3	179.2			179.2
Interest and Dividend Income		(12.0)	(11.6)	(23.6)		(12.9)	(6.1)	(19.0)
Total income in (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services		(12.0)	(11.6)	(23.6)		(12.9)	(6.1)	(19.0)
(Gains)/Losses on Revaluation			(0.3)	(0.3)			0.8	0.8
(Surplus)/Deficit arising on revaluation of financial assets in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			(0.3)	(0.3)			0.8	0.8
Net (gain)/loss for the year	181.3	(12.0)	(11.9)	157.4	179.2	(12.9)	(5.3)	161.0

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Financial liabilities, financial assets represented by loans and receivables and long term debtors and creditors are carried in the balance sheet at amortised cost.

Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions in the tables below. The fair value calculations for financial liabilities and assets are as follows:

Financial Liabilities	Input level in Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation inputs and assumptions used to measure Fair Value	31 March 2017		31 March 2018	
			Carrying Amount £m	Fair Value £m	Carrying Amount £m	Fair Value £m
Long Term						
Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)	Level 2	PWLB new loan at certainty rate based on published PWLB rates	2,265.6	3,105.1	2,276.8	3,069.2
Bonds		An estimate of the rate payable for a new loan on the same terms, based on published gilt yields	450.8	576.4	490.3	620.5
Other Market Loans - LOBOs			168.5	275.5	164.3	297.1
Other Market Loans -Quasi Loans			0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Other Long Term Loans - PETPS			-	-	13.9	14.3
Other Long Term Loans - Local Authorities		Market indicative interest rates	-	-	45.3	44.9
Other Long Term Liabilities (PFI/finance lease)		PWLB new loan at certainty rate based on published PWLB rates	436.4	733.9	405.6	611.9
Other Long Term Liabilities (Transferred Debt)*		An estimate of the rate payable for a new loan on the same terms	48.4	59.2	56.4	56.8
Short Term						
Other Market Loans - Short Term	N/A	Fair value is approximated at their carrying amount	359.3	359.3	549.0	549.0
Short term creditors (including PFI/finance leases/operating lease/transferred debt)	N/A	Fair value is approximated at their carrying amount	280.7	280.7	241.8	241.8
TOTAL			4,009.9	5,390.3	4,243.6	5,505.7

*The Transferred Debt information is provided by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council, who have responsibility for the West Midlands County Council Debt Administration Fund. The fair values were provided to them by their Treasury Advisors.

Financial Assets	Input level in Fair Value Hierarchy	Valuation inputs and assumptions used to measure Fair Value	31 March 2017		31 March 2018	
			Carrying Amount £m	Fair Value £m	Carrying Amount £m	Fair Value £m
Long Term						
Available-for-sale financial assets	Level 3	Based on company performance	6.8	6.8	15.3	15.3
Unquoted equity investment at cost	Level 2	Valued at cost until reliable fair value can be established	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.1
Debtors (Loans and receivables)	Level 2	An estimate of the rate payable for a new loan on the same terms, based on published PWLB rates	55.8	58.6	88.9	89.1
Short Term						
Investments (Loans and receivables)	N/A	Fair value is approximated at their carrying amount	33.6	33.6	88.6	88.6
Debtors (Loans and receivables)	N/A	Fair value is approximated at their carrying amount	11.1	11.2	14.6	14.6
Financial assets carried at contract amounts	N/A	Fair value is approximated at their carrying amount	186.0	186.0	206.8	206.8
TOTAL			293.6	296.5	414.3	414.5

The fair value of the liabilities and assets at 31 March 2018 is higher than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans and investments includes fixed rate loans where the interest rate receivable is higher than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date. This shows a notional future loss on liabilities (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2018) arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders above current market rates and a gain on assets (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2018) attributable to the commitment to receive interest below current market rates.

PWLB Loans

The fair value, of Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loans with a carrying value of £2,276.8m, measures the economic effect of the terms agreed with the PWLB compared with estimates of the terms that would be offered for market transactions undertaken at the Balance Sheet date. The difference between the carrying amount and the fair value measures the additional interest that the Council will pay over the remaining terms of the loans under the agreements with the PWLB, against what would be paid if the loans were at prevailing market rates.

However, the Council has a continuing ability to borrow at concessionary rates from the PWLB rather than from the markets. A supplementary measure of the additional interest that the Council will pay as a result of its PWLB commitments for fixed rate loans is to compare the terms of these loans with the new borrowing rates available from the PWLB. If a value is calculated on this basis, the carrying amount of £2,276.8m would be valued at £3,069.2m. But, if the Council were to seek to avoid the projected loss by repaying the loans to the PWLB, the PWLB would raise a penalty charge for early redemption in addition to charging a premium for the additional interest that will not now be paid. The exit price for the PWLB loans including the penalty charge would be £3,580.3m.

Note 40**Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments**

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of risks relating to its financial instruments, including:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council;
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council may not have funds available to meet its payment commitments;
- Market risk – the possibility of financial loss due to changes in interest rates and market prices.

These risks are mainly managed by a central Treasury Management Team in accordance with policies and approvals set by the Council in its annual Budget Report, Treasury Management Strategy, and Treasury Management Practices in particular. The Council complies with CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, both of which regulate the use of financial instruments and establish a treasury risk management framework.

Credit Risk

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

This risk is measured and managed primarily through the investment policies and strategy in the approved Budget, which requires that deposits are made in accordance with approved credit criteria and limits, including minimum credit ratings as follows:

'Specified' short term investments (all in Sterling)	Short term rating*	Long term rating*	Council Individual lending limit
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 volatility rating V1 /S1 /MR1 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 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.

No significant changes have been made in banking regulations in the past 12 months, since the EU and UK 'bail-in' rules were introduced in 2015/16. Consequently, no risk categories have been added or amended.

The Council will not invest more than £600m in long term investments as follows:

- Government stocks (or "Gilts") and other supranational bonds, with a maturity of less than five years.
- Corporate Bonds, Certificates of Deposit (CD) or Commercial Paper (CP) with a maturity of less than three years, subject to a long term credit rating of not less than AA (in addition to the restrictions in the table above). CD or CP shall not exceed 25% of long-term investments (i.e. those maturing in one year or more).

The Council also uses information from a variety of other sources in reaching a view about the suitability of particular investments.

The Council also makes a variety of investments in support of its service objectives. These investments are not subject to the above credit quality requirements, but are individually appraised and approved in relation to their support for service outcomes as well as their financial consequences and risks.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk, in relation to its investments in financial institutions, cannot be assessed generally, as the risk of any institution failing to make due payments will be specific to each individual institution. In relation to the Council's outstanding treasury deposits with financial institutions, local authorities and other institutions, no such deposits have defaulted in the year or are impaired. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all deposits, but there is no evidence at 31 March 2018 that this was likely to crystallise.

The Council does not hold collateral as security on its treasury deposits.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk arises from the need to borrow to finance capital expenditure, loan maturities and other payments. The Council has a comprehensive cash flow management system that measures liquidity and seeks to ensure that cash is available as needed. The Council has ready access to loans from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLb) in accordance with the PWLB circulars currently in force, and there is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments. The Council sets limits on the proportion of its fixed rate borrowing maturing in specified periods. The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
	£m	£m
Less than 1 year	(890.6)	(1,168.9)
Between 1 and 2 years	(159.5)	(105.7)
Between 2 and 5 years	(187.8)	(204.8)
Between 5 and 20 years	(1,394.5)	(1,464.4)
Between 20 and 40 years	(1,173.8)	(1,188.6)
Over 40 years	(300.1)	(240.0)
Total	(4,106.3)	(4,372.4)

All trade and other current payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

Market Risk

Interest rate risk

The Council is exposed to significant risk in relation to interest rate movements on its borrowing and investments.

Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

- Borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services will rise
- Borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the liabilities for borrowings will fall
- Investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services will rise
- Investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

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

These risks are measured and managed in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Strategy, including the setting and monitoring of risk limits on the level of variable rate instruments and on the amount of borrowing maturing in future years.

At 31 March 2018, if interest rates had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

	£m
Increase in interest payable on variable rate borrowings	5.5
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	(0.9)
Impact on Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services	4.6
Share of overall impact charged to the HRA	0.9
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate investment assets	2.2
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings liabilities (no impact on the Surplus/(Deficit) on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure)	(540.5)

The impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the movements being reversed. The above sensitivities have been prepared and based on loan debt and loan investments outstanding at 31 March 2018.

Price Risk

The Council's holdings of shares are all unquoted shares held primarily to support service objectives rather than as financial investments. The financial value of these shares will vary according to general market conditions and the particular circumstances of the share issuers. Active prices for these investments are not available.

Note 41**Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing**

The Council's capital expenditure on an accruals basis, analysed between types of asset, is summarised below. This also includes revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute.

	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
	£m	£m
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	4,523.2	4,568.8
<u>Capital Investment</u>		
Property, Plant and Equipment	302.3	257.1
Heritage Assets	0.2	0.1
Intangible Assets	2.4	1.0
Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	33.4	42.6
Secretary of State Direction - Flexible use of Capital Receipts	9.6	17.5
Capital Grant Repayment	-	0.1
Long Term Loans	14.7	45.9
Increase in Share Equity	1.3	26.7
<u>Sources of Finance</u>		
Capital Receipts	(32.0)	(49.2)
Government Grants and other Contributions	(109.1)	(95.7)
Sums set aside from Revenue:	-	-
- Direct Revenue Contributions	(29.3)	(7.1)
- Use of Major Repairs Reserve	(14.3)	(60.7)
- Minimum Revenue Provision	(133.3)	(67.1)
- Voluntary Revenue Provision	-	-
- Capital Receipts set aside for debt redemption	(0.3)	(10.3)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	4,568.8	4,669.7
Explanation of Movements in Year		
Increase in underlying need to borrow	17.6	72.1
Assets acquired under finance leases	1.0	0.9
Assets acquired under PFI contracts	27.0	27.9
Increase/(decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	45.6	100.9
Movement in Year	45.6	100.9

Notes:

1 The Secretary of State direction relates to the permission given to local authorities to use capital receipts generated between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2019 to finance the revenue costs of transformation that deliver savings to the public sector.

Note 42

Leases

The Council has a significant number of leases, as summarised below.

Council as the lessee

Finance leases

The Council has acquired a number of buildings and other assets under finance leases. The assets acquired under these leases are carried in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts.

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
20.0	Other Land and Buildings	19.6
3.1	Vehicles, Plant Furniture & Equipment	2.7
23.1	Total	22.3

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

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
	Finance lease liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments):	
1.0	- current (not later than 1 year)	0.9
1.4	- non-current (later than 1 year)	1.3
1.8	Finance costs payable in future years	1.7
4.2	Minimum Lease Payments	3.9

The minimum lease payments will be payable over the following periods:

	Minimum lease payments		Finance lease liabilities	
	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
Not later than 1 year	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
Later than 5 years	1.5	1.4	0.1	0.1
Total	4.2	3.9	2.4	2.2

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2017/18 contingent rents of £0.1m were payable (2016/17: £0.1m).

The Council has not sublet any of the assets held under these finance leases.

Operating leases

The Council has acquired a number of administrative buildings under operating leases. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases where the length of lease was greater than 1 year at inception are:

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
0.5	Not later than 1 year	0.5
0.7	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0.7
1.5	Later than 5 years	1.4
2.7	Total	2.6

The Council has not sublet any of the assets held under these operating leases.

The expenditure charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year in relation to these leases was:

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
0.5	Minimum lease payments	0.5
0.1	Contingent rents	0.1
0.6	Total	0.6

Council as the lessor**Finance leases**

The Council has leased out property to a number of parties on finance leases. The Council has a gross investment in the lease, made up of the minimum lease payments expected to be received over the remaining term and the residual value anticipated for the property when the lease comes to an end. The minimum lease payments comprise settlement of the long-term debtor for the interest in the property acquired by the lessee, and finance income that will be earned by the Council in future years whilst the debtor remains outstanding. The gross investment is made up of the following amounts:

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
	Finance lease debtor (net present value of minimum lease payments):	
-	- current (not later than 1 year)	-
28.7	- non-current (later than 1 year)	30.9
192.7	Unearned finance income	192.3
(29.0)	Less – Unguaranteed residual value of property	(29.2)
192.4	Gross investment in the lease	194.0

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments will be received over the following periods:

	Finance Lease debtor		Minimum Lease payments	
	31 March 2017	31 March 2018	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Not later than 1 year	-	0.2	1.7	2.1
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	0.1	2.0	6.5	8.7
Later than 5 years	28.6	28.7	184.2	183.2
Total	28.7	30.9	192.4	194.0

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2017/18 £1.3m contingent rents were receivable by the Council (2016/17 £1.2m).

Operating leases

The Council has leased out property to a number of parties as operating leases.

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases where the length of lease was greater than 1 year at inception are:

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
11.4	Not later than 1 year	10.7
28.0	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	26.9
77.2	Later than 5 years	75.7
116.6	Total	113.3

The minimum lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2017/18 £2.7m contingent rents were receivable by the Council (2016/17 £3.0m).

Leases - contingent rent

Contingent rents are determined from the comparison of the property lease rental system to the accounts leasing system.

Note 43

Service Concession Arrangements

The Council has entered into a number of PFI arrangements through which assets are constructed or refurbished and services are provided under long-term contracts with private sector firms. These contracts cover Waste Disposal facilities, Schools and Highways Management and Maintenance.

These arrangements, which are included within concession arrangements, constitute the purchase of assets on deemed credit terms. The deemed credit terms vary between arrangements. The Council includes the cost of establishing Special Purpose Vehicles in the calculation of the liabilities. The main terms of the material arrangements are as follows:

- **Waste Disposal.** The arrangement includes the management and operation of the Council's Household Recycling Centres, Waste Transfer Stations and the Waste Incinerator. The contract began on 17 January 1994 and runs to 17 January 2019, with payments made monthly. Prices are indexed each year from 1 April. All assets, identified above, will revert to the Council at the end of the arrangement. There are no early terminations or period clauses within the contract and there have been no changes in the arrangement during the period under review.
- **Schools.** There are four separate arrangements in place for the rebuild / refurbishment and management of a total of 26 schools within Birmingham. These arrangements are of varying duration and service providers: 10 schools from 2001/02 (for 32 years), 11 schools from 2004/05 (for 35 years), four schools from 2011/12 (for 25 years) and a single secondary school from 2013/14 ending 2038/39. The service provider is paid a Unitary Charge monthly for the duration of the contracts, with indexation applied annually as per the terms of each contract. Within each contract the Council retains both the schools' assets and the liability for future contract commitments in the balance sheet, with the exception of when schools gain Academy status. There are a number of PFI managed schools that have gained Academy status, a total of eight schools to date across the four separate school PFI contracts. Whilst the assets no longer belong to the Council and are thus removed from the balance sheet, the ongoing liability remains as a Council responsibility.
- **Birmingham Highways Management and Maintenance arrangement.** The contract provides for management and maintenance of all public highway and other contractually designated areas within the Birmingham boundary by the Service Provider. The contract commenced on 7 June 2010, with a contract period of 25 years, and provides for a five year period of remediation for all of the main highway assets followed by a 20 year period during which the improved highway condition is maintained. The management element of the contract deals with road space management under legislation and responsibility for the Street Works Register. Services include:
 - Raising highway standards
 - Upgrading street lighting and the Council's traffic management assets
 - Refurbishing the Council's tunnels
 - Maintaining specified street furniture.

Indexation is applied annually on 1 April by reference to movements in the Retail Price Index. Deductions can be levied for non-performance of the contractual deliverables as specified within the contract. As the size and scale of the highway network varies, the contract provides for these changes to be accrued into the network maintained by the Service Provider, attracting an increase/decrease in payments made as appropriate.

The Council continues to have full use of the roads and roadside furniture during the period of the arrangement, at the end of which all rights revert to the Council. There are no early terminations or period clauses within the PFI arrangement. There have been no changes in the arrangement during 2017/18.

Payments remaining as at 31 March 2018	Interest	Repayment of liability	Payment for services	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Payable in 2018/19	33.0	17.6	76.1	126.7
Payable within 2 to 5 years	121.7	53.2	173.7	348.6
Payable within 6 to 10 years	122.9	100.4	251.7	475.0
Payable within 11 to 15 years	76.6	134.6	295.0	506.2
Payable within 16 to 20 years	19.7	107.7	155.2	282.6
Payable within 21 to 25 years	0.7	8.3	9.1	18.1
Total	374.6	421.8	960.8	1,757.2

Although the payments made to the contractor are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractor for the fair value of the services they provide, the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed. The movement in the liabilities to repay the contractors for capital expenditure incurred is as follows:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
457.0	Liability outstanding at the start of the year	439.9
(44.1)	Repayment of liability	(46.0)
27.0	Lifecycle and further capital expenditure	27.9
439.9	Liability outstanding at the year end	421.8

In 2017/18 £27.1m of the costs incurred in respect of lifecycle and further capital expenditure relates to the continuing upgrade of the City's highway infrastructure, with the remainder incurred on minor enhancements to schools' PFI projects.

Contingent rents, charged to the CIES, as a result of the impact of inflation total £5.4m (2016/17: £4.2m). The outstanding liability identified does not include the impact of future contingent rent.

Note 44

Members' Allowances

Allowances paid to Members of the Council in 2017/18 totalled £2.5m (2016/17: £2.5m). These figures include Members' allowances and expenses. Further information can be found on the Council's website.

Note 45

Officers' Remuneration

The remuneration paid to or receivable by the Council's senior employees is detailed in the table below.

		Salary, fees and allowances	Compensation for loss of office	Expense allowances	Pension contributions	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
S Manzie CBE, Interim Chief Executive ⁽¹⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	192,668	-	-	28,167	220,835
A Probert, Chief Operating Officer, Strategic Services ⁽²⁾	2016/17	139,516	-	-	18,695	158,211
	2017/18	146,131	-	-	22,358	168,489
P Hay, Strategic Director, People ⁽³⁾	2016/17	155,018	190,909	7,200	20,772	373,899
	2017/18	69,005	-	-	7,985	76,990
J Kennedy, Corporate Director, Place	2016/17	144,684	-	-	19,388	164,072
	2017/18	151,359	-	-	23,158	174,517
W Nazir, Corporate Director, Economy	2016/17	139,516	-	-	18,695	158,211
	2017/18	146,131	-	-	22,358	168,489
P Dransfield, Strategic Director – Major Programmes and Projects, Corporate Resources ⁽⁴⁾	2016/17	155,018	-	-	20,772	175,790
	2017/18	41,751	83,300	420	319,304	444,775
C Heaphy, Corporate Director, Finance and Governance ⁽⁵⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	41,429	-	-	-	41,429
M O'Donnell, Interim Chief Finance Officer ⁽⁶⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	-	-	-	-	-
Dr G Betts, Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health ⁽⁷⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	77,966	-	-	-	77,966
C Diamond CBE, Corporate Director, Children and Young People ⁽⁸⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	92,960	-	-	-	92,960
A Couldrick, Chief Executive, Birmingham Children's Trust ⁽⁹⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	95,617	-	-	14,629	110,246
Dr A Phillips, Director of Public Health	2016/17	124,076	-	-	17,743	141,819
	2017/18	125,128	-	-	17,993	143,121

		Salary, fees and allowances	Compensation for loss of office	Expense allowances	Pension contributions	Total
		£	£	£	£	£
J Tew, Assistant Chief Executive ⁽¹⁰⁾	2016/17	-	-	-	-	-
	2017/18	28,441	-	-	4,351	32,792
P DasGupta, Assistant Chief Executive ⁽¹¹⁾	2016/17	83,446	-	-	11,182	94,628
	2017/18	23,336	-	-	3,570	26,906

Notes:

- (1) Stella Manzie CBE, was Interim Chief Executive from 5 April 2017 to 31 March 2018.
- (2) Angela Probert, Chief Operating Officer, Strategic Services was Acting Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service with effect from 1 March 2017 to 4 April 2017.
- (3) Peter Hay held the statutory roles of Chief Education Officer, Director of Children's Social Care and Director of Adult Social Services during 2016/17. Peter left the service on 31 March 2017 on secondment before he retired on 31 July 2017.
- (4) Paul Dransfield, Strategic Director – Major Programmes and Projects, Corporate Resources retired from the Council on 31 July 2017
- (5) Clive Heaphy, Corporate Director, Finance and Governance and Section 151 Officer took up his post with effect from 3 January 2018
- (6) Mike O'Donnell took up post as Interim Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer with effect from 27 March 2017 until 31 December 2017. Mike was seconded to the Council from the London Borough of Camden for four days each week. Payments due to the London Borough of Camden in respect of the arrangement were £144,742 in 2017/18, (2016/17: £6,400).
- (7) Dr Graeme Betts, Interim Corporate Director, Adult Social Care and Health was initially employed through an agency, the costs of which were £153,738 in 2017/18. Graeme transferred to the Council payroll as an employee on 5 October 2017.
- (8) Colin Diamond CBE, Interim Corporate Director, Children and Young People was initially employed as a contractor, the costs of which were £66,000 in 2017/18. Colin transferred to the Council payroll as an employee on 1 September 2017.
- (9) Andy Couldrick took up post of Chief Executive of Birmingham Children's Trust on 14 August 2017. The Trust, which is independent of the Council, is responsible for the provision of children's care services from 1 April 2018.
- (10) Jonathan Tew, Assistant Chief Executive took up his post on 2 January 2018.
- (11) Piali DasGupta, Assistant Chief Executive left her post on 10 July 2017.

Coverage of statutory posts during periods of annual leave or sickness absence was by officers within the relevant teams under delegated responsibilities.

Other Council employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions) were paid the amounts detailed in the table below. However, staff within Voluntary Aided and Foundation schools are employed by the governing body of the school and have therefore been excluded from the table below.

Teaching Staff & Staff in Schools	2016/17 Other Council Employees	Total	Remuneration band	Teaching Staff & Staff in Schools	2017/18 Other Council Employees	Total
No	No	No		No	No	No
160	242	402	£50,000 - £54,999	158	291	449
103	62	165	£55,000 - £59,999	107	85	192
61	61	122	£60,000 - £64,999	67	55	122
63	67	130	£65,000 - £69,999	41	48	89
31	13	44	£70,000 - £74,999	42	46	88
15	13	28	£75,000 - £79,999	16	8	24
11	6	17	£80,000 - £84,999	15	13	28
7	12	19	£85,000 - £89,999	5	12	17
7	10	17	£90,000 - £94,999	3	9	12
5	6	11	£95,000 - £99,999	6	5	11
2	2	4	£100,000 - £104,999	1	8	9
1	1	2	£105,000 - £109,999	1	3	4
-	-	-	£110,000 - £114,999	-	4	4
-	-	-	£115,000 - £119,999	-	1	1
1	4	5	£120,000 +	-	5	5
467	499	966		462	593	1,055

Remuneration includes salary, allowances, bonuses and compensation for loss of employment.

