

Gloucestershire County Council

Council Strategy and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/15 – 2016/17

Budget and Precept 2014/15

Report and Recommendations

A Introduction

- 1 The Cabinet approved a draft 2014/15 budget for consultation at its meeting on 11th December 2013. The consultation budget was £423.14 million with council tax levels again being frozen.

This consultation budget was based on the provisional settlement for 2014/15 and a forecast tax base increase of 0.5% and collection fund surplus of £1 million which, due to the introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme and the localisation of Council Tax benefits in 2013/2014, were more difficult to forecast than in past years.

Following the release of the final financial settlement for 2014/15, and following the notification of the tax base figures from the six District Councils, the final budget proposal for 2014/15 is £428.11 million, £4.97 million higher than the consultation budget.

£0.85 million of this increase relates to grant received in the settlement in excess of forecast amounts; £0.6 million further NHS funding above the additional £2 million forecast now giving £11.6 million in 2014/15, and £0.20 million additional Education Single grant received in excess of forecast levels, with the remainder being in relation to minor grant changes.

The remainder of the increase relates to tax base increases and the collection fund surplus being higher than originally forecast, as set out in detail in section C below.

B Summary Budget Proposal 2014/15

- 2 The recommended budget for 2014/15 is £428.11 million which represents a decrease in cash terms of £2.80 million or 0.65%.
- 3 In accordance with a Government announcement that a 1% grant would be made available to all local authorities that freeze council tax increases for 2014/15, the Council is again proposing a tax freeze in 2014/15. The council tax income foregone (equivalent to £4.4 million) will be replaced by a Government grant of £2.5 million and additional savings of £1.9 million now built into the budget proposal. This will be the fourth year in a row that the County Council has frozen Council Tax levels.
- 4 The budget for 2014/15 contains:
- £14.8 million of investment into services, particularly those for older people and vulnerable children and adults
 - £4.6 million to cover for increased costs due to inflation.
 - Funding for £48.6 million of new capital investment in roads, schools and other services, without any additional borrowing.

- £22.2 million of savings, many of which are a continuation of the “Meeting the Challenge” projects, which were introduced in 2010/11 following extensive consultation.

5 The overall cash increases / decreases for service budgets are detailed in the table below.

Overall Budget						
Medium Term Financial Strategy -2014/15 Budget - Overall Summary						
Budget Area	2013/14 GCC Revised Base Budget	Cost Reductions	Cost Increases (Including Inflation)	Proposed 2014/15 Budget	Cash Increase / Decrease	Percentage Increase / Decrease
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Programme Budget Areas						
Adults	151,007	-10,380	7,021	147,648	-3,359	-2.22%
Public Health	21,126	0	667	21,793	667	3.16%
Children and Families	95,101	-4,335	4,016	94,782	-319	-0.34%
Communities and Infrastructure (Excluding Waste)	58,684	-2,002	3,060	59,742	1,058	1.80%
Waste	25,030	-150	1,555	26,435	1,405	5.61%
Other Budget Areas						
Support Services	19,557	-497	200	19,260	-297	-1.52%
Technical and Cross Cutting	60,405	-4,810	2,852	58,447	-1,958	-3.24%
Total GCC	430,910	-22,174	19,371	428,107	-2,803	-0.65%

6 Full details of the budget proposals are set out in annexes 2 and 3 within the MTFS which accompanies this paper.

The 2014/15 budget is the final year of the four year “Meeting the Challenge” programme covering the financial years 2011/12 to 2014/15. Over this period savings in excess of the £114 million target will have been delivered to address year on year funding reductions and fund unavoidable cost increases, requiring budget savings across the business.

However, despite this, as illustrated in the charts at paragraph 12 in the MTFS, in accordance with the priority of the Council to protect the most vulnerable people, the Adults budget has been protected over the four year period of “Meeting the Challenge”.

Full details of the commissioning intentions for each commissioning area moving forward are provided at Annex 1 within the detailed MTFS. The Annex highlights current achievements and future plans in relation to the redesign of services within Gloucestershire, which aim to maximise effectiveness whilst delivering on the significant financial challenges facing the Council. These detailed narratives cover Children and Families (Annex 1.1), Adults (Annex 1.2), Public Health (Annex 1.3) and Communities and Infrastructure (annex 1.4).