The 'Other Council Employees' figures in the above table include employees with planned termination payments, 113 in 2017/18 (49 in 2016/17). Excluding employees in receipt of planned termination payments, 480 employees in 2017/18 (450 in 2016/17) received remuneration of £50,000 or more.

The number of Teaching Staff and Staff in Schools reflect those staff employed by the Council and has been affected by the conversion of a number of schools to Academy Status. Academy schools are independent of the Council and their employees are therefore excluded from the Council's financial statements.

The number of staff in Voluntary Aided and Foundation Schools, with a remuneration of more than £50,000 per annum, was 147 in 2017/18 (2016/17: 176).

Note 46

Exit Packages

The costs of exit packages are amounts payable as a result of either the Council's decision to terminate an employee's employment before the normal retirement date, or an employee's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits. The following table provides information on the number of exit packages payable by the Council for the year, with total cost per band and total cost of both compulsory and other redundancies.

2016/17							2017/18					
Compulsory		Voluntary		Total		Value of individual package	Compulsory		Voluntary		Total	
No	£m	No	£m	No	£m		No	£m	No	£m	No	£m
-	-	2	0.7	2	0.7	£000	-	-	3	1.1	3	1.1
-	-	1	0.2	1	0.2	£250+	-	-	3	0.7	3	0.7
2	0.4	7	1.2	9	1.6	£200 - £250	1	0.2	11	1.8	12	2.0
2	0.2	18	2.2	20	2.4	£150 - £200	-	-	50	6.0	50	6.0
1	0.1	14	1.2	15	1.3	£100 - £150	3	0.3	31	2.7	34	3.0
4	0.3	15	1.0	19	1.3	£80 - £100	3	0.2	28	2.0	31	2.2
-	-	22	1.1	22	1.1	£60 - £80	3	0.1	49	2.4	52	2.5
7	0.2	66	1.8	73	2.0	£40 - £60	18	0.5	202	5.5	220	6.0
56	0.3	340	2.3	396	2.6	£20 - £40	113	0.8	516	4.4	629	5.2
72	1.5	485	11.7	557	13.2	less than £20	141	2.1	893	26.6	1,034	28.7
						Total						

In addition to the costs of exit packages identified above, the Council incurred costs of £0.2m in 2017/18 (£0.2m in 2016/17) relating to the provision of transitional support and training to employees whose further employment was considered to be at risk.

Exit packages include the costs of compulsory and voluntary redundancy, pension fund strain payments and other departure costs.

Note 47

Auditor Remuneration

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

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
0.3	Fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	0.3
0.1	Fees payable to Grant Thornton UK LLP for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year	0.1
0.4	Total	0.4

Note 48
Related Parties

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

Central Government

Central Government has effective control over the general operations of the Council – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (for example, Council Tax bills, Business Rates, Housing Benefits). Grants received from Government departments are set out in Note 14. Grant receipts outstanding at 31 March 2018 are included in the balances within Note 29.

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operational policies. The total of Members' allowances paid in 2017/18 is shown in Note 44.

Officers

There were no transactions between Senior Officers of the Council and the Council and its related parties, other than the receipt of emoluments due as employees of the Council and payments of Council Tax due as appropriate.

Greater Birmingham and Solihull Business Rates Pooling Arrangement

The Greater Birmingham and Solihull Business Rates Pool (the Pool) was designated by the Secretary of State in accordance with paragraph 34 of Schedule 7B to the Local Government Finance Act 1988 as a pool of authorities for the purposes of the scheme for the local retention of business rates under schedule 7B to the Act.

The Council entered into a pooled budget arrangement in 2013/14 with seven other local authorities including acting as intermediary between the authorities and government in respect of top-up/tariff payments, as detailed in the table below, following the introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme. This arrangement has continued in 2017/18. The objective of the Pool is to adopt a strategic approach to promoting growth and job creation that supports the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership's Strategy for Growth, which includes:

- economic development;
- core funding; or
- a combination of both.

The funding provided to the pooled budget includes tariff payments that would otherwise have been paid to the Government. The expenditure met from the budget paid to the Council includes an element of its top-up payments that it would otherwise have received from the Government. The table below, which has been restated for 2016/17 to include the residual top-up from Central Government, summarises the financial activity for the year.

	2016/17 (Restated) £m	2017/18 £m
Funding provided to the pooled budget		
Birmingham City Council	-	-
Bromsgrove District Council	9.5	7.9
Cannock Chase District Council	11.0	9.3
East Staffordshire Borough Council	19.5	18.3
Lichfield District Council	11.8	11.8
Redditch Borough Council	12.6	10.4
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	26.7	57.8
Tamworth Borough Council	11.1	10.6
Central Government – Top-up (Residual)	27.7	2.3
	129.9	128.4
Expenditure met from the pooled budget		
Birmingham City Council	127.3	123.7
Bromsgrove District Council	0.1	0.1
Cannock Chase District Council	0.1	0.2
East Staffordshire Borough Council	0.2	0.2
Lichfield District Council	0.2	0.2
Redditch Borough Council	0.1	0.0
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	0.2	0.7
Tamworth Borough Council	0.1	0.3
GBS LEP	1.1	2.0
Safety Net Contingency	0.5	1.0
	129.9	128.4

The information in the table above is based on information available at the time of compiling the 2017/18 Statement of Accounts. On finalisation of the business rates income (post audit), it is possible that there may be a change to income to be re-allocated, but this is not expected to be of a material nature overall.

The Pool will continue in future years in its present form until such time that a decision is taken by one or more members that leads to the arrangement being varied or ended.

Other Public Bodies

Pooled Budgets

The Council is in a pooled budget arrangement with the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) covering the Birmingham area, namely, Birmingham Cross City CCG, Birmingham South Central CCG and Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG. The pooled budget is responsible for the joint commissioning of services relating to Mental Health and Learning Disabilities. The objective of the pooled arrangement is to improve services for users through closer working and co-operation in the commissioning of services. The arrangements have been established pursuant to Section 75 of the NHS Act 2006 and related Regulations with the Council hosting the Learning Disability element and the combined CCGs hosting Mental Health Services provision. The table below summarises the financial activity for the year.

	2016/17		2017/18	
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Funding provided to the pooled budget				
Birmingham City Council	101.2		113.7	
Combined Clinical Commissioning Groups	167.1		174.7	
		268.3		288.4
Expenditure met from the pooled budget				
Birmingham City Council	101.2		113.7	
Combined Clinical Commissioning Groups	167.1		174.7	
		268.3		288.4
Net surplus arising from the pooled budget during the year		-		-

The Better Care Fund

The Better Care Fund (BCF) was announced in June 2013 with the intention of driving the transformation of local care services and is operated through pooled budget arrangements between the Council and local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). Specific resources were earmarked for the BCF by NHS England in its allocation to Clinical Commissioning Groups. The remainder of the fund was made up of the Social Care Capital Grant and the Disabled Facilities Grant which were paid to local authorities. No new money was made available at the time to the health and care system but the BCF provided an opportunity for joint working between local authorities and health organisations to deliver better outcomes for service users. The funding the Council receives through the BCF replaces the Section 256 transfer from the NHS that has been made in previous years.

In 2017/18 the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) was implemented. This was introduced in two statements, the first – iBCF1 in November 2016 and the second - iBCF2 in Spring 2017. The Section 31 Grant received by local authorities, was to be included in the BCF Pool. For Birmingham this was an increase in funds of £33.8m.

The Council endorsed the principle of a BCF joint pooled budget for Older Adult Social Care and Health integrated provision between the Council and local CCGs, namely Birmingham Cross City CCG, Birmingham South Central CCG and Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG. Joint proposals were developed during 2014/15 for implementation from 1 April 2015, which included the Council acting as host for the BCF.

In 2017/18 funding of £86.5m (2016/17: £79.3m) was earmarked for the BCF by the Department of Health via the CCGs as detailed in the table below. The Council's contribution was made up of the resources previously allocated through two capital grants, namely the Disabled Facilities Grant and the Social Care Capital Grant and the improved Better Care Fund (iBCF)

	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Contribution to the BCF Pooled Fund		
Birmingham Cross City CCG	50.4	55.9
Birmingham South Central CCG	17.9	19.1
Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG	11.0	11.5
NHS Contribution	79.3	86.5
 Birmingham City Council	 13.9	 11.5
iBCF Section 31 grant		33.8
Total BCF Pooled Fund	93.2	131.8

The BCF will be used to fund a number of schemes as identified in the agreed joint plan. The management arrangements for the individual projects will be dependent on the services being provided and will include:

- Sole control of the activities by CCGs;
- Sole control of the activities by the Council;
- Joint control of the activities with CCGs or the Council acting as host;
- Lead commissioning by CCGs or the Council on behalf of the other organisations.

Details of the specific projects are set out below.

Service Provision	Budgeted Activity		Nature of Arrangement
	2016/17	2017/18	
	£m	£m	
Bed Based Additional Provision	1.7	1.5	Lead Commissioning – Council
Social Care Based Additional Provision	2.1	4.9	Sole Control – Council
Reablement – Kenrick Centre	-	1.5	Sole Control – Council
Care Act	3.0	3.0	Lead Commissioning – Council
Carers Strategy	1.2	1.0	Joint Control
Eligibility Criteria	20.5	20.8	Sole Control – Council
Acuity Tool Management	0.4	-	Joint Control
CUR Implementation Team	0.2	0.1	Joint Control
Recovery Team Implementation	0.2	-	Joint Control
Management of Programme	0.6	0.4	Joint Control
Community Services	43.0	45.6	Sole Control – CCGs
Reablement – Rapid Assessment, Interface and Discharge	1.7	1.7	Sole Control – CCGs
Dementia	-	2.6	Sole Control – CCGs
Assertive Outreach	-	0.2	Sole Control – CCGs
Wellbeing Co-ordinators	-	-	Joint Control
Non Elective Admissions (reduction)	6.6	-	Sole Control – CCGs
Equipment Contracts	6.0	4.7	Joint Control
Disabled Facilities Grant and Capital	8.8	9.7	Sole Control – Council
Non-recurring Pump Priming Schemes	3.8	0.2	Joint Control
Contingency	(0.1)	0.1	Joint Control
	99.7	98.0	
Balance of funding	0.1	-	
iBCF	-	33.8	Sole Control – Council
Total BCF	99.8	131.8	

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

Other Related Parties

During 2017/18 payments, to the value of £338.4m, inclusive of VAT, were payable to related parties of which £24.9m remained outstanding at 31 March 2018. Additionally £71.2m inclusive of VAT, was receivable during 2017/18 from companies in which the Council had a related party interest of which £27.3m remained outstanding at 31 March 2018. The majority of the value of expenditure is in relation to companies where elected members are acting in their official capacity within the Group.

Other balances at 31 March 2018 are assets of £41.7m of investments, £78.1m of loans (of which £68.7m is repayable after 31 March 2019) and £7.6m of leases; and liabilities of £85.5m of funding guarantees.

Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council

The Council maintains involvement with a number of associated and subsidiary companies where the assets and liabilities of these companies are not included in the Council's core financial statements. Group accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18.

The subsidiaries that have been consolidated into the group financial statements are listed below :

	Expenditure	Income	Creditor balance at year end	Debtor balance at year end
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Acivico Limited	28.3	2.9	7.0	14.1
Birmingham City Propco Limited	-	-	-	-
Innovation Birmingham Limited	0.6	0.2	-	-
InReach (Birmingham) Limited	-	0.1	0.4	-
National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Limited Plc	5.6	-	-	-
PETPS (Birmingham) Limited	-	-	-	-
PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding SLP	3.9	-	0.4	-

The associates and joint venture that have been consolidated into the group financial statements are listed below :-

	Expenditure	Income	Creditor balance at year end	Debtor balance at year end
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited (BAH)	-	9.5	-	2.2
Paradise Circus General Partner Limited	13.9	1.2	-	0.5
Service Birmingham Limited (to 31.12.2017)	64.4	9.5	0.4	-

The Council also has relationships with a number of other companies and third party organisations where the assets and liabilities of the Council's holding is not material to the Group Accounts or where the Council has representation and influence on the board of the organisation but has no claim on the assets and liabilities of the organisation. Details of the organisation and its relationship to the Council are set out in the tables below.

Organisations where the Council has 100% share ownership of the company but the level of activity is not material to the Council's Group Accounts are detailed below. Those organisations highlighted with an asterisk had transactions with the Council in excess of £0.1m in 2017/18

Birmingham Business Support Centre Limited	Creative Advantage West Midlands Limited
Birmingham Charities Limited	Finance Birmingham Limited*
Birmingham Curzon Regeneration Company Limited	Forward Homes (Birmingham) Limited
Birmingham Endeavour Limited	Frontier Development Holding Limited
Birmingham Municipal Housing Limited	Gallery 37 Foundation
Birmingham Museums Trust*	Greater Birmingham and West Midlands Brussels Office
Birmingham Venture Capital Limited*	NEC Pension Trustee Company Limited
Birmingham Wheels Ltd*	Performances (Birmingham) Limited*

Entities where the Council has some influence

Organisations, including associated subsidiaries, where the Council is a minority shareholder of the company and the level of activity is not material to the Council's Group Accounts are detailed below. Those organisations highlighted with an asterisk had transactions with the Council in excess of £0.1m in 2017/18.

Ascarii Limited	Frontier Development Capital Limited
Ascension Ventures	Goodfish Limited
Aston Eyetech Limited	Icknield Port Loop LLP
Auctus*	Inceptum Development Limited
Big Button	Info-Ctrl Limited
Birmingham LEP Company (also known as Birmingham Lend Lease Partnership)*	Learning Labs Limited
Birmingham Research Park Ltd*	Midlands Industrial Association Ltd
Birmingham Schools SPC Holdings Phase 1A Limited	Mutt Motorcycles Limited
Birmingham Schools SPC Phase 1A Limited*	Natural HR Limited
Birmingham Schools SPC Holdings Phase 1B Limited	Obillex Limited
Birmingham Schools SPC Phase 1B Limited*	Opinsta Limited
Birmingham Wholesale Market Company Limited*	Owened It
Bridge Street Management Ltd	Pure Business Services Limited
Central Technology Belt	Stockfield Community Association
Crowd Technologies	Stockfield Community Association (Subsidiary) Ltd
CSR City Limited	UK Municipal Bonds Agency Plc
Droplet Online	Veolia Environmental Services Birmingham Ltd*
Ex Cathedra	Vision Technologies
Finds You	West Midlands Growth Company Limited*
Foodient T/A Whisk	Wetakestock Limited
Formatzone Limited	

The Council also has representation on the board of a number of organisations but has no associated shareholding or entitlement to returns from the organisation. Details of the relevant companies are detailed below. Those organisations highlighted with an asterisk had transactions with the Council in excess of £0.1m in 2017/18.

Acocks Green Primary School Academy*	Heart Of England NHS FT
Alston Primary School Academy*	Joseph Chamberlain College*
Ark Tindal Primary School Academy*	King Edward VI Academy Trust*
Bartley Green School Academy*	Leigh Primary School Academy*
Birmingham Asian Resource Centre	Midlands Arts Centre*
Birmingham Citizens Advice Bureau Service Ltd*	Millennium Point Property Ltd*
Birmingham Disability Resource Centre*	Millennium Point Trust
Birmingham Opera Company	Prince Albert Primary School Academy*
Birmingham Repertory Theatre*	St Basils*
Birmingham Royal Ballet*	St. Paul's Community Development Trust*
Birmingham Settlement Ltd	Shenley School Academy*
Birmingham Voluntary Service Council	Tile Cross Academy School*
Bournville College*	Warren Farm Primary School Academy*
Bournville School*	Warwickshire County Cricket Club*
Castle Vale Neighbourhood Partnership Board	West Midlands Ambulance Service
City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra*	West Midlands Combined Authority*
Cockshut Hill Technology College Academy*	West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority
Dance Xchange*	Wilson Stuart School Academy*
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP Ltd.	Witton Lodge Community Association Ltd*
Greenholm Primary School Academy	Wyndcliffe Primary School*
Heathfield Primary School Academy*	

Business Improvement Districts (BID) are business led partnerships, created to deliver additional services to local businesses. A BID covers a defined area in which a levy is charged on all business rate payers, which is then used to develop projects that will benefit business within the area. The Council has representation on BID boards within the Birmingham area as detailed below. Those organisations highlighted with an asterisk had transactions with the Council in excess of £0.1m in 2017/18.

Acocks Green Village BID*	Retail Birmingham Limited*
Colmore Business District BID*	Soho Road BID
Erdington Town Centre Partnership	Southside BID*
Jewellery Quarter Development Trust CIC	Sutton Coldfield Town Centre BID*
Kings Heath BID	Westside Partnership Limited*
Northfield Town Centre BID	

Tenant Management Organisations (TMO) – The Council, whilst not having shareholding, entitlement to returns, nor board representation, does still hold significant influence over these bodies. Those highlighted with an asterisk had transactions with the Council in excess of £0.1m in 2017/18.

Bloomsbury Estate Management Board*
Four Towers TMO*
Holly Rise Housing Co-operative

Manor Close Residents' Management Organisation*
Roman Way Estate Community Interest Company*

Other Related Parties

In addition to the companies where the Council has influence through its share ownership or representation on the board, set out above, the Council has had transactions of over £100,000 with the following organisations which fall within the definition of related parties:

Anthony Collins Solicitors
Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Trust
Birmingham and Solihull Women's Aid
Birmingham Community Healthcare Trust
Birmingham YMCA
Camden London Borough Council
Focus Birmingham
Highclare Independent School
Leigh Trust

Norton Hall Children and Family Centre
Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHST
Shencare Community Transport Trust
Sir Josiah Mason Trust
South and City College (Birmingham) Limited
Thompsons Solicitors
University Hospital Birmingham Foundation Trust
Yardley Great Trust

The value of transactions for other, non-consolidated, related parties, individually less than £100,000 was net expenditure of £0.6m (£1.1m expenditure and £0.5m income).

Note 49

The Council Acting as Agent

The Council acts as an intermediary in its role as agent for a number of external bodies. The Council processes transactions through its financial ledger but does not include them in its financial statements as there is no exposure to significant risk or reward associated with the transactions. Details of the major activities where the Council acts as agent are detailed below:

Agency Role	No	Level of Reserve	Gross Expenditure
		£m	£m
Provision of External Payrolls	122	-	294.4
Accountable Body	29	197.9	199.6
Business Rate Pooling	8	2.0	128.4
Arrangements supporting Housing activities	5	3.1	0.5
Reporting of Trust activities	20	24.6	0.4
Subsidiary Companies	3	31.0	-
Other transactions	7	-	0.9

External Payrolls

The Council provides payroll services to a number of external organisations, including Academy Schools and Colleges of Further Education, using capacity within its payroll system. Whilst the cost of providing the service is charged to the external organisation and forms part of the CIES, the payroll records for the external organisations do not form part of the Council's financial statements.

Accountable Body Role

The Council acts as accountable body for a number of external activities, including the Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (the LEP), Local Enterprise Zones and the England Illegal Money Lending Team.

The Council records and reports the financial activities of the bodies for which it is accountable and may receive directly the funds allocated to the activities and incur expenditure as directed by the external party. The Council may also receive funds in its own right from the arrangement to support eligible projects, which will form part of the Council's financial statements.

Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership

Resources have been made available through a number of Government sources, including the Regional Growth Fund where the Council has been identified as the accountable body. In its role as accountable body, under the terms and conditions of the funding arrangements, the Council has no entitlement to:

- retain any interest generated as a result of the provision of state funds;
- use the state funds in any way other than as provided for in the offer letter.

The Council acts as accountable body for the resources provided on behalf of the LEP. The Council may receive direct funding to support eligible projects as determined by the LEP's independent investment boards and committees.

Enterprise Zones

The Council provides accountancy support, collecting Business Rate contributions through its role as agent for the Collection Fund and making payments on its behalf against LEP approved projects as contained in the Enterprise Zone Investment Programme.

England Illegal Money Lending Team

The England Illegal Money Lending Team seizes and holds cash from third parties temporarily as part of its accountable body activities on behalf of the Courts.

Business Rate Pooling

Details of the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Business Rates Pooling Arrangement are set out in Note 48 to these financial statements.

Housing Activities

For a number of mixed tenure housing developments on Council owned land, the Council receives payment for any market sales prior to distribution between the Council and the developer.

Trusts

The Council provides administrative and accountancy support to a number of trusts and some of those are transacted through the Council's bank accounts. Included within this group are activities related to the collection of rent and management of properties on behalf of Housing Trusts and Community Associations.

Subsidiary Companies

Following the disposal of the Council's interests in NEC Group Limited, NEC Developments Ltd has a minimal number of transactions going through it in respect of its loan stock. The company is consolidated into the Council's Group Accounts. The Council provided guarantees to the Trustees of the fund and the Scheme to meet the current and future funding obligations that may arise in respect of the liabilities. In 2017/18, the Council has set up an arrangement through PETPS (Birmingham) Capital, PETPS (Birmingham) General Partner Limited and their joint partnership, PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership that will enable the Council to spread the implications of the guarantee across the anticipated deficit recovery period.

Other

The Council provides accountancy support to:

- a number of National and Regional bodies, collecting contributions and making payments on their behalf
- receiving and making payments in respect of service users who require support in managing their resources.

Note 50

Trust Funds

The Council administers a number of trust funds which have been established from donations and bequests made to it to meet a variety of objectives and purposes. The total funds held at 31 March 2018 was £28.8m (2016/17: £28.6m). In addition, the Council held £2.1m (2016/17: £3.2m) of Adult Services Clients' Funds. The trust funds and clients' funds do not represent assets of the Council and have not been included in the Consolidated Balance Sheet. The major trust funds are detailed below.