The Children and Families annex also includes;

- a report (at annex 1.1.1) on the proposed Children and Young People's Activity Grant Scheme, for which £265,000 is included within the proposed budget,
- a report (at annex 1.1.2) setting out proposed additional investment in a two year pilot relating to a new service delivery model for Child Social Care within Gloucester City, and
- a report (at annex 1.1.3) on the funding of school uniform grants.

The Adults annex also includes a report (at annex 1.2.1 on the Better Care Fund).

The Public Health annex also includes a report (at annex 1.3.1) on the proposed Sport and Physical Activity Grants scheme, costing £2.65 million over two years.

Annex 1.5 provides a summary of the Customer Programme outlining the proposed funding requirements to deliver forecast on-going revenue savings, which are forecast to increase to £3.76 million by 2017/18, as outlined in the annex.

Annex 4 covers discussions at both Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee and Cabinet on the Living Wage and highlights the financial and consultation implications of any policy change.

C Changes between the 2014/15 budget issued for consultation and the final budget

Revenue : Funding Changes

- 7 The Cabinet approved a draft 2014/15 budget for consultation at its meeting on 11th December 2013. The consultation budget was £423.14 million with council tax levels again being frozen.

This consultation budget was based on the provisional financial settlement for 2014/15 which indicated total grant levels of £197.6 million (£11.5 million lower than in 2013/14), as set out in detail in section E in the MTFs. It was also based on a forecast tax base increase of 0.5% and collection fund surplus of £1 million which, due to the introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme and the localisation of Council Tax benefits in 2013/14, were more difficult to forecast than in past years.

Following the release of the final financial settlement for 2014/15, and following the notification of the tax base figures from the District Councils, the final budget proposal for 2014/15 is £428.11 million, £4.967 million higher than the consultation budget.

£0.85 million of this increase relates to grant received in the settlement in excess of forecast amounts; with the main changes being a further £0.6 million NHS funding above the additional £2 million forecast now giving £11.6 million in 2014/15, £0.20 million additional Education Single grant, with the remainder being in relation to other minor grant changes.

The remainder of the increase relates to tax base increases and the collection fund surplus being higher than originally forecast.

The tax base increases, which account for £2.58 million of the budget increase, have been set by the District Councils and show an average increase of 1.67%, with a range of 0.81% to 2.03%. These increases are significantly higher than the 0.5% estimate used for the draft budget, which was based on actual overall tax base increases experienced in 2011/12 of 0.39% and 2012/13 of 0.66%. In 2013/14 an overall 9% decrease in the tax base was set by the District Councils (range -4.83% to -12.78%) which took account of their forecasts of the financial implications of the localisation of Council Tax benefits, the introduction of the Council Tax support grant and changes to the Council Tax exemptions system.

The higher tax base figures now set for 2014/15 are largely due to less council tax support grant payments than forecast due to claimant numbers reducing and a more positive impact of changes to the council tax exemption scheme than initially forecast. In addition a significant number of new properties have come on line and a number of Districts have reduced the losses on collection figures included within the calculation.

The overall Council Tax Collection Fund surplus figure set by the District Councils is £2.54 million (range of -£157,000 to +£881,000), which again is significantly higher than the £1.0 million forecast in the draft budget, and levels received in past years.

Research undertaken reveals that the majority of County Councils are experiencing similar movements between forecast figures, based on previous years "actuals", and the final tax base and surplus figures set for 2014/15. The rationale appears to be a more positive settling in of the new 2013/14 changes than expected.

Revenue : Spending Changes

8 In terms of new spending proposals in the final budget compared to the consultation budget, it is now proposed that in terms of grant changes:

- £0.6 million additional NHS transfer funds to be invested in the Adult Care budget.
- £0.2 million Education Single grant, to be transferred back to the Education funding reserve, to fund further in year reductions in this grant in the future based on Academy transfers. The context for this is a transfer out of £0.25 million in 2013/14 and notification received as part of the finance settlement in December 2013 that larger reductions in this grant can be expected in future.