	Balance at 31 March 2017	Income	Expenditure	Balance at 31 March 2018
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council acting as Sole Trustee				
Birmingham Municipal Charity - general charitable objectives	0.4	0.3	-	0.7
Charles Baker Trust – for the elderly and disabled	0.3	-	-	0.3
Cropwood Estate – management of the estate	14.8	-	-	14.8
Elford Trust – healthy recreation for Birmingham citizens	3.5	-	-	3.5
Harriet Louisa Loxton Charity – for the aged and infirm	1.8	-	-	1.8
Highbury Trust – for the benefit of the citizens of Birmingham	2.0	0.1	0.1	2.0
Total Council acting as Sole Trustee	22.8	0.4	0.1	23.1
Council acting as Custodian				
Alderson – to let dwelling houses to ex-servicemen and other persons in need	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.4
Bodenham Trust – for children with special educational needs	0.7	-	-	0.7
Clara Martineau Trust – for children with special educational needs	4.0	0.1	-	4.1
Holinsworth Fund – to further the work of voluntary bodies	0.2	-	0.2	-
The Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal – for charitable purposes	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Moseley Road Friends Institute – provision and maintenance	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Other	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total Council acting as Custodian	5.8	0.5	0.6	5.7
Total Trust Balances	28.6	0.9	0.7	28.8

Analysis of the assets of the main funds:

	Restricted Funds at 31 March 2018 £m	Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2018 £m	Total Funds at 31 March 2018 £m
Council acting as Sole Trustee			
Birmingham Municipal Charity - general charitable objectives	0.7	-	0.7
Charles Baker Trust – for the elderly and disabled	0.1	0.2	0.3
Cropwood Estate – management of the estate	0.5	14.3	14.8
Elford Trust – healthy recreation for Birmingham citizens	3.3	0.2	3.5
Harriet Louisa Loxton Charity – for the aged and infirm	1.6	0.2	1.8
Highbury Trust – for the benefit of the citizens of Birmingham	2.0	-	2.0
Total Council acting as Sole Trustee	8.2	14.9	23.1
Council acting as Custodian			
Alderson – To let dwelling houses to ex-servicemen and other persons in need	-	0.4	0.4
Bodenham Trust – for children with special educational needs	0.7	-	0.7
Clara Martineau Trust – for children with special educational needs	4.1	-	4.1
Holinsworth Fund – to further the work of voluntary bodies	-	-	-
The Lord Mayor's Charity Appeal – for charitable purposes	-	0.1	0.1
Moseley Road Friends Institute – provision and maintenance	0.2	-	0.2
Other	0.1	0.1	0.2
Total Council acting as Custodian	5.1	0.6	5.7
Total Assets	13.3	15.5	28.8

SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 2017/18

Housing Revenue Account - Income and Expenditure Statement

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) reflects a statutory obligation to maintain a revenue account for local Council housing provision in accordance with Part 6 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. The Account is required to be self-financing and cannot subsidise or be subsidised by the General Fund. The HRA Income and Expenditure Statement shows the economic cost in the year of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants. The Council charges rents to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The increase or decrease in the year, on the basis of which rents are raised, is shown in the Movement on the HRA Statement.

The detailed income and expenditure for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the impairment of HRA assets that was previously incorrectly allocated against General Fund balances. This restatement has no impact on the net HRA or General Fund balances carried forward to future years.

2016/17 (Restated) £m		Note	2017/18 £m
	Income		
(263.8)	Dwellings rents		(258.6)
(7.9)	Non-dwellings rents		(9.1)
(18.1)	Charges for services and facilities		(19.0)
(289.8)	Total Income		(286.7)
	Expenditure		
57.4	Repairs and maintenance		53.5
78.0	Supervision and management	H9	82.5
5.1	Rent, rates, taxes and other charges		5.4
124.6	Depreciation and impairment charge	H3,H6 & H11	50.6
-	Depreciation reversed through CIES on Revaluation		(50.3)
0.2	Debt management costs		0.2
5.0	Movement in the allowance for bad debts (not specified by the Code)		4.5
270.3	Total Expenditure		146.4
(19.5)	Net Expenditure or Income of HRA Services as included in the whole authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and Net (Income) / Cost of HRA Services		(140.3)

HRA share of the operating income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:		
52.6	Interest payable and similar charges	51.3
0.5	Amortisation of premia and discounts	0.4
(0.3)	HRA interest and investment income	(0.5)
0.5	(Gains)/ Losses on the disposal of HRA non-current assets	(19.0)
2.8	Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	3.8
(1.4)	Capital Grants and Contributions Receivable	(4.8)
35.2 (Surplus)/Deficit for the Year on HRA Services		(109.1)

Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
35.2	(Surplus)/Deficit for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Account	(109.1)
(36.5)	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute (Note 16)	106.7
(1.3)	Net (increase) / decrease before transfers to / (from) reserves	(2.4)
1.2	Transfers to / (from) reserves	2.3
(0.1)	(Increase) / decrease for the year on HRA balance	(0.1)
(4.6)	HRA Balance Brought Forward	(4.7)
(4.7)	HRA Balance Carried Forward	(4.8)

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

H1. Housing Stock

The types of properties (including Shared Ownership properties) owned by the Council at 31 March comprise:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
3,725	1 bedroom bungalows	3,715
15,152	1 bedroom flats	15,036
49	1 bedroom houses	52
296	2 bedroom bungalows	295
10,758	2 bedroom flats	10,708
8,494	2 bedroom houses	8,428
31	3 or more bedroom bungalows	30
4,150	3 or more bedroom flats	4,009
19,415	3 or more bedroom houses	19,180
62,070	Total housing stock	61,453

The change in the property numbers is analysed below:

2016/17		2017/18
62,637	Stock at 1 April	62,070
(632)	Sales	(784)
(143)	Demolitions / transfers	(119)
208	Acquisitions	286
62,070	Stock at 31 March	61,453

The Balance Sheet values of HRA non-current assets are as follows:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
2,154.0	Council dwellings/garages	2,186.7
-	Assets under Construction	23.7
35.9	Other land and buildings	37.8
2,189.9	Total operational assets	2,248.2
18.9	Non-operational assets	19.2
2,208.8	Total	2,267.4

The housing stock, land and other property within the HRA are valued in line with the MHCLG Guidance on Stock Valuation for Resource Accounting published in November 2016. The basis of the valuation for the housing stock element is in accordance with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors using the Existing Use Value - Social Housing basis, which takes open market value for the underlying dwellings and applies a discount factor to reflect the reduced value as a result of use for social housing for 2017/18 of 40%.

The change reflects properties lost through sales, demolitions, acquisitions, and revaluation of Beacon Values and depreciation. £113.4m was spent on HRA dwellings during the year.

As at 31 March 2018, the Council also owned 86 dwellings (2017: 82) that were occupied by trespassers following the death or departure of the tenant of that property. These properties are, therefore, not available for social housing. These properties are not considered to have a value whilst they are occupied in this way, but if they were to become available for social housing, their value, on the basis of an Existing Use Value – Social Housing (EUV-SH) would be £3.1m (2017: £2.8m).

The value of the Council dwellings is broken down into components as follows:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
529.7	Land	441.6
20.4	Kitchens	19.2
21.7	Bathrooms	23.1
43.4	Windows	34.3
52.2	Heating	52.4
37.1	Roofs	18.4
1,449.5	Remaining Structure	1,597.7
2,154.0	Total	2,186.7

H2. Value of Dwellings on Vacant Possession

(a) The vacant possession value of dwellings within the Council's HRA, valued in accordance with the Guidance, as at 31 March 2018 is £5,396.9m.

(b) The difference between the above figure and the figure of £2,186.7m in the Balance Sheet notionally represents diminution in the value of assets caused by their being let at social housing rents, according to the MHCLG's stock valuation model as explained in Supplementary Note H1.

H3. Revaluations and Impairment Charges

Revaluations and impairment charges reflect an increase or reduction in the value of property due to the economic environment or an event has occurred to the assets. This could include a decline in demand, obsolescence, and commitments to make significant changes to housing. There has been no identified impairment in HRA asset values in 2017/18 (2016/17 as restated - £77.1m). A revaluation of the HRA dwellings has identified a net increase in value of £30.8m. This increase has been transferred to a revaluation reserve.

H4. Major Repairs Reserve

A transfer is made to the Major Repairs Reserve each year of a value equivalent to the amount charged to the HRA for depreciation of dwellings based on the componentised valuation of the dwellings and individual component residual lives, to make provision for ongoing elemental renewal over the longer term.

The main movements on the Major Repairs Reserve are set out below

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
5.8	Balance on Major Repairs Reserve at 1 April	39.0
47.5	Amount transferred to Major Repairs Reserve during the year	50.3
(14.3)	Charge to the Major Repairs Reserve during the financial year in respect of capital expenditure on the land, houses and other property within the Council's HRA	(60.7)
39.0	Balance on Major Repairs Reserve at 31 March	28.6

H5. Capital Expenditure on HRA Assets

Expenditure on HRA assets was funded from the following sources:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
22.5	Usable Capital Receipts (Right to Buy / land)	48.3
14.3	Major Repairs Reserve	10.6
27.8	HRA Revenue contributions	50.6
28.0	Prudential Borrowing	0.0
3.3	Other resources	3.9
95.9		113.4

The total capital receipts from disposals of land, houses and other property within the HRA during the financial year was £58.9m (land £19.9m, houses £39.0m). The values for 2016/17 were £36.1m (land £6.0m and houses £30.1m). The Government operates a capital receipts pooling framework and of these amounts £6.3m was paid to Central Government (2016/17: £6.3m).

H6. Depreciation Charges

The total charge for depreciation for the land, houses, and other property within the Council's HRA is £50.3m (2016/17: £47.5m). The depreciation charge is calculated by reference to an assessment of the remaining useful life of the key components of each individual dwelling valued on a depreciated replacement cost basis.

H7. Contribution from Pension Reserve

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement includes pension costs calculated in accordance with International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 as described in detail in Note 21 to the Financial Statements. To ensure that these costs do not affect the level of HRA balances and Council House rents, an appropriation is made from the Pensions Reserve so that the movement in balances only reflects the actual employer's pension contribution.

H8. Rent Arrears

Rent arrears from current tenants at 31 March 2018 totalled £12.9m (2016/17: £12.3m). Other arrears including Housing Benefit overpayments, leaseholder major works and miscellaneous services totalled £23.4m at 31 March 2018 (2016/17: £22.5m).

A provision for bad debts has been made to meet possible future write offs of rent and other services/leaseholder/benefit overpayments. The provision was £31.4m at 31 March 2018 (2016/17: £29.8m) and has been calculated based on value/aged analysis in accordance with Government guidelines.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
12.3	Current tenants	12.9
13.2	Housing benefit overpayment	13.8
9.3	Other debt (services/leaseholders)	9.6
34.8	Total arrears	36.3
29.8	Provision for bad debts	31.4

H9. Supervision and Management

The Council has recognised that an element of the settlements being agreed in respect of equal pay claims relate to employees whose employment costs fell on the HRA. Therefore the HRA has been charged its share of the Council's overall Equal Pay liability based on the current estimate of claims. The charge to the HRA relates solely to claims relating to activities correctly charged to the HRA, and amounts to a charge of £0.9m in 2017/18 (2016/17: £0.7m). These amounts also include £2.9m that has been set aside in a provision for future years' payments. Statutory arrangements allow the change in provision to be reversed back to an Equal Pay Back Pay Account. The remaining balance on the Equal Pay Back Pay Account will be debited back to the HRA through the Movement in Reserves Statement in future financial years as payments are made.

H10. Restatement of 2016/17 accounts

A restatement of the 2016/17 accounts has been made to the Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Account to correctly account for the impairment to the carrying value of HRA dwellings as at 31 March 2017, previously incorrectly allocated against General Fund. This adjustment has had no impact on the value of HRA or General Fund balances carried forward for use in 2017/18 and subsequent years. The impacts of this restatement are as follows:

	Original Total 2016/17 £m	Change £m	Revised Total 2016/17 £m
Total Income	(289.8)	-	(289.8)
Expenditure			
Depreciation & Impairment	47.5	77.1	124.6
Other Expenditure	145.7	-	145.7
Total Expenditure	193.2	77.1	270.3
Net Expenditure/(Income) of HRA Services as included in the whole authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and Net Cost/(Income) of HRA Services	(96.6)	77.1	(19.5)
HRA Share of the operating income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	54.7	-	54.7
(Surplus)/Deficit for the Year on HRA Services	(41.9)	77.1	35.2
Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement			
(Surplus)/Deficit for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Account	(41.9)	77.1	35.2
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute	40.6	(77.1)	(36.5)
Net (increase)/decrease before transfers to / (from) reserves	(1.3)	-	(1.3)
Transfers to / (from) reserves	1.2	-	1.2
(Increase) / decrease for the year on HRA balance	(0.1)	-	(0.1)
HRA Balance Brought Forward	(4.6)	-	(4.6)
HRA Balance Carried Forward	(4.7)	-	(4.7)

Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account

The Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account reflects the statutory requirement for the Council to maintain a separate Collection Fund for Council Tax and Business Rates or National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR). The statement shows transactions in relation to the collection of income from tax payers and the distribution to major preceptors and the Council itself, as principal. The resulting balance is apportioned between the Council and major preceptors.

2016/17			<div>Income</div>	2017/18		
Council Tax	NNDR	Total		Council Tax	NNDR	Total
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
(343.0)		(343.0)		(364.1)		(364.1)
(343.0)	(445.1)	(343.0) (445.1)		(364.1)	(453.9)	(364.1) (453.9)
	1.7	1.7		8.2	8.2	
	(443.4)	(443.4)		(445.7)	(445.7)	
	(2.2)	(2.2)	Enterprise Zone Deficit Repayable to the Collection Fund		(1.5)	(1.5)
			Apportionment of Prior Year Deficit:			
-	(17.9)	(17.9)	Birmingham City Council	-	(9.9)	(9.9)
	(18.3)	(18.3)	Central Government		(10.1)	(10.1)
-	(0.4)	(0.4)	West Midlands Fire & Rescue Authority	-	(0.2)	(0.2)
-		-	West Midlands Police and Crime Comm.	-		-
-	(36.6)	(36.6)	Total Apportionment of Prior Year Deficit	-	(20.2)	(20.2)
(343.0)	(482.2)	(825.2)	TOTAL INCOME	(364.1)	(467.4)	(831.5)

2016/17			<div>Expenditure</div>	2017/18		
Council Tax	NNDR	Total		Council Tax	NNDR	Total
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
293.7	212.1	505.8		313.6	400.9	714.5
0.1		0.1		0.1		0.1
1.8		1.8	1.8		1.8	
	209.7	209.7		-	-	
13.7	4.2	17.9	14.2	4.0	18.2	
27.2		27.2	28.9		28.9	
9.0	8.6	17.6	9.0	9.1	18.1	
	17.8	17.8		11.9	11.9	
	1.9	1.9		1.9	1.9	
345.5	454.3	799.8	367.6	427.8	795.4	
2.5	(27.9)	(25.4)	3.5	(39.6)	(36.1)	
(8.1)	51.8	43.7	(5.6)	23.9	18.3	
(5.6)	23.9	18.3	(2.1)	(15.7)	(17.8)	

Notes to the Collection Fund**C1. Contributions from Council Taxpayers**

The Council's tax base at January 2017 (the number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band net of discounts) converted to an equivalent number of Band D dwellings was calculated as follows:

Band	Number of Properties	Ratio	Band D equivalent dwellings
AR	148	5/9	82
A	83,730	6/9	55,820
B	87,038	7/9	67,696
C	59,232	8/9	52,651
D	31,126	1	31,126
E	17,810	11/9	21,768
F	8,035	13/9	11,606
G	5,387	15/9	8,978
H	757	18/9	1,514
Total	293,263		251,241
Less adjustment for collection rate			(7,286)
			243,955

The level of Council Tax is calculated at the beginning of the year and is calculated so as to ensure that the Council has enough money to pay for the services it provides. The amount of tax paid by local residents is based on how much it is estimated that the property they live in would have been worth in 1991. There are nine property valuation bands, AR to H.

The total required by the Collection Fund is divided by the Council Tax base. The Tax base represents the number of properties in the City, expressed as equivalent Band D properties. The level of Council Tax paid for a Band D property is the total income required divided by the Council Tax base, subject to any discounts to which a Council Tax payer may be entitled. The amount is adjusted for discounts and exemptions that particular residents in the City are entitled to.

The figures for the New Frankley in Birmingham Parish are:

Band	Number of Properties	Ratio	Band D equivalent dwellings
AR	1	5/9	1
A	687	6/9	458
B	995	7/9	774
C	86	8/9	76
D	52	1	52
E	1	11/9	1
F	-	13/9	-
G	-	15/9	-
H	1	18/9	2
Total	1,823		1,364
Less adjustment for collection rate			(39)
			1,325

The figures for Sutton Coldfield Town Council are:

Band	Number of Properties	Ratio	Band D equivalent dwellings
AR	1	5/9	1
A	1,645	6/9	1,097
B	3,906	7/9	3,038
C	6,118	8/9	5,438
D	8,308	1	8,308
E	7,851	11/9	9,596
F	3,841	13/9	5,548
G	2,438	15/9	4,063
H	348	18/9	696
Total	34,456		37,785
Less adjustment for collection rate			(1,096)
			36,689

C2. Business Ratepayers

The Council collects Business Rates (NNDR) receipts for its area, which are based on local rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate which is set by the Government (46.6p for 2017/18: 48.4p for 2016/17). The total non-domestic rateable value at 31 March 2018 was £1,123.03m (31 March 2017: £1,076.42m). 2017/18 was a re-valuation year. In order to neutralise the effect of revaluation on the total national Business Rates Income yield the Government adjusts the uniform rate used to calculate Business Rates, hence the multiplier is lower in 2017/18 than it was in 2016/17.

From 1 April 2017, the Council is included in a 100% Local Business Rates Retention pilot. The amount raised each year, less certain reliefs and adjustments, is distributed on the following basis:

- 99% - Birmingham City Council
- 1% - The West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

Previously Business Rates was distributed on the following basis:

- 50% - Central Government
- 49% - Birmingham City Council
- 1% - The West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.

C3. Precept Payments

The preceptors on the Council Tax element of the Collection Fund are the City Council, New Frankley in Birmingham Parish Council, Sutton Coldfield Town Council, the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority and the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

The preceptors on the NNDR element of the Collection Fund are the City Council and the West Midlands Fire and Rescue Authority.



Draft Statement of GROUP Accounts 2017/18

Narrative Report

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This section presents the statutory financial statements for Birmingham City Council Group (the Group) for the period from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18 (The Code) published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). The aim of the Group Accounts is to provide the reader with an overall view of the material economic activities of the Council.
- 1.2 In common with many other local authorities, the Council uses different forms of service delivery, where this is appropriate. In some cases it has created separate companies with its partners to deliver those services. The use of separate companies means that the Council's single entity financial statements on their own do not fully reflect the assets and liabilities or income and expenditure associated with all of its activities. The Group Accounts more fully reflect the overall financial picture of the Council's activities.
- 1.3 These Group Accounts have been prepared using uniform accounting policies for like transactions and other events in similar circumstances. The accounting policies of the subsidiaries, associates and joint operations have been aligned with the policies of the Council, for the purposes of Group Accounts, where materially different. Such adjustments as are necessary to align the Group Accounting Policies are made as consolidation adjustments.
- 1.4 This narrative report provides a summary of the Group's financial position and details of material items that have impacted on the accounts during the year.
- 1.5 The financial statements contain a number of technical accounting terms and concepts. A glossary of the major accounting terms has been provided at the end of the financial statements to help the reader's understanding.
- 1.6 The pages which follow contain the Group's Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2018, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

2 Consolidation of Subsidiaries, Associate Companies and Joint Operations

- 2.1 The Council operates through a variety of undertakings, either exercising full control of an organisation (subsidiary undertakings) or in partnership with other organisations (associate undertakings or joint operations). To provide a full picture of the activities of the Council, Group Accounts have been prepared which include those organisations where the interest and the level of activity is considered material to the Group as a whole.

The Council has incorporated two companies into its Group consolidation for the first time as the activity in the companies is considered material to the whole, namely:

PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership
Birmingham City Propco Limited

Further details are set out in Section 3 below.

- 2.2 The Council has taken two companies out of the Group Accounts as it is judged that the Council does not have the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the companies and therefore does not control them, namely

Birmingham Museums Trust Limited
Performances Birmingham Limited

Further details are set out in Section 3 below.

- 2.3 The Group Accounts consolidate the Council's accounts with those of:

Subsidiaries

- Acivico Limited
- Innovation Birmingham Limited
- InReach (Birmingham) Limited
- National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc
- PETPS (Birmingham) Limited
- PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership
- Birmingham City Propco Limited

Associates

- Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited
- Service Birmingham Limited – discontinued 31 December 2017

Joint Operation

- Paradise Circus General Partner Limited

- 2.4 Further detail regarding the Council's relationship with the above companies is given in notes G23 and G24.
- 2.5 The Council maintains involvement with a number of other related entities where the assets and liabilities of the companies are not included in these Group Financial Statements. Where these entities fall within the group boundary as subsidiaries, associates or joint operations they have been excluded from consolidation on the grounds of materiality. Alternatively they do not fall within the Group boundary due to the Council's limited control or influence. Further details are set out in Note 48 to the Council entity accounts.

3 Changes in Group Structure

- 3.1 The Council has set up two companies PETPS (Birmingham) Capital Limited and PETPS (Birmingham) General Partner Limited to enable the Council to deal with the financial implications of its guarantee in respect of the pensions from the NEC Group Limited following its disposal. The companies have entered into a partnership through PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership as part of an Asset Backed Scheme to mitigate the immediate impact of any change in the pension deficit.
- 3.2 Birmingham City Propco Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council has been created to provide a vehicle for commercial investment through the purchase, lease, and rent or hire of commercial property for the purpose of raising revenue and to

develop, manage and lease commercial properties. The company has purchased the leasehold interests of the Council in respect of the Crowne Plaza NEC and Hilton Metropole NEC hotels.

- 3.3 Following a review of the Council's group boundary it has been determined that Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited should no longer be consolidated in the Group Accounts. The Council has determined that the current control of the relevant activities of the companies lie with the Trustees and Directors of the companies. The Council only has a reserved right to appoint a minority of Trustees or Directors to the Company Boards and therefore control is not considered to lie with the Council. Whilst the Council is currently sole member of both companies, it would require a special resolution to change the operation of the companies and this may result in adverse financial implications on their operation. If the companies were to be dissolved then the Council cannot receive any assets as a member as it is precluded by the Articles of Association. Any assets on dissolution must be applied for charitable purposes as directed by the court or the Charities Commission. Details of the restatement of the Group Financial Statements are set out in Note G3.
- 3.4 Service Birmingham Limited was incorporated in 2005 and was a joint operation between Capita Business Services Limited and the Council, with the Council holding 32% of the shares of the company. The company was formed to provide ICT services and business transformation outsourcing services to the Council. Service Birmingham was consolidated into the Council's Group Financial Statements as an associate. The Council sold its shares in Service Birmingham on 31 December 2017 to Capita Business Services Limited.
- 3.5 The Council has been negotiating the disposal of the assets of Innovation Birmingham Limited, which was completed on 18 April 2018. The company has been included in the Group Financial Statements as discontinued operations and the assets and liabilities of the company included in the Balance Sheet as Assets Held for Sale and Liabilities in Disposal Groups respectively.