In terms of increased council tax base and council tax surplus it is proposed that one off investment is made helping local people in their communities:

Adult Care

Brokerage £0.15 million

Use of a specialist brokerage function in Learning Disabilities, Mental Health and Physical Disabilities has demonstrated its' use in lowering the unit cost of placements and increasing the grip on cost control. This funding would extend the model to support Older People's services to maximise value for money when making residential care placements and not only become self sustaining but also contribute to future efficiency savings.

Health and Social Care Capacity Management £0.21 million

Current joint working with the health community in Gloucestershire has identified that improvements can be made in the care pathways open to people. This one off investment will deliver a variety of improvements to ensure capacity is in the right place within the overall health and social care system at the right time in a sustainable manner. In particular interventions will focus on demand management, early intervention and the delivery of a brokerage system within Adults to maximise value for money when making residential care placements.

Improvements to Quality & Performance £0.09 million

Further funds are required to support the extension of the GCC quality team. The objective of the additional funding is to enhance GCC's capacity to carry out Performance Improvement Planning and to extend the quality-checking regime to other forms of service provision beyond the existing focus on residential homes and supported living, becoming a self sustaining service model. It will also fund the one off data quality checks needed to ensure that data migration to the new Adult Care system will be accurate and robust.

Improving Employment outcomes for People with Disabilities £0.235 million

A one off investment in working with partners e.g. DWP, Forward Jobs Clubs etc. would get people into employment and support them using job coaching services. This would extend the programme of support offered to people with disabilities, improving outcomes with more people in paid employment whilst reducing the level of demand for GCC services. In future year's investment will be dependent on this project producing a demonstrable benefit when compared to long terms care.

Children's and Families

Children in care – reuniting families £0.650 million

£0.550 million of this investment would develop a short life team, over 2 years, to enable a quick return home for children and young people in care where this is possible. Outcomes for teenagers coming into care are poor, thus the aim of the project would be to ensure these outcomes are improved. The project would test and develop a successful unification practise and evaluate future need. A further £0.1 million would develop a shared care fostering scheme for troubled young people and avoid the need to take them into care. Both projects would reshape the service model and following this one off initial investment should become self-sustaining with reduced numbers of teenagers in care.

Review family support provision across social care and contracted services £0.05 million

This one off investment would establish the cost effectiveness of the different forms of family support, establish practice standards and make proposals for delivery across children's services. The project would aim to develop costed proposals for the delivery of family support, informed by local need, evidence of best practice and effectiveness.

Safeguarding £0.250 million

This one off investment will build capacity within the safeguarding system and ensure the successful implementation of the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The project would include additional quality assurance and training to improve safeguarding practise and support ICT and staffing transition costs in relation to the MASH.

Growing Great Futures £0.05 million

Building on Growing Great Futures, a one off £0.05 million investment will be used to explore possibilities to expand parent led/ community led activity e.g. parent champions with the aim of increasing the availability of parent to parent advice to manage demand for advice from professionals.

Education £0.05 million

Work with the secondary sector, to build a more sustainable school improvement system and prepare for inspection. This project would include training for secondary schools and academies, events on exclusions, school improvement materials, external advice on trading opportunities

Infrastructure and Economic

A417 Missing Link £0.5 million

The top transport priority for Gloucestershire, identified by the LEP in the Strategic Economic Plan (SEP), is the 'missing link'. The Council is lobbying Government hard to secure the £255m needed to deliver the "Brown Route". Government (DfT) has signalled that it will expect to make a contribution to the pre-development works that will be needed to secure programme entry. To this end £500k investment would allow a match funding opportunity.

Partnership Flood Alleviation £0.5 million

Flood alleviation remains a priority for the council. As the Lead Local Flood authority it has successfully worked in partnership with other statutory bodies and local partners to fund a wide range of flood alleviation works. Incidents of property flooding, during comparable rainfall events, have reduced significantly as a result of this investment since 2007. A £500k investment by the council would provide match funding opportunities to help enable future flood works, particularly where vulnerable communities need help and value for money can be assured.

Debt Redemption £1.432 million

In line with the policy of debt redemption, the balance of £1.432 million to be used to redeem external debt thereby saving the council revenue costs of borrowing from 2015/16 onwards.