4 The Main Financial Statements

- 4.1 The following statements consolidate the accounts of the Council with those of its subsidiaries and associates. Transactions between the Council and its Group entities are eliminated on consolidation.
- 4.2 Group Movement in Reserves Statement (GMiRS) – provides a reconciliation of the movement in year on the different reserves held and how the balance of resources generated or used in the year reconciles to the Council's statutory requirements for raising Council Tax.
- 4.3 The Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (GCIES) – provides the accounting cost in year recognised by the Group, in a specified format, in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. Details of the net surplus/ (deficit) on the provision of services is detailed below. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated as a result of the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Council's group boundary.

	2016/17 (Restated)		2017/18	
	Entity £m	Group £m	Entity £m	Group £m
Surplus/(Deficit) on Provision of Services	(128.0)	(127.1)	28.4	16.2
4.4	The 2017/18 GCIES shows a positive movement of £143.3m in the movement on the net Surplus/(Deficit) on Provision of Services compared to 2016/17. Details of the major movements are set out in paragraph 4.2 of the Narrative Report in the Council entity accounts.			
4.5	Group Movement in Reserves Statement (GMiRS) – provides a reconciliation of the movement in year on the different reserves held and how the balance of resources generated or used in the year reconciles to the Council's statutory requirements for raising Council Tax.			
4.6	Group Balance Sheet – shows the value of assets and liabilities recognised by the Group at 31 March 2018 and the level of reserves, split into usable and unusable.			

	2016/17 (Restated)		2017/18	
	Entity £m	Group £m	Entity £m	Group £m
Long Term Assets	5,743.7	5,738.0	6,067.3	6,054.7
Current Assets	362.9	357.5	459.8	458.4
Current Liabilities	(1,063.5)	(1,060.0)	(1,357.0)	(1,373.3)
Long Term Liabilities	(6,116.4)	(6,121.3)	(5,814.9)	(5,804.5)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(1,073.3)	(1,085.8)	(644.8)	(664.7)
Represented by:				
Usable Reserves	830.1	805.9	969.9	938.0
Unusable Reserves	(1,903.4)	(1,891.7)	(1,614.7)	(1,602.7)
Total Reserves	(1,073.3)	(1,085.8)	(644.8)	(664.7)

- 4.7 The net liability has decreased by £421.1m to £664.7m. This is mainly due to increases in the carrying value of Property, Plant & Equipment, together with a reduction in the net liability on the defined pension schemes.
- 4.8 Group Cash Flow Statement – shows how the Group generates and uses cash during the year and the impact this has on the balances of cash and cash equivalents.

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the income and expenditure recognised by the Group during the reporting period. Discontinued operations relate to the sale of shares in Service Birmingham. The activity for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the removal of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Council's group boundary and the amendments to the Council entity financial statements. Details are set out in Note G3 and G5 to these Group Financial Statements.

2016/17 (Restated)			Note	2017/18		
Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure		Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
Continuing Operations						
529.9	(203.4)	326.5		554.9	(207.4)	347.5
1,065.6	(843.1)	222.5		1,111.4	(800.9)	310.5
214.5	(78.5)	136.0		264.3	(86.5)	177.8
156.1	(86.4)	69.7		155.3	(90.8)	64.5
621.9	(585.9)	36.0		640.5	(587.2)	53.3
29.0	(8.1)	20.9		6.7	(7.6)	(0.9)
13.9	(6.1)	7.8		34.5	(64.5)	(30.0)
270.3	(289.8)	(19.5)		146.4	(286.7)	(140.3)
2,901.2	(2101.3)	799.9		2,914.0	(2,131.6)	782.4
Total Cost Of Continuing Operations						
9.0	(5.2)	3.8		6.1	(4.5)	1.6
2,910.2	(2,106.5)	803.7		2,920.1	(2,136.1)	784.0
Total Cost of Services						
212.5		212.5		77.5		77.5
289.1	(60.8)	228.3		289.9	(55.5)	234.4
6.0	(1,123.4)	(1,117.4)		1.8	(1,113.9)	(1,112.1)
		127.1				(16.2)
(Surplus) / Deficit on Provision of Services						
		(7.9)				(6.0)
		0.1				-
		1.4				1.5
		120.7				(20.7)
Group (Surplus)/Deficit						
Items that will not be reclassified to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services						
		(650.1)				(248.3)
		-				0.2
		765.2				(158.7)
		8.4				5.6
		123.5				(401.2)
Items that may be reclassified to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services						
		(0.3)				0.8
		(0.3)				0.8
		123.2				(400.4)
		243.9				(421.1)
Other Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure						
Total Comprehensive (Income) / Expenditure						

Group Movement in Reserves Statement

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

	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves	Council's Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	Total Group Reserves
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Balance at 1 April 2016 (Restated)	500.1	4.6	312.1	5.8	73.0	895.6	(1,738.4)	(842.7)	7.2	(835.5)
Movement in Reserves during 2016/17 (Restated)										
Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	(77.2)	(35.2)				(112.4)		(112.4)	(8.3)	(120.7)
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure							(102.6)	(102.6)	(20.6)	(123.2)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(77.2)	(35.2)				(112.4)	(102.6)	(215.0)	(28.9)	(243.9)
Adjustments between Group Accounts and Council Accounts (Note G23)	(15.6)					(15.6)		(15.6)	15.6	-
Changes in Group Reserves accounted for through equity (G8)									(6.4)	(6.4)
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers	(92.8)	(35.2)				(128.0)	(102.6)	(230.6)	(19.7)	(250.3)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	5.5	35.3	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	62.4	(62.4)	-		-
Increase/(Decrease) in 2016/17	(87.3)	0.1	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	(65.6)	(165.0)	(230.6)	(19.7)	(250.3)
Balance at 31 March 2017	412.8	4.7	278.4	39.0	95.2	830.1	(1,903.4)	(1,073.3)	(12.5)	(1,085.8)
Movement in Reserves during 2017/18										
Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	(62.9)	109.1				46.2		46.2	(25.5)	20.7
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure							400.2	400.2	0.2	400.4
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(62.9)	109.1				46.2	400.2	446.4	(25.3)	421.1
Adjustments between Group Accounts and Council Accounts (Note G23)	(17.9)					(17.9)		(17.9)	17.9	-
Changes in Group Reserves accounted for through equity (G8)									-	-
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers	(80.8)	109.1				28.3	400.1	428.5	(7.4)	421.1
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	177.0	(109.0)	42.1	(10.4)	11.8	111.5	(111.5)	-		-
Increase/(Decrease) in 2017/18	96.2	0.1	42.1	(10.4)	11.8	139.8	288.7	428.5	(7.4)	421.1
Balance at 31 March 2018	509.0	4.8	320.5	28.6	107.0	969.9	(1614.7)	(644.8)	(19.9)	(664.7)

Group Balance Sheet

The Group Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Group. The figures for 2015/16 and 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Council's Group Accounts. Details of the prior period adjustments are set out in Note G3 to these Group Financial Statements.

31 March 2016 (Restated) £m	31 March 2017 (Restated) £m		Note	31 March 2018 £m
4,869.6	5,355.3	Property, Plant and Equipment	G7	5,637.9
249.8	251.5	Heritage Assets		251.6
10.0	9.8	Investment Property		20.2
25.6	19.7	Intangible Assets		13.7
5.8	5.1	Long Term Investments		3.8
62.7	75.0	Long Term Debtors		107.0
24.9	21.6	Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	G24	20.5
5,248.4	5,738.0	Total Long Term Assets		6,054.7
58.8	33.6	Short Term Investments		88.6
4.2	6.6	Assets Held for Sale		15.3
1.3	1.3	Inventories		1.3
279.3	270.0	Short Term Debtors	G9	312.9
76.0	46.0	Cash and Cash Equivalents		40.3
419.6	357.5	Total Current Assets		458.4
(34.5)	(13.5)	Cash and Cash Equivalents		(35.4)
(430.5)	(513.6)	Short Term Borrowing		(796.5)
(324.2)	(363.5)	Short Term Creditors	G10	(332.6)
-	-	Liabilities in Disposal Groups	G5	(20.7)
(283.3)	(169.4)	Provisions		(188.1)
(1,072.5)	(1,060.0)	Total Current Liabilities		(1,373.3)
(72.6)	(73.0)	Long Term Creditors	G8	(74.5)
(60.8)	(16.3)	Provisions		(23.5)
(2,684.4)	(2,644.3)	Long Term Borrowing		(2,628.4)
(507.8)	(484.8)	Other Long Term Liabilities		(462.1)
(2,105.4)	(2,902.9)	Net liability on defined benefit pension scheme	G20	(2,616.0)
(5,431.0)	(6,121.3)	Total Long Term Liabilities		(5,804.5)
(835.5)	(1,085.8)	Net Assets/(Liabilities)		(664.7)
896.3	805.9	Usable Reserves	G11	938.0
(1,731.8)	(1,891.7)	Unusable Reserves	G12	(1,602.7)
(835.5)	(1,085.8)	Total Reserves		(664.7)

Group Cash Flow Statement

The Group Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Group during the reporting period. The figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts.

2016/17 (Restated) £m		Note	2017/18 £m
(116.4)	Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Continuing Operations		22.7
(4.3)	Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Discontinued Operations	G5	(2.0)
(120.7)	Net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services		20.7
374.7	Adjustments to net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services for non-cash movements	G16	24.6
(231.9)	Adjustments for items included in the net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	G16	(224.1)
22.1	Net cash flows from Operating Activities		(178.8)
(172.6)	Investing Activities	G14	(165.4)
141.5	Financing Activities	G15	316.6
(9.0)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(27.6)
41.5	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		32.5
32.5	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		4.9

NOTES TO THE GROUP ACCOUNTS

Note G1

Accounting Policies

The Group Financial Statements summarise the Council's and Group's transactions for the 2017/18 financial year. The Group Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2017/18, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

Members within the Group have been classified as either subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures with details included in respect of the classification within Notes G23 and G24. Subsidiaries have been consolidated into the Group Financial Statements on a line by line basis, with associates and joint ventures consolidated under the equity method.

Investments in associates in the Council's entity accounts are carried at cost rather than fair value less any provision for losses.

Notes to the Group Financial Statements have been presented where the figures are materially different from those of the Council entity accounts. Where there are no material differences, the Notes to the Council entity accounts provide the required disclosures.

Accounting policies of the individual members of the Group have been aligned to the Council's accounting policies.

The accounting policies applied to the Group Financial Statements are consistent with those set out in Note 1 to the Council entity financial statements, with additional policies specific to the Group set out below.

Disposal of a Subsidiary Company

When a subsidiary company is disposed of, the assets and liabilities of the subsidiary are derecognised at their carrying value at the time of disposal and the value of any consideration received is recognised. The transactions plus any resulting differences are identified in the Profit/Loss on disposal of a subsidiary and form part of the Surplus/Deficit on Provision of Services within the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Defined Contribution Pension Schemes

The NEC Limited Group funded two defined benefit schemes, which ceased to provide future service accrual with effect from 30 June 2010 and operated two contributory benefit schemes comprising a Stakeholder Scheme to which only members contribute, and a Group Personal Pension Plan where the company matched member contributions to an agreed maximum. The schemes transferred to PETPS (Birmingham) Limited on 1 May 2015 on the Council's disposal of NEC Ltd. Further information may be found in Note G20.

Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

Acivico Limited participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The scheme is a funded defined benefit scheme based upon career average salary for benefits accrued since 1 April 2014 and on final pensionable salary for benefits accrued to 31 March 2014. Further information may be found within the Council's entity accounting policies and Note G20.

Note G2**Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

The Council has created a number of companies that are limited by guarantee and which are also charitable companies. In such cases the Council is sole member on creation of the company.

The Trustees of a charity have the responsibility for determining the policies and the activities of the company in line with the specific remit of the charity. In the cases of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited, the Council has, through the Articles of Association, the right to appoint a number of Directors or Trustees to sit on the company board. However, in each case the number of Council Directors or Trustees appointed is in the minority of Board members such that they have less than 20% of voting rights. Trustees of charities must act in the best interest of the charity and not in the interests of the body that appointed them.

The Council considers that it does not have the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the companies given its minority level of representation and that the Trustees must act independently of the Council in the best interest of the charity. Therefore, the Council does not consider that Birmingham Museums Trust Limited nor Performances Birmingham Limited should be consolidated into the Council's Group Accounts.

Note G3**Prior Period Adjustment**

The Council has continued to review its group boundary to ensure that the Group Financial Statements reflect the activities controlled by the Council.

Following a review it has been agreed to remove Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Council's group boundary. These organisations are companies limited by guarantee and are both registered charities with the Council as sole member.

In reviewing the aspects of control for both companies, the Articles of Association are clear that the Directors and Trustees are responsible for setting policies and for managing the day to day activities of the companies. Whilst the Council, as sole member, may pass resolutions to impact on the operation of the companies, to date it has not done so. There are also financial barriers to the Council exercising any form of control as this may jeopardise the charitable nature of the organisations which would lead to financial detriment.

For both organisations, the Council may appoint a minority of Directors or Trustees but, as required by charity law, the Directors and Trustees are appointed as individuals, not as representatives of the Council, and they must act in the best interests of the companies.

The Council has been marketing the assets of Innovation Birmingham Limited to external organisations who have the capacity to enhance the activities of the company. The sale was at an advanced stage as at 31 March 2018 and therefore the associated assets have been treated as an Asset Held for Sale at the year end. Activity reported through the Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (GCIES) has been identified as Discontinued Operations. The sale was completed on 18 April 2018.

The Council has realigned its reporting structure and the GCIES has been adjusted to reflect the new arrangements.

Details of the prior period adjustments are set out below.

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Adjustments

	Original GCIES in 2016/17 £m	Adjustment for Directorate Realignment £m	Adjustment for Elimination of BMT and PBL £m	Impact of Discontinued Operations £m	Restated for GCIES 2016/17 £m
<u>Net Expenditure</u>					
Continuing Operations					
People	548.9	(548.9)			-
Adult Social Care & Health		326.5			326.5
Children & Young People		222.5			222.5
Place	205.3	(77.1)	7.8		136.0
Economy	78.1	(4.6)		(3.8)	69.7
Corporate Resources	52.4	(52.4)			-
Strategic Services		36.0			36.0
Finance & Governance		20.9			20.9
Corporately Managed	7.8				7.8
Housing Revenue Account	(96.6)	77.1			(19.5)
Total Continuing Operations	795.9	-	7.8	(3.8)	799.9
Discontinued Operations				3.8	3.8
Net Cost of Services	795.9	-	7.8	-	803.7

	Original GCIES in 2016/17 £m	Adjustment for Directorate Realignment £m	Adjustment for Elimination of BMT and PBL £m	Impact of Discontinued Operations £m	Restated for GCIES 2016/17 £m
<u>Gross Expenditure</u>					
Continuing Operations					
People	1,595.4	(1,595.4)			-
Adult Social Care & Health		529.9			529.9
Children & Young People		1,065.6			1,065.6
Place	303.4	(77.1)	(11.8)		214.5
Economy	132.1	33.0		(9.0)	156.1
Corporate Resources	684.0	(684.0)			-
Strategic Services		621.9			621.9
Finance & Governance		29.0			29.0
Corporately Managed	13.9				13.9
Housing Revenue Account	193.2	77.1			270.3
Total Continuing Operations	2,922.0	-	(11.8)	(9.0)	2,901.2
Discontinued Operations				9.0	9.0
Gross Cost of Services	2,922.0	-	(11.8)	-	2,910.2

	Original GCIES in 2016/17 £m	Adjustment for Directorate Realignment £m	Adjustment for Elimination of BMT and PBL £m	Impact of Discontinued Operations £m	Restated for GCIES 2016/17 £m
Gross Income					
Continuing Operations					
People	(1,046.5)	1,046.5			-
Adult Social Care & Health		(203.4)			(203.4)
Children & Young People		(843.1)			(843.1)
Place	(98.1)		19.6		(78.5)
Economy	(54.0)	(37.6)		5.2	(86.4)
Corporate Resources	(631.6)	631.6			-
Strategic Services		(585.9)			(585.9)
Finance & Governance		(8.1)			(8.1)
Corporately Managed	(6.1)				(6.1)
Housing Revenue Account	(289.8)				(289.8)
Total Continuing Operations	(2,126.1)	-	19.6	5.2	(2,101.3)
Discontinued Operations				(5.2)	(5.2)
Gross Income	(2,126.1)	-	19.6	-	(2,106.5)

Balance Sheet Prior Period Adjustments

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2017	Original balance at 31 March 2017	Adjustment for elimination of Group entities	Amended balance at 31 March 2017
	£m	£m	£m
Property, Plant and Equipment	5,368.0	(12.7)	5,355.3
Heritage Assets	251.5	-	251.5
Investment Property	9.8	-	9.8
Intangible Assets	19.7	-	19.7
Long Term Investments	5.1	-	5.1
Long Term Debtors	74.1	0.9	75.0
Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	21.6	-	21.6
Total Long Term Assets	5,749.8	(11.8)	5,738.0
Short Term Investments	33.6	-	33.6
Assets Held for Sale	6.6	-	6.6
Inventories	1.6	(0.3)	1.3
Short Term Debtors	271.4	(1.4)	270.0
Cash and Cash Equivalents	53.7	(7.7)	46.0
Total Current Assets	366.9	(9.4)	357.5
Cash and Cash Equivalents	(13.5)	-	(13.5)
Short Term Borrowing	(513.6)	-	(513.6)
Short Term Creditors	(369.2)	5.7	(363.5)
Provisions	(169.4)	-	(169.4)
Total Current Liabilities	(1,065.7)	5.7	(1,060.0)
Long Term Creditors	(73.0)	-	(73.0)
Provisions	(16.3)	-	(16.3)
Long Term Borrowing	(2,644.3)	-	(2,644.3)
Other Long Term Liabilities	(484.8)	-	(484.8)
Net liability on defined benefit pension scheme	(2,905.2)	2.3	(2,902.9)
Total Long Term Liabilities	(6,123.6)	2.3	(6,121.3)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(1,072.6)	(13.2)	(1,085.8)
Usable Reserves	814.1	(8.2)	805.9
Unusable Reserves	(1,886.7)	(5.0)	(1,891.7)
Total Reserves	(1,072.6)	(13.2)	(1,085.8)

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016	Original balance at 31 March 2016	Adjustment for elimination of Group entities	Amended balance at 31 March 2016
	£m	£m	£m
Property, Plant and Equipment	4,874.6	(5.0)	4,869.6
Heritage Assets	249.8	-	249.8
Investment Property	10.0	-	10.0
Intangible Assets	25.6	-	25.6
Long Term Investments	5.8	-	5.8
Long Term Debtors	61.5	1.2	62.7
Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	24.9	-	24.9
Total Long Term Assets	5,252.2	(3.8)	5,248.4
Short Term Investments	58.8	-	58.8
Assets Held for Sale	4.2	-	4.2
Inventories	1.5	(0.2)	1.3
Short Term Debtors	281.2	(1.9)	279.3
Cash and Cash Equivalents	82.5	(6.5)	76.0
Total Current Assets	428.2	(8.6)	419.6
Cash and Cash Equivalents	(34.5)	-	(34.5)
Short Term Borrowing	(430.5)	-	(430.5)
Short Term Creditors	(329.4)	5.2	(324.2)
Provisions	(283.3)	-	(283.3)
Total Current Liabilities	(1,077.7)	5.2	(1,072.5)
Long Term Creditors	(73.1)	0.5	(72.6)
Provisions	(60.8)	-	(60.8)
Long Term Borrowing	(2,684.4)	-	(2,684.4)
Other Long Term Liabilities	(507.8)	-	(507.8)
Net liability on defined benefit pension scheme	(2,105.4)	-	(2,105.4)
Total Long Term Liabilities	(5,431.5)	0.5	(5,431.0)
Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(828.8)	(6.7)	(835.5)
Usable Reserves	897.4	(1.1)	896.3
Unusable Reserves	(1,726.2)	(5.6)	(1,731.8)
Total Reserves	(828.8)	(6.7)	(835.5)

Group Movement in Reserves Statement Prior Period Adjustment

Original Group Movement in Reserves Statement	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves	Council's Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	Total Group Reserves
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Balance at 1 April 2016 (Restated)	500.1	4.6	312.1	5.8	73.0	895.6	(1,738.4)	(842.8)	14.0	(828.8)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(150.3)	41.9				(108.4)	(102.6)	(211.0)	(26.4)	(237.4)
Adjustments between Group and Company Accounts	(19.6)					(19.6)		(19.6)	13.3	(6.3)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	82.6	(41.8)	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	62.5	(62.4)	0.1		0.1
Increase/Decrease in 2016/17	(87.3)	0.1	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	(65.5)	(165.0)	(230.5)	(13.1)	(243.6)
Balance at 31 March 2017	412.8	4.7	278.4	39.0	95.2	830.1	(1,903.4)	(1,073.3)	0.9	(1,072.4)

Amendments to Group Movement in Reserves Statement	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves	Council's Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	Total Group Reserves
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Balance at 1 April 2016 (Restated)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(6.8)	(6.8)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	73.1	(77.1)				(4.0)	-	(4.0)	(2.5)	(6.5)
Adjustments between Group and Company Accounts	4.0	-				4.0	-	4.0	(4.1)	(0.1)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	(77.1)	77.1				-	-	-	-	-
Increase/Decrease in 2016/17	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.0	(6.6)	(6.6)
Balance at 31 March 2017	-	-	-	-	-	0.0	-	0.0	(13.4)	(13.4)

Restated Group Movement in Reserves Statement	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Council Reserves	Council's Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures	Total Group Reserves
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Balance at 1 April 2016 (Restated)	500.1	4.6	312.1	5.8	73.0	895.6	(1,738.4)	(842.8)	7.2	(835.6)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(77.2)	(35.2)				(112.4)	(102.6)	(215.0)	(28.9)	(243.9)
Adjustments between Group and Company Accounts	(15.6)					(15.6)		(15.6)	9.2	(6.4)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 16)	5.5	35.3	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	62.5	(62.4)	0.1		0.1
Increase/Decrease in 2016/17	(87.3)	0.1	(33.7)	33.2	22.2	(65.5)	(165.0)	(230.5)	(19.7)	(250.2)
Balance at 31 March 2017	412.8	4.7	278.4	39.0	95.2	830.1	(1,903.4)	(1,073.3)	(12.5)	(1,085.8)

Amendment to Group Cash Flow Statement Prior Period Adjustment

	2016/17 Original £m	Adjustments £m	2016/17 (Restated) £m
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Continuing Operations	(112.8)	(3.6)	(116.4)
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on Discontinued Operations		(4.3)	(4.3)
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services	(112.8)	(7.9)	(120.7)
Adjustments to net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services for non-cash movements	368.4	6.3	374.7
Adjustments for items included in the net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	(231.9)	-	(231.9)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities	23.7	(1.6)	22.1
Investing Activities	(173.0)	0.4	(172.6)
Financing Activities	141.5	-	141.5
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(7.8)	(1.2)	(9.0)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	48.0	(6.5)	41.5
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	40.2	(7.7)	32.5

Note G4**Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty**

Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimation and uncertainty are provided in Note 3 to the Council entity accounts.