All of the above are now included within the analysis of budget movements by service area at annex 2 in the MTFs and are built into the detailed budgets at annex 3 in the MTFs.

Capital

- 9 The 2014/15 budget issued for consultation contained £46.3 million for new investment in capital schemes financed by grants and internal resources, which was incorporated within a five-year capital programme from 2012/13 to 2016/17 of £315.2 million.

Since then further funding announcements relating to Free Schools Meals grant (£1.0 million), Fire Capital Grant (increased from £0.6 million to £0.8 million), and Schools Basic Need Grant (additional grant of £2.3 million covering 2015/16 and 2016/17) have been received.

These announcements, plus an additional children's revenue contribution of £1.1 million, have increased the value of the capital programme over the five-year period from 2012/13 to 2016/17 from £315.2 million to £319.8 million.

The amount now included in the 2014/15 budget for new capital schemes has increased to £48.6 million, as set out below.

Grant	£000
Adults – PSS Grant	1,388
Children and Families (Indicative only and profiled over two years)	11,306
Infrastructure – Highways Block Maintenance Grant	13,952
Infrastructure – Integrated Transport Block Grant	5,121
Infrastructure – Pinchpoint Funding Grant	992
Infrastructure – Local Sustainable Transport Fund Grant	489
Infrastructure – Additional Structural Maintenance Funding (as previously reported)	1,434
Infrastructure – Fire	822
Total Grant	35,504
Capital Contributions section 106 (Schools (indicative only))	6,075
Revenue Contributions Children’s (indicative only)	1,490
Infrastructure – Highways Drainage	500
Capital Receipts – Infrastructure	3,200
Reserves – Infrastructure	1,805
Total new Capital 2014/15	48,574

D Consultation

- 10 Details of consultation undertaken are set out in Section D of the MTFS and in a consultation report which accompanies this MTFS.

E Council Strategy

- 11 The Council Strategy, which is summarised in Section F of the MTFS and accompanies the MTFS, has been approved by Cabinet for submission to County Council.

F Schools Funding

- 12 The proposed DSG allocations for 2014/15, as recommended by the Schools Forum, are set out in Section H of the MTFS.

G Capital Programme

- 13 The full capital programme is set out in section M and Annex 8 of the MTFS.

The capital programme provides investment in the county totaling £319.8 million over a five-year period from 2012/13 to 2016/17.

The main investment is on Highways and Infrastructure (£202.6 million) and Schools and facilities for children (£110.2 million), with the remainder being in Adults (£7.0 million).

Consistent with the Council's priority to reduce the level of long term debt, and the impact of interest and capital repayments on the revenue budget, the new capital programme from 2014/15 is largely "capped" at the level of developer contributions and capital grants received.

Priority schemes not supported by grants or contributions, which are detailed in the MTFS, have been included within the new programme on the basis that they will be funded from capital receipts, thereby avoiding the need for new borrowing. Priority schemes in 2014/15 not supported by grants or contributions amount to £5.0 million. These schemes are being financed from invest to saves reserves (£1.8 million) and the use of capital receipts (£3.2 million).

Included within the capital programme is an already approved scheme for investment in composting facilities, with a balance of £0.7 million remaining. In order to enhance the new Hempsted Household Recycling Centre, £0.25 million of this balance is being used to finance an additional "tipping" area on the Hempsted site and construct a building to house a reuse operation, providing an opportunity to increase reuse and possibly work with the "not for profit" sector.

- 14 Currently forecast capital spend for 2014/15 is £77.9 million, £48.6 million new capital spend plus £29.3 million on existing approved capital schemes, with the majority of spend planned for schools and facilities for children (£23.6 million) and Highways and Infrastructure (£51.6 million).

H 2013/14 Current Financial Position

- 15 The current outturn forecast for 2013/14, based on December 2013 forecasts, is an overall overspend of around £2.3 million. Details of this forecast are provided in section G within the MTFS.

I Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

- 16 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) are shown in Section N and Annex 9 in the MTFS.

Annex 9 provides details of:

- Treasury Management Strategy for 2014/15, including, borrowing, debt rescheduling, and investments.
- Prudential Indicators.
- Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement.
- Specified and Non Specified Investment for use by the Council.