There are no additional material assumptions to report in respect of the remaining Group Entities.

Note G5**Discontinued Operations**

The Council continues to review its partnership arrangements to determine whether there are alternative approaches that may provide a more effective means of delivering services.

As a result, the Council disposed of its interest in Service Birmingham on 31 December 2017 and has marketed its holdings in Innovation Birmingham Limited with a view to a sale, which was completed on 18 April 2018. Service Birmingham Limited was accounted for in the Council's Group Financial Statements as an Associate and Innovation Birmingham Limited was accounted for as a Subsidiary. Details of the relevant activities are set out below.

Innovation Birmingham**Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Turnover	2.3	3.3
Cost of Sales	(3.3)	(4.4)
Gross Profit/(Loss)	(1.0)	(1.1)
Other Operating Income	1.1	
Other Operating Expenditure	(4.0)	(0.6)
Operating Profit/(Loss)	(3.9)	(1.7)
Interest Payable	(0.4)	(0.3)
Profit/(Loss) before Taxation	(4.3)	(2.0)

Balance Sheet Impact

	31 March 2018 £m
Assets Held for Sale	
Property, Plant & Equipment	13.3
Short Term Debtors	0.8
Cash & Cash Equivalents	0.3
Accounted for as Assets Held for Sale	14.4
Liabilities in Disposal Groups	
Short Term Creditors	(2.6)
Long Term Creditors	(18.1)
Accounted for as Liabilities in Disposal Groups	(20.7)

Cash Flow

Details of the discontinued operations cash flow are included in the Cash Flow Statement and in Notes G14, Cash Flow Statement – Investing Activities.

Service Birmingham

The gain on disposal of the discontinued operations was determined as follows:

	2017/18 £m
Consideration Received	11.1
Investment in Associate	2.4
Gain on disposal of associate	8.7

Note G6

Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure disclosed in the Group CIES are detailed below. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts.

2016/17 (Restated)				2017/18		
Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m		Gross Expenditure £m	Income £m	Net £m
186.8	-	186.8	Interest Payable and similar charges	184.3	-	184.3
0.4	-	0.4	Interest Payable by Discontinued Operations	0.4	-	0.4
72.1	-	72.1	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability	74.1	-	74.1
-	(16.1)	(16.1)	Interest Receivable and similar income	-	(16.1)	(16.1)
-	-	-	Changes in the Fair Value of Investment Properties	-	(1.6)	(1.6)
29.8	(33.0)	(3.2)	(Surplus)/Deficit on trading operations not consolidated within Service Expenditure Analysis in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	31.1	(31.7)	(0.6)
-	(11.7)	(11.7)	Other investment income and expenditure	-	(6.1)	(6.1)
289.1	(60.8)	228.3	Sub Total	289.9	(55.5)	234.4

Note G7

Property, Plant and Equipment

Details of the Group Property, Plant and Equipment are set out below. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts. Details of the adjustment are set out in Note G3.

Movements in Balances: 2017/18

	Council Dwellings £m	Other land and buildings £m	Vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment £m	Infrastructure assets £m	Community assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets under construction £m	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £m	Service Concession Assets included in Property, Plant & Equipment £m
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2017	2,278.7	2,380.5	190.0	582.9	60.3	6.0	170.7	5,669.1	747.9
Additions	94.1	42.3	6.1	39.0	1.5	-	84.3	267.3	51.3
Assets reclassified between categories	(3.2)	18.3	2.2	9.2	0.3	29.6	(58.2)	(1.8)	
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(142.9)	126.2				103.6		86.9	9.1
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		11.7	(0.1)			(7.2)	(0.3)	4.1	4.4
Derecognition - Disposals	(39.9)	(80.3)	(15.1)	(1.6)		(19.9)		(156.8)	(0.8)
Derecognition - Other									
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale		(12.5)	(4.3)					(16.8)	
Other movements in Cost or Valuation									
At 31 March 2018	2,186.8	2,486.2	178.8	629.5	62.1	112.1	196.5	5,852.0	811.9
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment									
At 1 April 2017	(124.7)	(27.0)	(73.1)	(89.1)				(313.9)	(93.9)
Depreciation charge	(50.3)	(56.5)	(18.7)	(24.4)		(0.2)		(150.1)	(30.2)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	123.4	34.9				0.5		158.8	2.0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	50.3	12.5						62.8	0.8
Impairment losses/ (reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		2.6						2.6	
Impairment losses/ (reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		1.8	(0.1)					1.7	
Derecognition - Disposals	1.2	3.3	14.3	1.6				20.4	0.2
Derecognition - Other								-	
Assets reclassified to/(from) Held for Sale			3.6					3.6	
Other movements in Depreciation and Impairment		0.4				(0.4)		-	
At 31 March 2018	(0.1)	(28.0)	(74.0)	(111.9)	0	(0.1)	0	(214.1)	(121.1)
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2018	2,186.7	2,458.2	104.8	517.6	62.1	112.0	196.5	5,637.9	690.8
At 31 March 2017	2,154.0	2,353.5	116.9	493.8	60.3	6.0	170.7	5,355.3	654.0

Movements on Balances: 2016/17

	Council Dwellings £m	Other land and buildings £m	Vehicles, plant, furniture & equipment £m	Infrastructure assets £m	Community assets £m	Surplus Assets £m	Assets under construction £m	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £m	Service Concession Assets included in Property, Plant & Equipment £m
Cost or Valuation									
At 1 April 2016	1,778.0	2,413.5	202.3	540.9	92.7	7.3	118.3	5,153.0	725.8
Additions	95.9	67.1	9.1	38.1	0.6		100.1	310.9	43.6
Assets reclassified between categories		42.5	0.4	3.9	0.7		(47.6)	(0.1)	
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	437.7	50.1				0.4		488.2	(6.9)
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		(6.4)	(0.1)				(0.1)	(6.6)	2.9
Derecognition - Disposals	(31.4)	(179.5)	(21.7)		(33.7)	(0.1)		(266.4)	(17.5)
Derecognition - Other	(1.5)							(1.5)	
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale		(6.8)				(1.6)		(8.4)	
At 31 March 2017	2,278.7	2,380.5	190.0	582.9	60.3	6.0	170.7	5,669.1	747.9
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment									
At 1 April 2016	(111.2)	(32.3)	(73.6)	(66.3)				(283.4)	(68.3)
Depreciation charge	(47.5)	(56.5)	(20.4)	(22.8)		(0.1)		(147.3)	(29.0)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	111.1	37.7						148.8	2.0
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services		10.0						10.0	0.8
Impairment losses/ (reversals) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve		8.1				0.1		8.2	
Impairment losses/ (reversals) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(77.1)	0.3						(76.8)	
Derecognition - Disposals		4.3	20.9					25.2	0.6
Derecognition - Other								-	
Assets reclassified to/(from) Held for Sale		1.4						1.4	
At 31 March 2017	(124.7)	(27.0)	(73.1)	(89.1)	-	-	-	(313.9)	(93.9)
Net Book Value									
At 31 March 2017	2,154.0	2,353.5	116.9	493.8	60.3	6.0	170.7	5,355.3	654.0
At 31 March 2016	1,666.8	2,381.2	128.7	474.6	92.7	7.3	118.3	4,869.6	657.5

Further details on the Council's policies for fixed asset revaluations and depreciation are provided in Note 1 to the Council entity accounts. Buildings assets held by Innovation Birmingham Group Limited have been valued as at 31 March 2018, by Azmat Mir, Member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and other similarly qualified staff within the Council's Property Services section.

Note G8

Financial Instruments

Debtors and Cash

Debtors and cash consolidated as part of the Group Financial Statements are classified as loans and receivables. Further information on Group debtors is provided in Note G9.

Creditors

Short term creditors consolidated as part of the Group Financial Statements are classified as financial liabilities at amortised cost. Further information on Group creditors is provided in Note G10.

Long term creditors consolidated as part of the Group Financial Statements relate to debt issued by NEC (Developments) Plc on the London Stock Exchange. The following long term creditors are brought into the Group Financial Statements upon group consolidation.

	Long-term	
	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
	£m	£m
Creditors		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(73.0)	(73.0)

Income, Expense, Gains and Losses

These amounts in the Group Financial Statements are not considered materially different from those in the Council entity accounts.

Fair Values of Assets and Liabilities

The amounts consolidated as part of the Group Financial Statements are not considered significantly different from the carrying amounts.

Nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments

The nature and extent of risks from financial instruments arising in the Group Financial Statements are not considered materially different from those in the Council entity accounts.

Note G9

Short Term Debtors

The table below shows amounts owed to the Council's Group undertaking at the end of the year that are due within 12 months. These balances have been split by type of organisation. The detail for 2015/16 and 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as set out in Note G3.

31 March 2016 (Restated)	31 March 2017 (Restated)		31 March 2018
£m	£m		£m
60.2	66.4	Central government bodies	78.4
8.2	7.2	Other local authorities	12.0
5.0	5.1	NHS bodies	6.0
1.7	6.7	Public corporations and trading funds	3.2
204.2	184.6	Other entities and individuals	213.3
279.3	270.0	Total	312.9

Note G10

Short Term Creditors

The table below shows amounts owed by the Council Group undertaking at the end of the year that are due within 12 months, split by type of organisation. The detail for 2015/16 and 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as set out in Note G3.

31 March 2016 (Restated)	31 March 2017 (Restated)		31 March 2018
£m	£m		£m
(40.3)	(36.3)	Central government bodies	(28.6)
(5.8)	(6.3)	Other local authorities	(11.3)
(3.8)	(3.5)	NHS bodies	(2.0)
(36.2)	(99.9)	Public corporations and trading funds	(63.7)
(238.1)	(217.5)	Other entities and individuals	(227.0)
(324.2)	(363.5)	Total	(332.6)

Note G11

Usable Reserves

Details of the Group's usable reserves are detailed below. The detail for 2015/16 and 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as detailed in Note G3.

31 March 2016 (Restated)	31 March 2017 (Restated)		31 March 2018
£m	£m		£m
184.2	198.2	General Fund	276.5
312.1	278.3	Capital Receipts Reserve	320.4
389.4	312.1	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	338.7
4.7	4.7	Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	4.8
5.8	39.0	Major Repairs Reserve	28.6
73.0	95.2	Capital Grants Unapplied	107.0
(77.7)	(126.4)	Profit and Loss Reserve	(142.8)
4.8	4.8	Merger Reserve	4.8
896.3	805.9	Total	938.0

Further analysis is provided below for material usable reserves.

Movements in the General Fund are set out in the Council and Group Movement in Reserves Statements, further supported by Note 18 to the Council entity accounts. Differences arising on group consolidation are set out in Note G21 to the Group Accounts.

Profit and Loss Reserve

The Profit and Loss Reserve consolidates the in-year results for subsidiaries. In the Group Financial Statements it is kept separate from the General Fund given the specific statutory restrictions that apply to the General Fund. Depreciation charges in subsidiaries remain as charges to the Profit and Loss Reserve.

2016/17 (Restated) £m		2017/18 £m
(77.7)	Balance at 1 April	(126.4)
(48.7)	In year profit/(loss) result for subsidiaries, adjusted for Group accounting policies and elimination of intra-group transactions	(16.4)
(126.4)	Balance at 31 March	(142.8)

Note G12

Unusable Reserves

The following table shows the value of Group reserve balances that have come about as a result of accounting adjustments and are not therefore available to spend. The detail for 2015/16 and 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as detailed in Note G3.

31 March 2016 (Restated) £m	31 March 2017 (Restated) £m		31 March 2018 £m
983.1	1,553.2	Revaluation Reserve	1,749.4
(290.8)	(411.9)	Capital Adjustment Account	(378.6)
(27.9)	(26.8)	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	(25.9)
30.0	39.6	Deferred Capital Receipts	41.8
(2,087.7)	(2,870.7)	Pensions Reserve	(2,836.1)
(22.9)	(10.6)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	18.0
(299.6)	(145.2)	Equal Pay Back Pay Account	(151.8)
(16.9)	(20.5)	Accumulated Absences Account	(19.9)
0.2	0.5	Available for Sale Financial Instruments Reserve	(0.3)
0.7	0.7	Called up Share Capital	0.7
(1,731.8)	(1,891.7)	Total	(1,602.7)

Further analysis is provided below for unusable reserves which are materially different from the balances included in the Council entity accounts.

Revaluation Reserve

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

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

For amounts arising in the Council entity accounts, the Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
983.1	Balance at 1 April	1,553.2
	Revaluations not posted to (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	
734.6	Council: Upward revaluation of assets	682.2
(89.6)	Council: Downward revaluation of assets	(434.4)
645.0	Council: Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the (Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	247.8
	Amounts written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	
(19.5)	Council: Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(19.0)
(60.5)	Council: Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(32.9)
(80.0)	Council: Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	(51.9)
	Group Movements	
5.1	Other movements in reserve in Group entities	0.3
5.1	Total Group Movements	0.3
1,553.2	Balance at 31 March	1,749.4

Note G13**Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities**

The cash flows from operating activities include the items set out below. The detail has been restated for 2016/17 for the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts.

2016/17 (Restated) £m		2017/18 £m
(16.7)	Interest Received	(16.1)
187.6	Interest Paid	184.7
(11.7)	Dividends Received	(6.1)

Note G14**Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities**

The cash flows from investing activities are set out below. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts.

2016/17 (Restated) £m		2017/18 £m
(283.9)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(238.4)
(2.0)	Investing Activities of Discontinued Operations	(0.6)
72.2	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	126.1
16.9	Proceeds from the sale of subsidiary (NEC Group)	2.0
23.9	Net (Purchase)/Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	(55.0)
0.3	Other receipts from investing activities	0.5
(172.6)	Net cash flows from investing activities	(165.4)

Note G15**Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities**

The cash flows from financing activities are set out below.

2016/17 £m		2017/18 £m
126.0	Other receipts from financing activities	95.5
(50.9)	Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and on-balance sheet PFI contracts	(45.9)
49.9	Net Cash Receipts/(Repayments) of short-term and long-term borrowing	267.0
16.5	Other payments for financing activities	-
141.5	Net cash flows from financing activities	316.6

Note G16**Group Cash Flow Statement – Other Adjustments**

The cash flow adjustments to the net surplus/deficit on the provision of services are set out below. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts.

2016/17 (Restated)		2017/18
£m		£m
147.2	Depreciation/Impairment charge	150.1
8.3	Amortisation of Intangible Assets	8.0
4.7	Derecognition of Available for Sale Assets	6.5
242.8	Derecognition of Non-Current Assets	135.4
(2.8)	(Increase)/decrease in Investments	6.1
77.0	Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	(89.2)
(2.9)	(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(74.9)
32.8	Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(15.1)
(0.1)	(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	-
(158.4)	Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions	25.9
32.3	Pensions Liability	(128.2)
(6.2)	Change in Equity	-
374.7		24.6

The cash flow adjustments included in the net surplus/deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities include:

2016/17		2017/18
£m		£m
(126.0)	Capital Grants	(95.5)
(89.4)	Capital Receipts	(128.6)
(16.5)	Council Tax and Business Rates Adjustments	-
(231.9)		(224.1)

Note G17**Group Expenditure and Funding by Nature of Activity**

Detail of the Council's Expenditure and Funding by Nature of Activity is provided in Note 9 to the entity accounts. The figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as detailed in Note G3.

2016/17 (Restated)		2017/18
£m	Expenditure	£m
951.9	Employee Benefits Expenses	1,085.9
1,769.5	Other Service Expenses	1,759.9
230.6	Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	108.3
259.6	Interest Payments	261.4
51.1	Precepts and Levies	52.9
6.3	Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	6.3
148.8	Loss on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	14.0
3,417.8	Total Expenditure	3,289.3
	Income	
(620.2)	Fees, Charges and Other Services Income	(636.2)
(508.1)	Income from Council Tax and Business Rates	(737.6)
(2,138.3)	Government Grants and Contributions	(1,910.9)
(24.1)	Interest and Investment Income	(20.8)
(3,290.7)	Total Income	(3,305.5)
127.1	(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(16.2)

Note G18

Related Parties

Details of the Council's material transactions with related parties are provided in Note 48 to the Council entity accounts.

In addition to the related parties detailed within Note 48 to the Council entity accounts those included below are deemed to be related parties of the Group – bodies or individuals with the potential to control or significantly influence the Group entities or to be controlled or significantly influenced by the Group entities. Where in-year transactions and outstanding balances between Group entities and associated related parties are £1m or greater, they are disclosed below. The Group entities and their relationships with the Council are detailed in Notes G23 and G24.

	Purchased From £m	Sold To £m	Net amount Due (To)/From £m
Acivico Limited			
Acivico Design Construction and Facilities Management Limited			
Acivico (Building Consultancy) Limited			
Birmingham City Propco Limited			
Innovation Birmingham Limited			
Birmingham Science Park Aston Limited			
Birmingham Technology (Property) Limited			
Birmingham Technology (Property One) Limited			
Birmingham Technology Venture Capital Limited			
InReach (Birmingham) Limited			
The National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc			
PETPS (Birmingham) Limited			
PETPS (Birmingham) General Partner Limited			
PETPS (Birmingham) Capital Limited			
PETPS Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership			
Paradise Circus General Partner Limited			
Paradise Circus Limited Partnership			
Paradise Circus Management Company Limited			
Paradise Circus Nominee 1 Limited			
Paradise Circus Nominee 2 Limited			
Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited			
West Midlands District Councils via (Solihull MBC)			(4.7)
Solihull MBC			

Solihull MBC is the local authority for the airport and transacts with the Company in a number of areas including business rates, planning applications and building control services. All of these transactions are carried out on an arms length basis at a full commercial rate.

Note G19

Leases

Group as the lessee

Details of the Council's finance and operating leases are included in Note 42 to the Council entity accounts.

Group as the lessor

Within the Group there are leases between Group entities and also leases from Group entities to external organisations. Details of the Council's finance leases are provided in Note 42 to the Council entity accounts. This note sets out the impact of intra-Group leases and leases of Group entities to external organisations.

Intra-Group Leases

Finance leases

The Council is the lessor for premises leased to Innovation Birmingham Group Limited (IBL). As a group subsidiary entity, these leases are eliminated from the group accounts. The information in the section below provides details of the material leases with group entities, which are to be excluded from the disclosures provided in Note 42 to the Council entity accounts in deriving the group disclosures.

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
	Finance lease debtor (net present value of minimum lease payments):	
-	- Current	-
7.7	- Non current	7.6
13.6	Unearned finance income	13.5
(0.1)	Unguaranteed residual value of property	(0.1)
21.2	Gross investment in the lease	21.0

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments will be received over the following periods:

	Finance lease debtor		Minimum lease payments	
	31 March 2017	31 March 2018	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Not later than one year	-	-	0.2	0.2
Later than one year and not later than five years	0.1	0.1	0.7	0.7
Later than five years	7.6	7.5	20.3	20.1
Total	7.7	7.6	21.2	21.0

Leases by Group entities to External Organisations

Finance leases

Details of the Council's finance leases are provided in Note 42 to the Council entity accounts.

The Council created Birmingham City Propco Limited in 2017/18 to provide a vehicle for commercial investment. The company purchased the leasehold interests of the Council in respect of the Crowne Plaza NEC and Hilton Metropole NEC Hotels. Details of the leases are set out below.

31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
Finance lease debtor (net present value of minimum lease payments):	
- - Current	0.1
- - Non current	20.1
- Unearned finance income	47.1
- Unguaranteed residual value of property	-
- Gross investment in the lease	67.3

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments will be received over the following periods:

	Finance lease debtor		Minimum lease payments	
	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m	31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
Not later than one year	-	0.1	-	1.0
Later than one year and not later than five years	-	0.2	-	4.1
Later than five years	-	19.9	-	62.2
Total	-	20.2	-	67.3

Operating Leases

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases where the length of lease was greater than 1 year at inception are:

31 March 2017 £m	31 March 2018 £m
- Not later than one year	0.4
- Later than one year and not later than five years	1.7
- Later than five years	26.6
- Gross investment in the lease	28.7

The minimum lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

Note G20**Defined Benefit Pension Schemes**

Details of the Council's involvement in the Teachers' Pensions Scheme and Local Government Pension Scheme are provided in Notes 20 and 21 to the Council entity accounts.

PETPS (Birmingham) Limited

Following completion of the sale of the NEC Group by the Council on 1 May 2015, NEC Limited was replaced as principal employer by PETPS (Birmingham) Limited (PETPS), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council, which assumed the ongoing funding obligation of the NEC Limited Pension Fund (the Fund) and the NEC Executive Pension Scheme (the Scheme) with the agreement of the pension trustees. The Fund and the Scheme had ceased to provide future service accrual with effect from 30 June 2010.

The Fund and the Scheme are defined benefit schemes, operating under UK trust law, which pay out pensions at retirement based on service and final pay. The trustee boards of the Fund and the Scheme are independent of the Council and are responsible for setting certain policies (for example, investment and contribution policies).

Under guarantees provided, the Council is responsible for meeting the current and future contingent funding obligations. The Fund and the Scheme therefore expose the Council to actuarial risks, such as longevity, currency, interest rate and market (investment) risk.

The assets of the Fund and the Scheme are held separately from those of PETPS and the Council. On the advice of an independent qualified actuary, contribution payments are made to the Fund and the Scheme by the Council to ensure that the assets are sufficient to cover future liabilities. Assets of the Fund and the Scheme are measured using fair market values.

The most recently completed formal actuarial valuations of the Fund and the Scheme were at 5 April 2016. The funding requirements are based on the Statements of Funding Principles of the Fund and the Scheme. The funding is based on a separate actuarial valuation for funding purposes, for which assumptions may differ from the assumptions set out in these disclosures. The defined benefit obligations are measured using the projected unit method and discounted at the rate of return on high quality corporate bonds of equivalent term.

The retirement benefit obligations in respect of the defined benefit schemes as calculated in accordance with IAS 19 (revised 2011) are disclosed below. Comparative figures for 2016/17 for the Fund and the Scheme have been provided.

Balance Sheet

The following amounts have been recognised in the PETPS' balance sheet and so consolidated into the Group Balance Sheet. The fair value of plan assets has been restated as at 31 March 2017 to reflect the confirmed year-end valuation. The fair value of plan assets has been increased by £0.3m, and the retirement benefit obligation reduced by the same amount.

	31 March 2017 (Restated)	31 March 2018
	£m	£m
Present value of funded obligations	(206.6)	(200.5)
Fair value of plan assets	184.3	182.8
Deficit for funded plans	(22.3)	(17.7)
Unrecognised asset due to the asset ceiling	-	-
Retirement Benefit Obligation	(22.3)	(17.7)

Income Statement

The amounts recognised in PETPS' Income Statement and consolidated into the Group Consolidated Income and Expenditure Statement are as follows:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Operating Costs:		
Administration Expenses	0.7	0.9
Current Service Cost	-	-
Included in Operating Cost	0.7	0.9
Financing Costs:		
Interest cost on pension scheme liabilities	5.9	5.1
Interest income on plan assets	(5.4)	(4.6)
Net interest cost	0.5	0.5
Total income statement expense	1.2	1.4

Other Comprehensive Income

The amounts recognised in PETPS' Other Comprehensive Income and consolidated into the Group Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income are as follows. The figures for 2016/17 have been restated to reflect an increase in the return on plan assets in excess of interest income by £0.3m.

	2016/17 (Restated) £m	2017/18 £m
Return on plan assets in excess of interest income	27.2	0.9
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to changes in financial assumptions	(43.2)	1.9
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to changes in demographic assumptions	1.8	0.6
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to experience	6.8	(0.9)
Remeasurement gain/(loss) recognised during the period	(7.4)	2.5

Reconciliation of Liabilities and Assets

Movements in the retirement benefit obligations are as follows:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Beginning of Period	(171.2)	(206.6)
Interest Cost	(5.9)	(5.1)
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to changes in financial assumptions	(43.2)	1.9
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to changes in demographic assumptions	1.8	0.6
Actuarial gain/(loss) on liabilities due to experience	6.8	(0.9)
Benefits Paid	5.1	9.5
Present value of obligation at 31 March	(206.6)	(200.5)

Movements in the fair value of plan assets are as follows:

	2016/17 (Restated) £m	2017/18 £m
Beginning of Period	157.4	184.3
Interest income on plan assets	5.4	4.5
Return on plan assets in excess on interest income	27.2	0.9
Contributions by employer	-	3.5
Administration expenses paid	(0.7)	(0.9)
Benefits paid	(5.1)	(9.5)
Fair value of plan assets at 31 March	184.3	182.9

Movements in the reimbursement right are as follows:

	2016/17 (Restated) £m	2017/18 £m
Surplus/(Deficit) at start of year	(13.7)	(22.3)
Expense (charge)/credit	(1.2)	(1.5)
Employer contributions	-	3.5
Remeasurement gain/(loss) in Other Comprehensive Income	(7.4)	2.5
Surplus/(Deficit) at end of year	(22.3)	(17.7)

Plan Assets

The major categories of plan assets are as follows:

	31 March 2017		31 March 2018	
	£m	%	£m	%
Equities, GTAA and hedge funds	91.6	50	87.1	48
Bonds and Cash	71.1	39	72.9	40
Property	14.8	8	16.4	9
Gilts	6.5	3	6.5	3
	184.0	100	182.9	100

Assumptions

The principal assumptions made by the actuary were:

	31 March 2017 %	31 March 2018 %
Discount rate – Fund/Scheme	2.50/2.45	2.50/2.50
RPI Inflation rate	3.20	3.15
CPI Inflation rate	2.20	2.15
Future Pension increases		
- pension accrued prior to 5 April 2005	3.05	3.00
- pension accrued after 5 April 2005	2.05	2.05

The base mortality assumptions for the Fund are based on SAPS tables (S2 series). Adjustments were applied to reflect the Scheme's populations with future improvements based on the CMI 2017 projection with a long term rate of improvement of 1.25% p.a. (2016/17: 1.25%).

The life expectancy for members as at the balance sheet date:

	31 March 2017		31 March 2018	
	Years		Years	
	Fund	Scheme	Fund	Scheme
Male: member aged 65 (current life expectancy)	22.2	23.4	22.1	24.5
Female: member aged 65 (current life expectancy)	24.7	24.6	24.6	26.8
Male: member aged 45 (life expectancy at age 65)	23.2	24.7	23.0	25.9
Female: member aged 45 (life expectancy at age 65)	26.2	26.1	26.2	28.3

Sensitivity Analysis

An increase of 0.25% in the discount rate would decrease the retirement benefit obligations by £10.4m

An increase of 0.25% in the inflation rate would increase the retirement benefit obligations by £9.0m

An increase of one year to life expectancy would increase the retirement benefit obligations by £9.9m

The duration of the NEC Limited Pension liabilities is around 22 years, and the duration of the NEC Executive Pension Scheme liabilities is around 15 years.

Expected Contributions for 2018/19

The contribution schedule in force sets out contributions of £3.5m that will be paid into the Fund and £0.1m will be paid into the Scheme in the 2018/19 financial year. The contribution into the Fund is expected to be paid from the Asset Backed Funding arrangement that was put in place in 2017.

Acivico Limited Group

The Company's subsidiary companies participate in the West Midlands Pension Fund, a Local Government Pension Scheme.

The information disclosed below is in respect of the whole of the plans for which the Company is either the sponsoring employer or has been allocated a share of cost under an agreed group policy throughout the periods shown.

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Present value of funded defined benefit obligations	(85.1)	(87.0)
Fair value of plan assets	77.3	77.7
Net (Liability)/Asset	(7.8)	(9.3)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligation:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Balance at beginning of period	49.7	85.1
Current service cost	2.1	3.2
Interest cost	2.4	2.4
Actuarial (gains)/losses	31.2	(3.0)
Contributions by members	0.6	0.6
Curtailment	-	0.3
Benefits paid	(0.9)	(1.6)
31 March	85.1	87.0

Movements in the fair value of plan assets:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Balance at beginning of period	47.6	77.3
Return on assets (less interest)		
Interest on assets	2.4	2.1
Actuarial (losses)/gains	26.5	(2.1)
Contributions	1.8	1.9
Benefits paid	(0.9)	(1.6)
31 March	77.3	77.7

Expense recognised in the profit and loss account:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Operating Costs:		
Current Service Cost	2.1	3.5
Included in Operating Cost	2.1	3.5
Financing Costs:		
Interest cost on pension scheme liabilities	2.4	2.4
Interest income on plan assets	(2.4)	(2.1)
Net interest cost	-	0.3
Total income statement expense	2.1	3.8

Other Comprehensive Income

The amounts recognised in Acivico's Other Comprehensive Income and consolidated into the Group Consolidated Other Comprehensive Income are as follows:

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Actuarial (gain)/loss on liabilities	31.2	(3.0)
(Gain)/loss on settlement or curtailment	-	-
Actuarial (gain)/loss on plan assets	(27.2)	2.1
Remeasurement (gain)/loss recognised during the period	4.0	(0.9)

The fair value of the plan assets and the return on those assets were as follows:

	2016/17 Fair Value		2017/18 Fair Value	
	£m	%	£m	%
Equities	49.8	64	49.6	64
Government Bonds	6.3	8	5.7	7
Other Bonds	3.2	4	3.0	4
Property	6.0	8	6.0	8
Cash/Liquidity	2.2	3	1.9	2
Other	9.9	13	11.5	15
Total	77.3	100	77.7	100

Principal actuarial assumptions (expressed as weighted averages) at the year-end were as follows:

	2016/17 %	2017/18 %
Discount rate	2.7	2.6
Future salary increases	4.2	3.8
Future pension increases	2.7	2.3
CPI increases	2.7	2.3

In valuing the liabilities of the pension fund at 31 March 2018, mortality assumptions have been made as indicated below.

The life expectancy for members as at the balance sheet date:

	31 March 2017	31 March 2018
Male: member aged 65 (current life expectancy)	21.8	21.9
Female: member aged 65 (current life expectancy)	24.2	24.3
Male: member aged 45 (life expectancy at age 65)	23.9	24.0
Female: member aged 45 (life expectancy at age 65)	26.5	26.6

The valuation of the defined benefit obligation is sensitive to the assumption adopted for the discount rate. The effect of a 0.1% increase in the discount rate is set out below

	£m
Effect on service cost	(0.1)
Effect on defined benefit obligation	(1.7)

Note G21**Adjustments between Group Accounts and Council Accounts**

The following adjustments are made in the Group's Movement in Reserves Statement in order to reconcile the General Fund balance back to its Council position prior to funding basis adjustments being made. The detail for 2016/17 has been restated to reflect the elimination of Birmingham Museums Trust Limited and Performances Birmingham Limited from the Group Accounts as detailed in Note G3.

	General Fund Balance £m	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) £m	Capital Receipts Reserve £m	Major Repairs Reserve £m	Capital Grants Unapplied £m	Total Usable Reserves £m	Unusable Reserves £m	Total Council Reserves £m	Council's Share of Reserves of Subsidiaries, Associates and Joint Ventures £m	Total Group Reserves £m
<u>2016/17 (Restated)</u>										
Provision of goods and services to subsidiaries	3.4					3.4		3.4	(3.4)	-
Purchases of goods and services from subsidiaries	(19.0)					(19.0)		(19.0)	19.0	-
										-
Total adjustments between Group accounts and Council accounts	(15.6)	-	-	-	-	(15.6)	-	(15.6)	15.6	-
<u>2017/18</u>										
Provision of goods and services to subsidiaries	3.2					3.2		3.2	(3.2)	
Purchases of goods and services from subsidiaries	(21.1)					(21.1)		(21.1)	21.1	
Total adjustments between Group accounts and Council accounts	(17.9)	-	-	-	-	(17.9)		(17.9)	17.9	

Note G22**Analysis of Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and Total Movement in Balance Sheet**

Detailed below is the analysis of Group Balance Sheet movements.

2016/17 (Restated)			2017/18		
Council	Minority Interests	Total	Council	Minority interests	Total
£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
127.1	-	127.1	(16.2)	-	(16.2)
(6.4)	-	(6.4)	(4.5)	-	(4.5)
123.2	-	123.2	(400.4)	-	(400.4)
243.9	-	243.9	(421.1)	-	(421.1)
6.4	-	6.4	-	-	-
250.3	-	250.3	(421.1)	-	(421.1)

(Surplus)/Deficit on the provision of services

Share of Associates

Other Comprehensive (Income)/Expenditure

Total Comprehensive (Income)Expenditure

(Increase)/Decrease in Equity

Total movement in Balance Sheet

Note G23**Subsidiary Companies****I. The National Exhibition Centre (Developments) Plc**

The company was set up to provide an additional 30,000 square metres of exhibition space in four halls. The building was financed by a loan stock issue of £73 million by the company which is guaranteed by the Council. The Council has held all 1,000 issued ordinary shares of £1 each and all 100,000 £1 preference shares throughout the reporting period covered by these financial statements.

The Council has zero coupon loan notes totalling £0.6m (2015/16: £0.8m). The loan notes are repayable in instalments and repayments commenced in 2013/14. The position at the year end is detailed below.

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	(1.0)	(1.0)
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	9.1	8.4

The year end of the company is 31 March 2018. For the purposes of the consolidation these accounts have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of the company.

The Council continues to retain ownership of NEC (Developments) Plc.

II. Innovation Birmingham Limited

Innovation Birmingham Limited, a company limited by guarantee with the Council as sole member, was created with the aim of promoting, encouraging and securing the development and management of a science park in Birmingham. During the 2017/18 financial year, the Council was entitled to appoint up to seven members of the company and five of the nine voting directors. Furthermore, additional control by the Council was exercised through its 71% share of directors' voting rights. The Articles of Association for Innovation Birmingham Group prohibits the distribution of profits and as such dividends.

The Council had made the decision to dispose of its interests in the company to a third party to ensure its continued development. The company is therefore treated as an Asset Held for Sale in these Group financial statements.

The position at the year end is detailed below.

	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	(0.4)	(0.6)
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	0.1	1.8

The year-end of the company is 31 March 2018. For the purposes of the consolidation these accounts have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of this company.

Information regarding transactions during the year and balances held at the year-end between the Council and Innovation Birmingham Limited can be found within Note 48 of the Council entity accounts. The Council sold its interests in the company on 18 April 2018.

III. Acivico Limited

Acivico Limited is a registered company, which is wholly owned by the Council. The company was launched in April 2012, with three special purpose vehicles (SPVs), one holding company and two trading companies. The two trading companies, Acivico Design Construction and Facilities Management Limited and Acivico (Building Consultancy) Limited, have been operational since April 2012 and provide a range of statutory and non-statutory services on behalf of and to the Council and to other public and private sector clients. The Council has held the £1 issued ordinary share (100%) for the whole of the reporting period covered by these financial statements.

	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	(1.7)	(4.6)
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	(7.2)	(12.2)

The year-end of the company is 31 March 2018 and for the purposes of consolidation these accounts have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of the group.

Information regarding transactions during the year and balances held at the year-end between the Council and Acivico Limited Group can be found within Note 48 of the Council entity accounts.

IV. PETPS (Birmingham) Limited

PETPS (Birmingham) Limited, a company limited by guarantee was incorporated on 14 November 2014. The company is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council.

Following completion of the sale of the National Exhibition Centre Limited Group (NEC Limited) on 1 May 2015, PETPS (Birmingham) Limited replaced NEC Limited as the principal employer and assumed the ongoing funding obligation of two defined benefit pension schemes with the agreement of the pension trustees.

	2016/17 £m	2017/18 £m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-	-
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	-	-

The year-end of the company is 31 March 2018 and for the purposes of consolidation these accounts have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of the group.

Information regarding transactions during the year and balances held at the year-end between the Council and PETPS (Birmingham) Limited can be found within Note 48 of the Council entity accounts.

V. PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership

PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership (SLP) was formed by PETPS (Birmingham) Capital Limited (PETPS Capital) and PETPS (Birmingham) General Partner Limited (PETPS General), which are both wholly owned subsidiaries of the Council.

The arrangement has been created in 2017/18 to enable the Council to manage the funding implications of its guarantee in respect of the pensions from the NEC Group Limited following its disposal. The Council has invested equity in PETPS Capital which it has subsequently invested in SLP. The rights of the investment in SLP have been assigned to the NEC Pension Fund Trustees whilst the pension fund is in deficit. At 31 March 2018, there were nominal balances in PETPS Capital and PETPS General with the major transactions in SLP.

	2017/18 £m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	-

The year-end of the company is 31 March 2018 and for the purposes of consolidation these accounts have been used. This is the first year of operation of the company and its accounts are subject to audit.

Information regarding transactions during the year and balances held at the year-end between the Council and PETPS (Birmingham) Pension Funding Scottish Limited Partnership can be found within Note 48 of the Council entity accounts.

VI. InReach (Birmingham) Limited

The Council set up InReach (Birmingham) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council, in 2015/16 to facilitate the development of new private rented homes for market rent at St Vincent Street, Ladywood. The company has continued its building programme and it is expected that the first units will be available for accommodation early in the 2018/19 financial year. Throughout the whole of the reporting periods considered in these financial statements, the Council has held 100% of the £2,000,100 share capital of the company.

	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	(0.1)	(0.6)
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	1.9	12.8

The year end of the company is 31 March and for the purposes of consolidation the draft accounts for the 12 month period ending 31 March 2018 have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of the group.

VII. Birmingham City Propco Limited

The Council set up Birmingham City Propco Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Council, in 2017/18 to provide a vehicle for commercial investment. The initial transactions of the company were to purchase the leasehold interests of the Council in respect of the Crowne Plaza NEC and Hilton Metropole NEC Hotels, which were completed on 15 March 2018. The company has been consolidated into the Council's Group Financial Statements for the first time in 2017/18.

	2016/17	2017/18
	£m	£m
Profit/(Loss) for the year	-	(0.6)
Net Assets/(Liabilities) at the year-end	-	8.9

The year-end of the company is 31 March. The company has opted to produce its first financial statements as at 31 March 2019 and for the purposes of consolidation, the company's latest management accounts have been used as there were few transactions in the year other than the purchase of the leasehold interests.

Information regarding transactions during the year and balances held at the year-end between the Council and Birmingham City Propco Limited can be found within Note 48 of the Council entity accounts.

Note G24**Associate and Joint Operations**

The associates that have been consolidated into the Group Financial Statements are listed below.

I. Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited

The main ordinary shareholders of Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited (BAH) are the seven West Midland Districts. The Seven Districts together own 49% of BAH's 324.0m ordinary shares of 1p each (the Council owns 18.68% that is 60.5m ordinary shares). 48.25% ordinary shares are held by Airport Group Investments Limited which is owned by the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan and Victorian Funds Management Corporation and the remaining 2.75% shares are held by an Employee Share Trust. The Shareholders' Agreement provides for the Districts to cast their 49% vote in all circumstances in one consolidated block. The vote of 75% of ordinary shareholders is required for certain major decisions of the company.

The seven West Midland Districts together own all £15.4m of BAH's 6.31% preference shares (the Council owns £5.9m) which are cumulative and redeemable.

The BAH Group Accounts incorporate:

- Birmingham Airport Limited;
- Birmingham Airport Air Traffic Limited;
- Birmingham Airport Developments Limited;
- Birmingham Airport (Finance) Plc;
- Birmingham Airport Operations Limited;
- Birmingham Airport Services Limited;
- BHX Fire and Rescue Limited;
- BHX (Scotland) Limited;
- BHX Limited Partnership;
- Euro-Hub (Birmingham) Limited; and
- First Castle Developments Limited.

The principal activity of the group is the operation and management of Birmingham International Airport and the provision of facilities and services associated with those operations.

The year-end of the company is 31 March 2018. For the purposes of the consolidation these accounts have been used. There was no qualification to the audit opinion on the last audited accounts of the group.

BAH is accounted for as an associate for the following reasons:

- The Shareholders' Agreement provides for the Districts to cast their 49% vote in all circumstances in one consolidated block. As the Council holds 18.68% within this 49% it is considered that the Council has greater power to influence the voting of the block;
- 25% of the BAH Board of Directors (4 of 16) are Council officers or councillors.

Following adjustments to the financial information to align accounting policies with those of the Council, in accordance with the principal of equity accounting under the Code, the

summarised financial information for the associate for the year ended 31 March is detailed below:

31 March 2017		31 March 2018
£m		£m
468.2	Non-Current Assets	465.6
73.0	Current Assets	68.7
(77.8)	Current Liabilities	(76.3)
(358.7)	Non-Current Liabilities	(348.1)
<u>104.7</u>	Net Assets	<u>109.9</u>
19.6	Council Interest in Net Assets @ 18.68%	20.5
145.8	Revenue	155.5
19.3	Post-Tax Profit/(Loss)	26.4
(12.6)	Other Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure)	9.1
<u>6.7</u>	Total Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure)	<u>35.5</u>
1.3	Council Interest in Total Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure) @ 18.68%	6.6

The carrying value of the Council's interest in this entity is £20.5m (2016/17: £19.6m), which is included within Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures in the Group Balance Sheet.

Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited at 31 March 2018 has disclosed four existing contingent liabilities within its financial statements:

- On 13 February 2001 guarantees were provided by Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited, Birmingham Airport Limited and Euro-hub (Birmingham) Limited in support of a £105 million Corporate Bond issued by Birmingham Airport (Finance) Plc. The bond is for a period of 20 years maturing on 22 February 2021 and carries a fixed interest rate of 6.25% per annum;
- On 3 December 2013 the company along with other group members of Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited provided guarantees in support of £75m private placement senior notes received by Birmingham Airport (Finance) Plc. Series A senior notes of £30m are for a period of ten years maturing on 3 December 2023 and carry fixed interest rate of 4.472% per annum. Series B senior notes of £45m are for a period of fifteen years maturing on 3 December 2028 and carry a fixed interest rate of 4.557% per annum;
- On 30 March 2016 the company along with other group members of Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited, provided guarantees in support of £76m private placement senior notes issued by Birmingham Airport (Finance) Plc. The notes are for a period of 25 years maturing on 30 March 2041 and carry a fixed interest rate of 3.8% per annum;
- On 30 March 2016 the company along with other group members of Birmingham Airport Holdings Limited, provided guarantees to the Royal Bank of Scotland Plc and Lloyds Bank Plc in support of a £20m banking facility made available to Birmingham

Airport Holdings Limited. The facility is for a period of five years with an expiry date of 30 March 2021, with an option to extend by two further 12 month periods. At the date of the signing of its financial statements, the total amount outstanding under the facility was £nil.

The joint operation that has been consolidated into the Group Financial Statements is listed below.

II. Paradise Circus Limited Partnership

The Council has entered into a joint venture arrangement with BriTel Funds Trustees Limited through Paradise Circus Limited Partnership. The partnership is facilitating the development of the area known as Paradise Circus, supporting delivery against one of the Council's strategic aims, generating economic growth and job creation through the regeneration of the area. The entity was incorporated on 11 September 2013, with operational activity commencing in January 2015. The Council and BriTel Funds Trustees Limited share control of the joint venture on a 50/50 basis.

The year-end of the company was 30 June 2017. For the purposes of the consolidation these accounts have been used and supplemented by management accounts information for the nine month period to 31 March 2018. There was no qualification on the audit opinion for the last audited accounts of the company.

Following adjustments to the financial information to align accounting policies with those of the Council, in accordance with the principles of equity accounting under the Code, the summarised financial information for the associate for the year ended 31 March is as follows:

31 March 2017 £m		31 March 2018 £m
6.8	Non-Current Assets	6.8
23.3	Current Assets	22.2
(5.9)	Current Liabilities	(4.0)
(26.0)	Non-Current Liabilities	(28.2)
(1.9)	Net Assets/(Liabilities)	(3.2)
(0.95)	Council Interest in Net Assets @ 50%	(1.6)
17.8	Revenue	12.4
(1.3)	Post-Tax Profit/(Loss)	(1.4)
-	Other Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure)	-
(1.3)	Total Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure)	(1.4)
(0.7)	Council Interest in Total Comprehensive Income/(Expenditure) @ 50%	(0.7)

The carrying value of the Council's interest in this entity is a net deficit of £1.6m (2016/17: £0.95m deficit), which is included within the current liabilities in the Group Balance Sheet.



Draft Annual Governance Statement 2017/18

Annual Governance Statement 2017/18

1 Scope of responsibility

- 1.1. Birmingham City Council (the Council) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency, and effectiveness.
- 1.2. In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, and including arrangements for the management of risk.
- 1.3. The Council has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the principles of the *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework* (CIPFA/Solace 2016). This statement explains how the Council has complied with the framework and also meets the requirements of *The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015*, Regulation 6(1)(a), which requires an authority to conduct a review at least once a year of the effectiveness of its system of internal control and include a statement reporting on the review with any published Statement of Accounts and, Regulation 6(1)(b), which requires all relevant bodies to prepare an Annual Governance Statement (AGS).

2 The purpose of the governance framework

- 2.1. The Council as a whole is committed to good governance and to improving governance on a continuous basis through a process of evaluation and review.
- 2.2. Good governance for the Council is ensuring it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people, in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner and the Council seeks to achieve its objectives while acting in the public interest at all times.
- 2.3. The governance framework comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which the Council directs and controls its activities and through which it accounts to, engages with and leads its communities. It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of high quality services and value for money.
- 2.4. The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

- 2.5. The governance framework has been in place at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Statement of Accounts.