J Future Years Forecast Budgets

- 17 The Council's financial forecasts for 2015/16 and 2016/17 are set out in section L of the MTFS.

The December 2014 draft financial settlement also provided draft funding information in relation to 2015/16. It confirmed a major gross grant reduction in the order of £21 million from 2014/15, although this will reduce by a minimum of £2 million for Council Tax freeze grant, taking the net reduction to £19 million.

The two key changes relating to the 2015/16 budget forecast included within the MTFs issued for consultation relate to New Homes Bonus and Council Tax freeze grant.

It has been confirmed that the Council Tax Grant for freezing Council Tax in 2014/15 will be a two year grant, and a Council Tax Freeze Grant will be payable in 2015/16 for Councils that freeze in that year as well.

With regard to New Homes Bonus, in the provisional settlement the government confirmed that they are limiting the top slice of New Homes Bonus funding to London Authorities. This means that the Council will receive approximately £3.366 million in 2015/16 which was not included within the forecast figures for consultation.

Hence, it is now forecast that the affordable budget level in 2015/16 will be in the order of £409.1 million, some £19 million lower than the proposed 2014/15 budget. This reduction equates to 4.4%, which is significantly higher than the 0.65% (£2.8 million) for 2014/15. Given that in addition to these funding reductions the council will also need to find commitments e.g. inflation and demand pressures it will require a significantly higher level of savings to be delivered for 2015/16.

- 18 The Department of Health (DH), the department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and partners are working collaboratively to set out the requirement and support for the integration of NHS and social care services at national level. As part of the support for greater integration, DH and DCLG have agreed £3.8 billion worth of pooled budgets nationally commencing in April 2015. The Government has also agreed to increase the NHS funding transfer to Local Government from April 2014 by an additional £241 million to take it to a total of £1,100 million. The required pooled budget is called the "Better Care Fund"

The guidance about the Better Care Fund requires local areas to formulate a joint plan for integrated health and social care and to set out how their single pooled Better Care Fund budget will be implemented to facilitate closer working between health and social care services. Joint local plans are currently being developed by GCC and the Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group. The plan must be approved by the Health and Well Being Board, due to meet on 5 February 2014 prior to the national submission deadline of 14th February. Further details are provided in Section L and annex 1.2.1 within the MTFs.

K Reserves and Risk

- 19 Under the Local Government Act 2003 the Council has a responsibility to ensure that reserves are adequate. During 2013/14 all reserves have been examined in detail, and scrutinised by the Lead Cabinet Member and Shadow Spokespersons.
- 20 A summary of the Council's forecast reserves as at 31st March 2014, and movements since 31st March 2013 are as follows:

	31st March 2013 £000	31st March 2014 £000
Earmarked Reserves	91,344	82,163
Schools Related Reserves	23,278	23,278
General Reserves	19,721	19,721
Capital Grant Unapplied Reserve	2,973	2,973
Total Reserves	137,316	128,135

Earmarked Reserves are forecast to fall from £91.3 million (£94.3 million including the capital grant reserve) as at 31st March 2013, to £82.2 million (£85.1 million including the capital grant reserve) as at 31st March 2014, a reduction of £9.1 million.

Each earmarked reserve has a set of commitments against it, which justifies the level of reserve required to mitigate risks and liabilities the Council faces. A detailed explanation of the reserves is shown in Annex 6 within the MTFs.

General balances are anticipated to remain unchanged at a level of £19.721 million, assuming a balanced revenue outturn position for 2013-14. These equate to 4.8% of the 2013-14 net budget. If an over spend occurs in 2013/14 general fund balances are likely to reduce.

21 In preparing the budget the following factors mitigate the risks in the budget:

- Account has been taken of current spending trends and where known, costs have been built into the 2014/15 budget.
- Budget risks have been explicitly considered in preparing the budget and taken into account, particularly the funding constraints going forward.
- The level of reserves will continue to be closely monitored during the period of this MTFs, in the context of protecting the Council from existing and future liabilities.
- The highest risk areas continue to be demand led services, especially care for elderly and vulnerable people where demand is continually rising, looked after children, and waste management.
- Although additional resources are being invested in some of these areas under the proposed budget, robust and regular budget monitoring will, again, be essential; particularly in the context of the current forecast overspend in relation to adult care budgets.
- Balancing the Council's budget over this period of financial constraint requires a series of major changes. Whilst robust programme management plans have been put into place to deliver these savings, as evidenced by performance over the last three years, there is inevitably some residual risk.
- Provision has been made for pay awards, pension increases and contractual inflationary pressures.