3 The governance framework

- 3.1. The key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the Council's governance arrangements include the following:

The Council's vision and priorities for Birmingham

- 3.2. The Council has been on a journey to redefine its vision and purpose in serving the people of Birmingham. Creating a Council of the Future will drive the necessary change to deliver a new Council role and relationship with the City, its citizens and its partners.

- 3.3. The Council's vision for the future of Birmingham is for a city of growth, in which every child, citizen and place matters and to support this, the Council has set itself four clear priorities:

- **Children – a great city to grow up in.** To make the best of the city's unique demography and create a safe and secure city for children to learn and grow.
- **Housing – a great city to live in.** To provide housing in a range of types and tenures, to meet the housing needs of all current and future citizens of the city.
- **Jobs and Skills – a great city to succeed in.** Birmingham will be renowned as an enterprising, innovative and green city.
- **Health – a great place to grow old in.** To help people become healthier, especially relating to physical activity and mental wellbeing.

- 3.4. The Council's vision and priorities in terms of the contribution to strategic outcomes are set out in the Vision and Priorities 2017-2020 Plan (the Plan). The Plan was updated in 2017/18 and is available on the Council's website.

- 3.5. The Plan articulates the strategic direction for the Council with a clear set of corporate priorities. These priorities have been informed by extensive consultation with Cabinet Members and Members from opposition groups.

- 3.6. The Council's Delivery Plan published in September 2017, sets out by each corporate priority the key actions, how progress is tracked and measured, deadlines and identification of the lead officer. Regular monitoring and reporting against these measures ensures that shortfalls in performance are identified at an early stage and effective action to bring performance in line with targets is undertaken.

- 3.7. In turn, the corporate priorities are supported by more detailed Directorate and Service Plans which are also regularly monitored and reviewed.

- 3.8. Ultimately, the Council's role will change. No longer can it see itself as simply delivering services across the City, it must now be a place-shaper and commissioner and work with partners, communities and individuals to deliver outcomes. As a result

the Council of the Future will be smaller and more strategic, partnership based, more about people and better at managing demand.

- 3.9. The Council ensures the economical, effective and efficient use of resources, and secures continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, by having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness as required by the Best Value duty. Achievement of value for money is part of the Council's long term financial strategy.
- 3.10. The Financial Plan 2017+ was developed to align with the Council's Delivery Plan. The Council continues to face significant funding reductions and challenges in achieving its budget plans, outlined in the Council Plan and Budget 2018+.
- 3.11. A robust system to monitor the achievement of savings proposals and scrutiny by Council Management Team (CMT), Budget Board and Cabinet is in place and regularly undertook actions throughout the financial year to control spend. Where pressures were identified, Corporate Directors were asked to find alternative solutions and actions to contain spending within cash limits. Even so, pressures at the year-end remain.
- 3.12. Following the financial experiences over the last two years, highlighted by both the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) and through a Statutory Recommendation under Section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, made by the external auditors for the 2016/17 Statutory Accounts, the extent of savings delivery risk is clearly recognised along with the potential impacts of unidentified pressures and other changes as the Council looks forward. In response, the Council ensures that there are robust financial arrangements in place, recognising that it cannot continue to use reserves to balance the budget in the way that it has in the past. Nevertheless, it will continue to hold reserves as a contingency funding in case of savings delivery difficulties.
- 3.13. The Council's workforce has experienced many changes and challenges as the workforce is modernised. From transforming the customer service function and developing a Citizen Access Strategy to facing some of the challenges driven by being a large employer such as equal pay cases and reviews of terms and conditions, it is recognised the workforce has been facing change over the last 10 years
- 3.14. External reviews, including the '*Kerslake Review*', highlighted many areas for improvement – much of which the Council already knew about itself – including the lack of a corporate strategic picture and therefore workforce reductions which were not focused in terms of delivering savings.
- 3.15. As the vision for the future priorities is now clearer, the workforce and employment model needs to be reshaped to ensure that the Council is fit for that future through the Council's People Strategy. People who have the right behaviours and skills for the future need to be retained and nurtured, whilst acknowledging that the workforce will be significantly smaller, needing a different focus and capabilities. It will be a challenge to bring the workforce on this journey and to re-engage individuals and teams in a positive future.
- 3.16. The Council's planning framework is set in the context of the wider city leadership and governance, such as the West Midlands Combined Authority's (WMCA) Strategic Economic Plan (developed by the local enterprise partnerships in conjunction with the WMCA) and the Birmingham and Solihull Sustainability and Transformation Plan (to deliver better health and care for local people).

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- 3.17. The Council has a strong public, third sector, and business engagement role. A new Community Cohesion Strategy is being developed and there is an established partnership toolkit setting out the governance and internal control arrangements which must be in place when the Council enters into partnership working. This includes arrangements for the roles of Members and Officers, and the implementation and monitoring of objectives and key targets.
- 3.18. Working with partners, the Council plays a strategic role for the Greater Birmingham area, working with the Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) and supported by the West Midlands's Devolution Deal to develop collaborative solutions to common problems, and facilitating coherent programmes with regional and international partners to deliver an economic strategy for the city and region. LEP projects follow the Council's governance processes, managed and monitored through a Project Delivery Board, with regular reporting to the LEP Board by the LEP Champion.
- 3.19. Change across local government continues. A Mayor was elected on 6 May 2017 to head the West Midlands Combined Authority (WMCA). The WMCA uses devolved powers from central government to allow the Council, along with its regional counterparts, to drive economic growth, investment and the reform of public services. There will be continued innovative ways of delivering local services and for people to engage in their local community, such as through the local council for Sutton Coldfield.
- 3.20. The Group Company Governance Committee, a Cabinet sub-committee, works to improve the level of Council oversight of the activities of those companies that it either wholly owns, or in which it has an interest.
- 3.21. In May 2016, the Council announced its intention to move towards a Children's Trust. The Trust is a wholly owned company of the Council and works in close partnership to continue to improve outcomes for disadvantaged children and young people in the City. In April 2018, the Children's Trust became operationally independent of the Council as part of an ongoing process of improvement.
- 3.22. The Council's Constitution which is reviewed annually by the Monitoring Officer with amendments agreed at the Annual General Meeting, is available on Council's website. Any in-year changes are agreed by Cabinet and/or the Council Business Management Committee (CBMC).
- 3.23. The Council facilitates policy and decision-making via an Executive Structure. There were ten members of Cabinet for the 2017/18 financial year: the Leader, Deputy Leader and eight other Cabinet Members with the following portfolios:
- Cabinet Member – Children, Families and Schools;
 - Cabinet Member – Commercialism, Commissioning and Contract Management;
 - Cabinet Member – Transport and Roads;
 - Cabinet Member – Clean Streets, Recycling and Environment;
 - Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care;
 - Cabinet Member – Housing and Homes;
 - Cabinet Member – Jobs and Skills;
 - Cabinet Member – Community Safety and Equalities.

3.24. For the 2018/19 financial year, the Cabinet structure includes:

- The Leader
- Deputy Leader
- Cabinet Member – Children’s Wellbeing;
- Cabinet Member – Clean Streets, Waste and Recycling;
- Cabinet Member – Health and Social Care;
- Cabinet Member – Homes and Neighbourhoods;
- Cabinet Member – Finance and Resources;
- Cabinet Member – Social Inclusion, Community Safety and Equalities;
- Cabinet Member – Transportation and Environment;
- Cabinet Member – Education, Skills and Culture.

3.25. The Constitution sets out the terms of reference or function for each of the Committees and signposts to a schedule of matters reserved for decision by Full Council.

3.26. The CBMC has responsibility for the planning and preparation of the agenda, papers and other arrangements for Council meetings and provides the forum for non-executive, non-scrutiny and non-regulatory matters.

3.27. CBMC oversees the Council's relationship with the Independent Remuneration Panel which is chaired by an independent person. CBMC submits recommendations to the Council on the operation and membership of the Panel and amendments to the Councillors’ Allowances Scheme.

3.28. CBMC also discharges the Council’s functions in relation to parishes and parish councils.

3.29. The purpose of the Audit Committee is to support the Council's Corporate Governance responsibilities and to provide independent assurance to the Council in relation to internal control, risk management and governance. The role of the Audit Committee includes active involvement in the review of financial systems and procedures, close liaison with external audit and responsibility for the approval of the Annual Accounts and to review and make recommendations to the executive regarding the effectiveness of internal audit on the Council's arrangements for deterring, preventing, detecting and investigating fraud.

Roles, Values and Standards of Conduct and Behaviour of Members and Officers

3.30. The Constitution sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of the Cabinet and other Members and Officers and how these are put into practice.

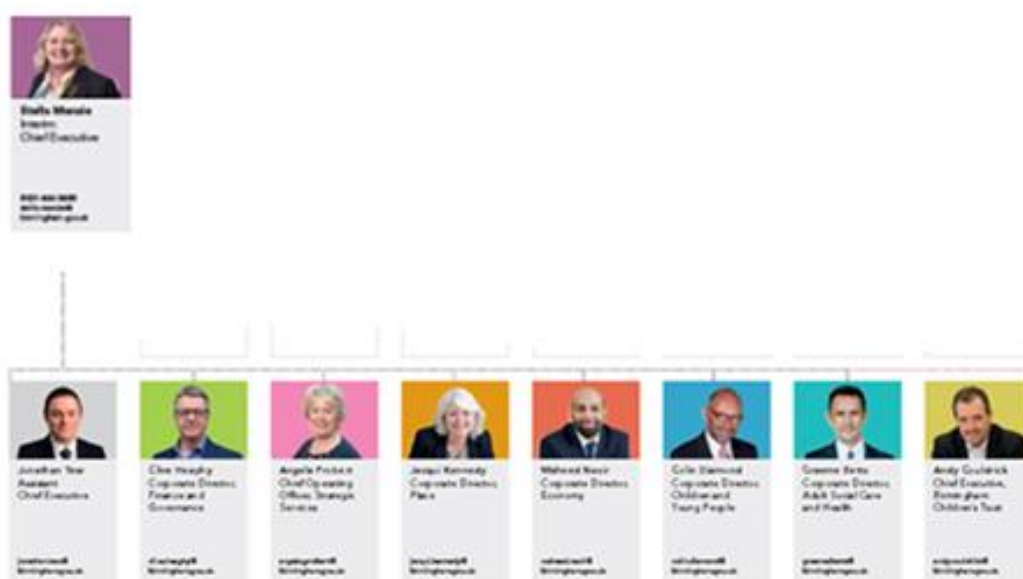
3.31. The Constitution also includes a Scheme of Delegation to Officers which sets out the powers of Corporate Directors.

3.32. The Council has Codes of Conduct for both Members and Officers which set out the standards of conduct and personal behaviour expected and the conduct of work between members and officers. In particular the Council has clear arrangements for declaration of interests and registering of gifts and hospitality offered and received.

Management Structure

3.33. During 2017/18, the Council operated within six Directorates, Adult Services, Children and Young People, Economy, Finance and Governance, Place and Strategic Services.

3.34. The Council's management structure as at 31 March 2018 was as per the diagram below:



3.35. During the year, the following key changes occurred

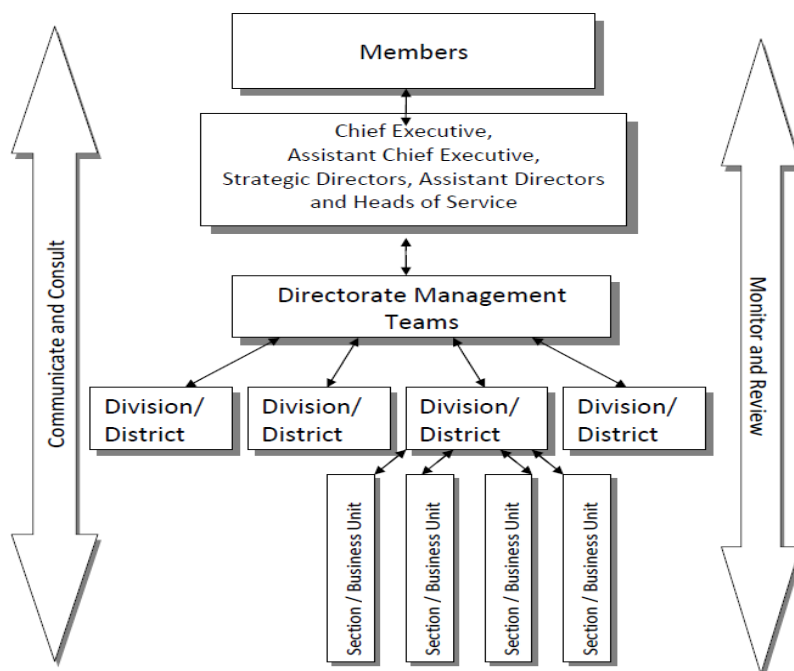
- Stella Manzie was appointed as Interim Chief Executive 4 April 2017 and served through to 31 March 2018. Dawn Baxendale who was appointed as permanent Chief Executive started with the Council on 1 April 2018.
- The Interim Chief Finance Officer, Mike O'Donnell left the Council at the end of December 2017 and Clive Heaphy joined as Corporate Director - Finance & Governance on 3 January 2018.
- The previous Assistant Chief Executive, Piali DasGupta, left the Council at the end of June 2017 with the Jonathan Tew commencing on 2 January 2018.
- The Strategic Director – Major Projects and Programmes left the Council at the end of July 2017.
- The appointment of Andy Couldrick as Chief Executive of the Children's Trust was announced in May 2017 and Andy formally took over his role following the transfer of operation responsibility from the Council to the Trust on 1 April 2018.

Financial Management Arrangements

- 3.36. The Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2016). The role of the Chief Finance Officer (CFO)/Section 151 Officer includes being:
- A key member of CMT, helping it to develop and implement strategy and to resource and deliver the Council's strategic objectives sustainably and in the public interest;
 - Actively involved in, and able to bring influence to bear on, all material business decisions to ensure immediate and longer term implications, opportunities and risks are fully considered, and alignment with the Council's financial strategy;
 - Leading the promotion and delivery of good financial management so that public money is safeguarded at all times and used appropriately, economically, efficiently and effectively;
 - To deliver these responsibilities, the CFO leads and directs a finance function that is resourced to be fit for purpose; and is professionally qualified and suitably experienced.

Scrutiny, Accountability and Risk Management

- 3.37. The Overview & Scrutiny Committees cover all Cabinet Member portfolios and the Districts collectively. All Executive decisions can be called in for Scrutiny to ensure that they are soundly based and consistent with Council policy.
- 3.38. The Council has a procedure for handling complaints, compliments, and comments that monitors formal contact with members of the public. Such enquiries are actively tracked through the process and independently reviewed and where appropriate, actions taken to improve service delivery.
- 3.39. The Council ensures compliance with established policies, procedures, laws, and regulations - including risk management. For transparency, all reports to Cabinet, Cabinet Members and Districts are required to include governance information relating to: Council policy, internal and external consultation, financial and legal implications and Public Sector Equalities Duty. All reports are required to be cleared by senior finance and legal officers.
- 3.40. Risk management continues to be embedded within the Council. The schematic diagram below illustrates how risk was managed during 2017/18:



- 3.41. The Risk Management Policy Statement, Strategy and Toolkit are on the Council's website, and advice and support is provided as requested. Updated information regarding the management of the risks within the Council's Corporate Risk Register continues to be reported to the Audit Committee three times per year. CMT identifies new risks to the Council, and the draft Corporate Risk Register update is reported to it the month before it goes to the Audit Committee. CMT challenge the update information provided, and recommend re-wording or deletion of risks as appropriate. In addition business plans at directorate and divisional level include key risks.
- 3.42. Legal requirements and Council policy, together with guidance on their implementation, are set out in detail in the Policies, Standards, Procedures and Guidance database held on the Council's systems. Directorates maintain detailed delegations and guidance on specific legislative requirements which affect their service delivery.
- 3.43. The Council has a strong Internal Audit function and well-established protocols for working with external audit. The Council's external auditors have responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice to review compliance with policies, procedures, laws and regulations within their remit.

Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP)

- 3.44. Following Lord Kerslake's review of the Council's corporate governance (published in December 2014), the Birmingham Independent Improvement Panel (BIIP) was set up in January 2015. The Council and BIIP have worked closely together from this time.

- 3.45. During August and September, the Council faced an industrial dispute over the reorganisation of its waste management operations. In the course of the dispute, questions arose about the conduct of the Leader of the Council and whether the Council's constitution and Member Code of Conduct had been breached. On the 11th September the Leader of the Council resigned his position and the Deputy Leader became Interim Leader of the Council until a new Leader was elected.
- 3.46. In a letter to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in September, the BIIP stated it was disappointed in this set back as at the heart of the Kerslake Review was a question of the Council's culture. It recommended, in consultation with the Interim Leader and the Interim Chief Executive, that the BIIP should remain in place, providing advice and support to the Council through a period of significant transition and until it can demonstrate that the changes in culture and governance still required are truly embedded. The Interim Leader of the Council was elected Leader in autumn 2017 along with a new Deputy Leader.
- 3.47. In March 2018, the BIIP acknowledged that *"along with the election of the Council Leader and Deputy Leader, permanent appointments had been made to Chief Executive, Assistant Chief Executive and Corporate Director of Finance and Governance. These significant leadership changes were taking place in the context of the Children's Trust being established, the Council experiencing all-out elections in May 2018 and that Birmingham had been announced as the host City for the Commonwealth Games 2022."*
- 3.48. The letter further went on to say that

"Significant changes are continuing to take place in Birmingham. These are set to bring fresh opportunities and some new challenges in the years ahead." The letter went on to say that "in the light of these changes and context, the Council and the Panel have reviewed our position and propose moving to a more collaborative approach. This joint letter from the Panel and the Council reflects this change.

With support and advice from the Panel, the Council intends to publish a suite of improvement plans. Progress on delivering all of the plans and the impact of the changes they bring about will be rigorously tracked and evaluated.

The Council also recognises that it has not yet brought its day to day expenditure into line with its revenue. Balancing its revenue budget has therefore required, and continues to require, substantial draw down of the Council's reserves. This position is not sustainable and high quality strategic financial management and difficult decisions will be required to achieve financial sustainability.

We understand that if more collaborative working as proposed is to be successful, this will require all elected members and officers of the Council and the Panel to demonstrate high levels of transparency and self-awareness in evaluation and reporting."

Member Development

- 3.49. In addition to the Members' Development Programme, Councillors have access to e-learning through the Members' portal on People Solutions and are regularly kept up to date on training and development via the City Councillor bulletin circulated by e-mail. This gives details of legislation, training opportunities and other issues of importance to Members.

- 3.50. Regular monthly "market places" and briefing sessions are held to keep Councillors up-to-date with Council services or services provided by partner organisations.
- 3.51. The Members' Development Programme 2017/18 was delivered around three areas as outlined in the table below:

New Member Induction	Role Specific Training	On-going Member Development
Aim: To give oversight of Council processes and procedures to enable new members to get quickly up to speed with their role.	Aim: ensuring members have the knowledge and understanding of legal and governance requirements to carry out role on regulatory and scrutiny committees.	Aim: to provide ongoing development opportunities for members related to current and potential future role and responsibilities.
Understand role and responsibilities, the Council's values & behaviours, define new development offer.	Planning, Licensing and Scrutiny training provided to support members.	Skill development (e.g. mental health, first aid); networks and external courses.
Code of conduct and the constitution.		On-going transformation (e.g. Children's Trust, apprenticeships, homelessness, universal credit).
Who's who in Birmingham, customer intelligence and access to IT and council services.		Community leadership including local leadership, tools for ward working).

Workforce

- 3.52. Having a flexible, skilled and mobile workforce is critical to the Council effectively responding to increasing demands placed on front line services and support functions and to the delivery of a long-term sustainable organisation. Financial reductions facing the Council are impacting significantly on the Council's ability to recruit and retain the talent needed to ensure workforce capacity.
- 3.53. During 2017/18, the 'My Appraisal' review process was embedded. This streamlined the personal review process and enabled a consistent means of assessing and rewarding performance. 'My Appraisal' is specifically designed to ensure that employees are supported to implement the Council's core values:
- We put citizens first
 - We are true to our word
 - We act courageously
 - We achieve excellence

Engagement with the community and other stakeholders

- 3.54. The Council engages in a wide range of consultation and engagement activities to inform service delivery and decision making. These are summarised in an annual statement and on-line consultation database. The Council Plan and Budget 2018+ consultation process included public meetings led by the Council's Leader and Cabinet, an online Be Heard survey, an online communications campaign including webpages, news feeds Facebook and Twitter, consultation via post and email, and consultation with the business community and the Chamber of Commerce.
- 3.55. The Council's Scrutiny function regularly engages with key partners and other interested groups and individuals in order to assess the impact and suitability of the Council's activity. The Scrutiny Committees make an annual report to Full Council.
- 3.56. The Customer Service transformation and Communications Review ensures that clear channels of communication are in place with service users, citizens and stakeholders. The Council holds meetings in public wherever possible. Directorates have extensive programmes of consultation and engagement activity for specific services.

4 Review of effectiveness

- 4.1. The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the CMT which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, Birmingham Audit's annual report, and also by comments made by the external auditors, responding to the BIIP reports and other review agencies and inspectorates.
- 4.2. The Council continues to assess how its overall corporate governance responsibilities are discharged. In particular the Council has adopted the *'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework'* (2016 CIPFA/Solace) and continues to learn from experiences and makes necessary changes to improve its local code of governance. The Council's review process uses the Core Principles and Sub Principles included in this framework and this Statement sets out how the Council meets these roles and principles in its control and governance arrangements.
- 4.3. The Council has a well-developed methodology for annual governance review which is reviewed and updated each year. The process requires each Directorate and significant areas of service delivery / business units within a Directorate to produce an Assurance Statement highlighting significant governance issues, and details of what action(s) are being taken to mitigate any risks.
- 4.4. The Council's review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by:
- Directorate assurance based on management information, performance information, officer assurance statements and Scrutiny reports;
 - The work undertaken by Birmingham Audit during the year;

- The work undertaken by the external auditor reported in their annual audit and inspection letter; and
 - Other work undertaken by independent inspection bodies.
- 4.5. The arrangements for the provision of internal audit are contained within the Council's Financial Regulations which are included within the Constitution. The Corporate Director – Finance & Governance is responsible for ensuring that there is an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the Council's accounting and other systems of internal control as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. The internal audit provision operates in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards.
- 4.6. As in previous years the Birmingham Audit plan was compiled using professional judgement and a risk model to 'score' all potential 'auditable' areas. To meet the standards required there was a need to ensure sufficient coverage of the adequacy and effectiveness of systems of internal control in relation to financial control, risk management, corporate governance and an element for proactive and reactive fraud work.
- 4.7. The resulting work plan is discussed and agreed with the Corporate Directors and Audit Committee and shared with the Council's external auditor. Regular meetings between the internal and external auditor ensure that duplication of effort is avoided. Birmingham Audit reports include an assessment of the adequacy of internal control and prioritised action plans to address any identified weaknesses and include a risk rating for the Council and the Service Area. These are submitted to Members, Corporate Directors and service managers as appropriate.
- 4.8. From the work undertaken by Birmingham Audit during 2017/18 and the outcomes from applying the model for formulating the end of year opinion the following assurance was able to be given: **"Based on the audit work undertaken I am able to provide a reasonable assurance on the core systems of internal controls evaluated."** In this context 'reasonable assurance' means that the systems can be relied upon to prevent error, fraud or misappropriation occurring without detection, and that nothing was found that would materially affect the Council's standing or Annual Accounts. As in any large organisation, Internal Audit did identify some significant issues that required action. All significant issues were reported to the appropriate Corporate Director during the year.
- 4.9. Whilst this assurance is limited by the overall improvement that still needs to be delivered and adverse value for money opinion issued by the Council's External Auditors, the Improvement Panel, in its latest letter to the Secretary of State, recognises that significant changes are taking place, including strengthening of the Council Management Team; establishment of the Children's Trust; the Council's first all-out elections; and progress against priorities. These changes are now moving the Council forward on a positive basis.
- 4.10. All significant issues have also been brought to the attention of the Audit Committee, and where appropriate to CMT. The more significant of these are set out in the section entitled **'Significant governance issues 2017/18'** below.
- 4.11. The internal audit function is monitored and reviewed regularly by the Audit Committee. The Committee reviews management progress in implementing recommendations made in significant, high risk audit reports and against issues raised in the AGS through the Corporate Risk Register

- 4.12. The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committees received reports on key control issues throughout 2017/18 including an integrated assessment of Health and Social Care on delayed transfer of care, corporate parenting and the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership.
- 4.13. The Vision and Priorities Council Plan and organisational health targets were monitored through the Council Plan Measures by CMT, the Deputy Leader and Cabinet. Directorate and Business Unit business plans contain a variety of performance indicators and targets, which are regularly reviewed.
- 4.14. The Monitoring Officer advises that there were 93 concerns raised and considered under the Council's Whistleblowing & Serious Misconduct policy in the 2017/18 financial year.

5 Review of 2016/17 governance issues

- 5.1. The significant 2016/17 governance issues were considered by Audit Committee in June 2017, agreed as part of the Statement of Accounts in September 2017 and reviewed as part of the Corporate Risk Register updates in the 2017/18 financial year. In addition, this Committee received reports relating to Final Accounts, Fraud and the Local Government Ombudsman Annual Review.
- 5.2. Children's Safeguarding issues were considered by Cabinet and the Schools, Children and Families O&S Scrutiny Committee. This O&S Committee also considered issues such as the Children's Trust, the Education and Children's Social Care Improvement Journey, child poverty and children missing from home or care.
- 5.3. Regular Revenue Budget Monitoring reports and quarterly Capital Budget Monitoring reports were considered by Cabinet.
- 5.4. The Council worked closely with the BIIP to formulate and implement action plans in response to the Kerslake review. From March 2018, the Council and the BIIP are moving to a more collaborative approach.

6 Significant governance issues 2017/18

- 6.1. The matters shown in this section have either been identified as having a significant or high likelihood in the Corporate Risk Register or have been highlighted as corporate issues in the annual assurance process. The Council actively addresses these matters and identifies areas where further improvements need to be made. In particular:

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
1	<p>Safeguarding</p> <p>Safeguarding for both children and adults remains a priority.</p> <p>Work will continue to review the action plans in place as a result of the review by Commissioner Lord Warner and producing a robust Business Plan for 2018/19 and future years.</p> <p>The Care Act 2014 sets out the legal requirements for adult safeguarding.</p>	<p>The Council has launched an Improvement Plan and new operating model which sets out the vision, values, direction and shape of the service.</p> <p>A clear performance framework that provides challenge and accountability at all levels has been introduced. This will be part of the framework for the Children's Trust.</p> <p>The Care Act established the requirement to set up an independent Safeguarding Board for Adults. Arrangements are in place to work alongside the existing membership of the Birmingham Adults Safeguarding Board (BASB) with a view to ensuring that local arrangements are compliant with the Care Act.</p>
2	<p>Financial Resilience</p> <p>The Council faces continued reducing resources. This poses challenges to the financial resilience of the Council.</p> <p>Financial resilience continues to be a focus for the external auditors, with continued demands to evidence 'Going Concern'. The auditor noted in his Annual Audit Letter that there was considerable challenge for the Council to deliver its savings plans for 2017/18 and the potential impact on future years' savings plans.</p> <p>Given the Council is in the eighth year of budget reductions the possibility of Judicial Review challenge to the budget or elements of it, remains high.</p>	<p>Proactive actions are in place to plan and monitor the delivery of the savings programme including the delivery of workforce savings. These include further assurances on the deliverability and impacts of proposals and a commitment from the Leader to future budgeting.</p> <p>Governance processes have been reviewed and significantly enhanced to improve the production of implementation plans and monitoring of the most significant savings proposals at the highest level.</p>
3	<p>Major Projects</p> <p>The Council is involved in a range of major projects which include partnership working arrangements and sometimes complex legal</p>	<p>The partnership with neighbouring authorities through the West Midlands Combined Authority continues to develop. The next stages are vital as devolution is</p>

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
	<p>agreements for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with neighbouring authorities in the West Midlands Combined Authority Strengthening partnership working as Birmingham works towards hosting the Commonwealth Games 2022. Working with private sector partners on major developments in the City such as Paradise. Children's Services Trust. 	<p>implemented, making sure that work leads to permanent benefits for the region.</p> <p>The Council is reviewing the way it works with its partners - working equally to a common shared purpose.</p> <p>Children's Services have moved to a Trust arrangement from April 2018. A clearly defined relationship between the Trust and the Council has been established based on service contracts. The contracts will be monitored throughout the year.</p> <p>In the light of weaknesses identified in the Council's role as accountable body for the LEP, a joint protocol is being developed to define relationships more formally so that there is greater clarity of role.</p> <p>Strengthening and tightening capital financial controls. Closely monitoring expenditure on major projects to ensure projects are achieved on time and within budget.</p> <p>Any transfer, commissioning or outsourcing of services is subject to the development and Cabinet approval of robust business cases and shadow working arrangements.</p>
4	<p>Equal Pay Claims</p> <p>The risk of Equal Pay Claims remains significant and is being actively managed by a joint team from Legal Services and Human Resources.</p>	<p>Equal pay claims issued against the Council are subject to detailed analysis and robust legal challenge. The Council has sought to secure settlements that represented the best outcome for the taxpayer.</p> <p>The law in respect of equal pay is complex and has developed over the past 10 years. Any entitlement to compensation has to be justified in accordance with the legal position. The Council continues to monitor and manage the situation closely.</p>

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
5	<p>The Improvement Agenda</p> <p>The current challenging financial environment has required significant organisational upheaval as well as workforce reductions and compulsory redundancies.</p> <p>Review of services and associated budgets as the Council moves towards the Council of the Future will require significant and substantial changes to the way services are provided, both internally and when working with other service providers.</p>	<p>A People Strategy has been designed to reshape the workforce and employment model to ensure the Council is fit for the future.</p> <p>In the forthcoming year the significant planned budget reductions will increase pressure on services, which will need to be re-shaped and adopt more efficient ways of working to mitigate and manage this.</p>
6	<p>Safety Implications for Tower Blocks</p> <p>Impact of Grenfell Tower and subsequent implications for improving safety in tower blocks.</p>	<p>A project plan has been produced for all programmes of works required to investigate cladding systems and any associated remedial works to further enhance existing fire safety measures. This includes :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A programme to fit sprinkler systems to 213 high rise blocks over a 3 year period starting 1/4/18. • A programme to carry out fire risk assessments to all communal areas annually.
7	<p>Homeless Reduction Act</p> <p>Implementation of the Homeless Reduction Act is a significant risk for the local authority due to an increase in demand that will be placed on the service.</p> <p>New burdens funding of £1.75m to be received over 3 years to implement the Homelessness Reduction Act.</p> <p>The demand on the service continues to be significant and the Council has</p>	<p>An implementation plan has been developed to ensure compliance with the new legislation which comes into force on 3.4.2018. The plan includes a number of work streams:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redesign the Housing Option Service • Awareness and training (staff, Trade Unions and elected members) • IT systems to be developed with the

Issue No	Governance Issue	Mitigation Action / Proposed Action
	over 2,000 households in temporary accommodation with a large number of individuals/families in Bed and Breakfast accommodation outside of the City.	<p>Council's IT fixture providers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodation, additional accommodation for staff, communication plan being produced. • Temporary Accommodation Services will require a complete review to reduce the Council's reliance on temporary accommodation moving to preventative measures.

- 6.2. These matters are monitored through the Corporate Risk Register, CMT and Directorate Service and operational plans as required. During the year the Audit Committee monitors progress against the issues identified in this statement.
- 6.3. We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review.

Signed
 Councillor Ian Ward
 Leader of the Council

Signed
 Dawn Baxendale
 Chief Executive
 (& Head of Paid Service)

Signed
 Clive Heaphy
 Corporate Director -
 Finance & Governance
 (Chief Finance Officer & Section 151
 Officer)

Signed
 Kate Charlton
 City Solicitor
 (& Monitoring Officer)

Glossary

Academy School

A school that chooses to opt out of Local Authority control and receive its funding from the Education Funding Agency directly.

Accounting Policies

The rules and practices adopted by the Council that determine how the transactions and events are reflected in the Accounts.

Accruals

Income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, not as money is received or paid (see Debtors and Creditors).

Amortised Cost

Some financial instruments, assets and liabilities, are carried at amortised cost, where part of their carrying amount in the balance sheet will be either written down or written up via the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement over the term of the instrument.

Annual Governance Statement

The annual governance statement is a statutory document that explains the process and procedures in place to enable the Council to carry out its functions effectively.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value, as at the Balance Sheet date, of the assets, liabilities and other balances recognised by the Council.

Balances

The total level of funds an authority has accumulated over the years, available to support expenditure within the year.

Beacon Properties

In valuing the Housing Stock the Council's properties are grouped into similar types and a sample from each type, known as beacon properties, are valued with the results being multiplied up to give a total value for each type.

Business Rates

A local tax paid by businesses to their local authority, based on the value of their premises as assessed by the Government Valuation Office Agency (VOA).

Capital Charge

A charge to service revenue accounts to reflect the cost of non-current assets used in the provision of services.

Capital Expenditure

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset, or expenditure which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing fixed asset. The Government has also enacted regulations which result in certain other types of spending being treated as capital expenditure.

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)

A measure of an authority's cumulative need to borrow to finance capital expenditure, or to meet the costs of other long-term liabilities.

Capital Receipt

Money received from the disposal of land and other non-current assets, and from the repayment of capital grants and loans made by the Council.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as being from operating, investing or financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (that is borrowing) to the Council.

CIPFA/SOLACE Framework

The CIPFA/SOLACE Framework helps local authorities to develop and maintain their own codes of governance and discharge their accountability for the proper conduct of public business.

Collection Fund

A separate account administered by the Council collecting receipts from Council Tax and Business Rates and paying it to the General Fund, other public authorities and Business Improvement Districts.

Community Assets

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

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation.

Consistency

The concept that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next is the same.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered, but for which payment has not been made by the end of the year.

Current Value

Current value is a measurement base which reflects the economic environment prevailing for the service or function that an asset supports when valuing the asset. The current value measurement bases include Existing Use Value, Depreciated Replacement Cost and Fair Value (see below).

Debtors

Sums of money owed to the Council for work done, goods received, services rendered or taxation due but not received by the end of the year.

Deferred Capital Receipts

These represent income that is still due following disposal of a non-current asset.

Defined Benefit Pension Scheme

Pension schemes in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

Defined Contribution Pension Scheme

Pension schemes or other retirement benefit schemes in which the employer pays regular fixed contributions as an amount or as a percentage of pay and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the scheme does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Depreciated Replacement Cost

This is a method of valuation which provides the current cost of replacing an asset with its modern equivalent asset less deductions for physical deterioration and obsolescence.

Depreciation

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

Earmarked Reserve

A reserve which has been set aside for a specific purpose.

Effective Interest Rate

The rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts through the expected life of the financial instrument.

Emoluments

Payments received in cash and benefits for employment.

Events After the Reporting Period

Those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the balance sheet date and the date on which the statement of accounts is signed by the Responsible Financial Officer.

Existing Use Value

The estimated amount for which a property should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's length transaction, disregarding potential alternative uses and any other characteristics of the property that would cause its market value to differ from that needed to replace the remaining service potential at least cost.

Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how the Council allocates net expenditure for decision making purposes between the Council's Directorates. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Fair Value

Fair Value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Fees and Charges

Income arising from the provision of services, for example, the use of leisure facilities.

Finance Lease

A lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a non-current asset to the lessee. The payments usually cover the full cost of the asset together with a return for the cost of finance.

General Fund

The account which records income and expenditure for all the services of the Council except for the Housing Revenue Account and the Collection Fund, the net costs of which is met by Council Tax, Business Rates and Government grants.

Government Grants

Financial assistance from Government or other external bodies as a contribution towards the costs of services. Some grants may be accompanied by strict conditions relating to how the money can be spent, these are referred to as ring-fenced grants.

Heritage Assets

Assets that the council intends to hold for the purpose of informing or educating the public about their heritage and which are not held for their investment value. Examples include collections of antiques and art in museums.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

A separate account detailing the expenditure and income arising from the provision of council housing. Local authorities are required to maintain this separately from the General Fund.

Impairment

A diminution in value of a fixed asset resulting from, for example, obsolescence or physical damage. To comply with accounting standards the Council undertakes annual reviews of its assets to identify any assets which have been impaired.

Infrastructure Assets

These are inalienable assets, the value of which is recognised only by continued use of the asset created. Examples of such assets are highways and footpaths.

Intangible Assets

An intangible (non-physical) item may be defined as an asset when access to the future economic benefits it represents is controlled by the reporting entity.

International Financial Reporting Standards

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) are a set of accounting standards developed by an independent, not for profit organisation called the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). These are the standards which local authorities adhere to as interpreted for the public sector by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA).

Investment Properties

Interest in land and/or buildings in respect of which construction work and development have been completed, or which is held for its investment potential with rental income being negotiated at arm's length.

Investments

A long-term investment is an investment that is intended to be held for use on a continuing basis in the activities of the Council. Investments should be so classified only where an intention to hold the investment for the long term can clearly be demonstrated or where there are restrictions as to the investor's ability to dispose of the investment.

Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO)

A LOBO is a type of loan instrument where borrowing is undertaken, initially at a fixed rate of interest. Periodically, at specific points, the lender has the option to alter the interest rate charged. Should the lender exercise the option to alter the interest rate, the borrower then has the option to continue with the loan instrument at the new rate or alternatively to terminate the agreement and pay back the sum borrowed with no other penalty.

Liabilities

Amounts due to individuals or organisations, at the balance sheet date, which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Current liabilities are payable within one year of the balance sheet date.

Long Term Debtors

These debtors represent the capital income still to be received, for example on the sale of an asset or granting of a loan.

Market Value

The estimated amount for which a property should exchange on the date of valuation between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an arm's-length transaction after proper marketing wherein the parties had each acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion.

Materiality

An item is material if its omission, non-disclosure, or mis-statement in the financial statements could be expected to lead to a distortion of the view given by the financial statements.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

Minimum Revenue Provision is a charge to the revenue account in relation to capital expenditure financed from borrowing or credit arrangements. The Council is required by law to make an annual determination of MRP that it considers to be prudent.

Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)

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

Net Book Value

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

Operating Lease

A lease other than a finance lease.

Operational Assets

Non-current assets held, occupied, used or consumed in the direct delivery of services for which the Council has a statutory duty or discretionary power to provide.

Precept

Amounts levied on the Council by other councils or public bodies (Police and Crime Commissioners, Fire and Rescue Authorities and Parish Councils), which the Council collects on their behalf.

Prior Period Adjustments

Those material adjustments applicable to prior years, arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. They do not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

A form of contract involving an external company providing services for a fixed period, using facilities that they have provided/constructed.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Tangible assets that yield benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year. Examples include land, buildings and vehicles.

Provisions

Contributions to provisions are amounts charged to the revenue account during the year for costs, resulting from a past event and with uncertain timing of payment and where a reliable estimate of the cost involved can be made.

Related Parties

There is a detailed definition of related parties in FRS8, *Related Party Disclosures*. For the Council's purposes, related parties are deemed to include the elected Members of the Council and their partners; the Chief Officers of the Council and the companies in which the Council has an interest.

Reserves

Reserves are reported in two categories.

Usable Reserves

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

Unusable Reserves

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

Revenue Expenditure

Expenditure on the day-to-day running costs of services e.g. employees, premises, supplies and services.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that is treated as capital expenditure under statutory provision but does not result in a non-current asset owned by the Council. Examples of these are expenditure on items such as improvement grants.

Revenue Support Grant (RSG)

A grant formerly received from Government towards the cost of providing services.

Right to Buy (RTB) Capital Receipts

Capital receipts generated from the sale of council housing under the national scheme available to existing tenants. These receipts can only be used in ways determined by the Government, for example to pay for further capital expenditure on council housing.

Soft Loan

Loans at nil or below prevailing interest rates are often referred to as soft loans.

Top-up Grant

Additional grant which the Government provides to reflect the difference between Business Rates income that the Council can generate and the amount which the Government has calculated it needs to spend on services.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

To be finalised on completion of the audit.

Audit Progress Report and Sector Update

Birmingham City Council
Year ending 31 March 2018

June 2018



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Introduction



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This paper provides the Audit Committee with a report on progress in delivering our responsibilities as your external auditors.

The paper also includes:

- An update to the Audit Plan which was originally reported to the Audit Committee in March 2018.

If you would like further information on any items in this briefing, or would like to register with Grant Thornton to receive regular email updates on issues that are of interest to you, please contact either your Engagement Lead or Engagement Manager.

Progress at June 2018

Financial Statements Audit

We undertook our interim audit work between January 2018 and April 2018. Whilst from our audit procedures to date we have identified no significant matters which would impact on our original audit approach, we have identified two additional audit areas which require special audit consideration. One of these is deemed to be a key audit matter and has been included as a new significant risk to the three already highlighted in the original plan.

The one new additional significant risk has been identified as:

- Equal pay provision (valuation).

In view of the size and sensitivity of the equal pay provision our audit procedures will consider the estimation techniques and assumptions used to calculate this provision.

Further details are set out on page 5 of this report.

In addition, we have also set a specific lower level of materiality for Senior Officers' Remuneration (including exit packages for Senior Officers). This has been set at £100k, based on the fact that we consider the disclosures to be sensitive and are of specific interest to the reader of the accounts.

The statutory deadline for the issue of the 2017/18 opinion has been brought forward by two months to 31 July 2018. We discussed our plan and timetable with officers and are currently implementing this.

The final accounts audit began on the 4 June and our findings will be reported to you in the Audit Findings Report by the earlier deadline of July 2018.

Value for Money

We undertook our initial risk assessment to determine our approach in March 2018 and reported this to you in our Audit Plan.

The significant risks identified were:

- Budget delivery and reserves management, including the Future Operating Model (FOM) and Equal Pay;
- Improvement Panel;
- Services for vulnerable children;
- Management of schools; and
- Commonwealth Games.

The provisional outturn report for 2017/18 shows a small net overspend of £4.9 million, but this is after the significant application of reserves. We will examine in particular the progress the Council has made in delivering its planned savings programme and the extent of reliance on reserves in delivering its financial budget.

We will report our work in the Audit Findings Report and give our Value For Money Conclusion by the deadline in July 2018.

Other areas

Certification of claims and returns

We are required to certify the Council's annual Housing Benefit Subsidy claim in accordance with procedures agreed with the Department for Work and Pensions. This certification work for the 2017/18 claim will be concluded by November 2018.

The results of the certification work will be reported to you in our certification letter.

Meetings

We met with the Corporate Director Finance and Governance in early June as part of our monthly liaison meetings and continue to be in discussions with finance staff regarding emerging developments, to ensure the audit process is smooth and effective. We also met with the Leader of the Council in April 2018 and the Chief Executive in May 2018 to discuss the Council's strategic priorities and plans.

Objections

The objection relating to the Council's LOBO loans has now been concluded.

Consideration of the PFI objection is underway and is expected to be completed within the next two months.

Update to the Audit Plan

Significant risks are defined by professional standards as risks that, in the judgement of the auditor, require special audit consideration because they have a higher risk of material misstatement. Such risks often relate to significant non-routine transactions and judgemental matters. In identifying risks, audit teams consider the nature of the risk, the potential magnitude of misstatement, and its likelihood.

Risk	Reason for risk identification	Key aspects of our proposed response to the risk
Equal pay provision (valuation)	<p>Under ISA 540 (Auditing Accounting Estimates, including Fair Value Accounting Estimates and Related Disclosures), the auditor is required to make a judgement as to whether any accounting estimates with a high degree of estimation uncertainty give rise to a significant risk.</p> <p>We identified the valuation of equal pay provision as a risk requiring special audit consideration and a key audit matter for the audit.</p>	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the assumptions on which the equal pay provision estimate has been based;• Consider the events or conditions that could have changed the basis of estimation;• Reperform the calculation of the estimate;• Check that the estimate had been determined and recognised in accordance with accounting standards;• Determine how management has assessed the estimation uncertainty; and• Consider the impact of any subsequent transactions or events.

Audit deliverables

2017/18 Deliverables	Planned Date	Status
Fee Letter Confirming audit fee for 2017/18.	April 2017	Complete
Accounts Audit Plan We are required to issue a detailed accounts audit plan to the Audit Committee setting out our proposed approach in order to give an opinion on the Council's 2017-18 financial statements.	January 2018	Complete
Interim Audit Findings We will report to you the findings from our interim audit and our initial value for money risk assessment within our Progress Report.	March 2018	Complete
Audit Findings Report The Audit Findings Report will be reported to the July Audit Committee.	30 July 2018	Not yet due
Auditor's Report This is the opinion on your financial statement, annual governance statement and value for money conclusion.	July 2018	Not yet due
Annual Audit Letter This letter communicates the key issues arising from our work.	August 2018	Not yet due
Annual Certification Letter This letter reports any matters arising from our certification work carried out under the PSAA contract.	December 2018	Not yet due