It is the Strategic Finance Director's opinion that the assumptions are realistic but challenging and that services are able to meet their service targets and obligations within their proposed budget allocations, albeit with some risk. The risk of non-achievement can be underpinned by the availability of unapplied general reserves.

L Risk Assessment

- 22 The Council has carried out a risk assessment on all its financial activities. The most significant risks identified have been included in the budget report as part of the Council's consideration. The Strategic Finance Director is satisfied that, where possible, the proposed budget adequately addresses the risks identified.
- 23 In the medium term, the most significant financial risks to the Council are uncertainties relating to local government funding arrangements, particularly the medium term impact of localising Council Tax benefits and changes to the Council Tax exemptions system, and the likely further loss of government grant over the next few years.

Other financial risks relate to economic conditions, safeguarding children, increasing demographic pressures in Adult Care, pensions and waste disposal costs. The Council is aware of these risks and is investing to improve efficiency of services to release resources.

The Council faces the risk of a major uninsurable event e.g. severe weather or civil emergency. The Strategic Finance Director considers that the forecast level of general reserves at 31st March 2014, together with the availability of other reserves in the case of an emergency, is sufficient to meet any reasonably foreseeable event.

The Strategic Finance Director is satisfied that the arrangements in place to protect the Council from financial risks are adequate and that the level of reserves is appropriate given the nature of the risks to the Council summarised above.

M Public Sector Equality Duty

- 24 A detailed Due Regard Statement has been produced which summarises the impact of the budget proposals on people with protected characteristics and how the impact will be mitigated. It also includes the evidence base used and the impact on the workforce. The Due Regard Statement now accompanies the MTFs to Council.

O Conclusion

- 26 The Strategic Finance Director (the Chief Financial Officer) considers that the budget proposals set out by the Cabinet are robust and sustainable. The level of reserves is sufficient to meet the known risks within the budget, taking account of the Council's robust financial management framework.

RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL

- 1 That the 2014/15 update of the Council Strategy 2011-2015 is approved by Council.
- 2 That, having considered the additional consultation responses and the Public Sector Equality Duty assessment, approval is given to the MTFs and the revenue and capital budgets for 2014/15, council tax for each valuation band, and to issue precepts on each district collection fund as set out below:

Gloucestershire County Council 2014/15 Budget:

	£000	
Original 2013/14 Budget		430,910
Inflation		4,566
Cost and spending increases		14,805
Cost Reductions		<u>-22,174</u>
Total		428,107
Less:		
Formula Grant		153,443
Council Tax Freeze Grant 2014/15		2,488
Public Health Grant		21,793
NHS Funding		11,596
New Homes Bonus		2,546
Education Single Grant		5,309
Education Statutory Responsibility Grant		1,255
Collection Fund Surplus		2,543
 Total to be precepted (Council Tax Requirement)		 227,134
	Taxbase Total	Total Precept £
Cheltenham	39,045.80	42,579,445
Cotswold	36,906.55	40,246,593
Forest of Dean	26,499.93	28,898,174
Gloucester City	34,673.00	37,810,906
Stroud	40,871.90	44,570,807
Tewkesbury	30,287.37	33,028,377
Total		227,134,302

- 3 a) That approval is given to the Capital Programme set out in Annex 8 of the MTFs, and delegated authority is given to the Strategic Finance Director to vary allocations between individual schemes in consultation with the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance and Change.

- b) That approval is given to the Operational Boundary and Authorised Limits of borrowing, as set out in the Treasury Management Strategy, at Annex 9 in the MTFS as follows:

Operational Boundary for External Debt	2013/14	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
	Approved	Revised	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Total	495.000	400.000	380.000	370.000	345.000

- c) Noting that the authorised limit for 2014/15 will be the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003
- d) That the approval is given to the Prudential Indicators for Treasury Management set out in Annex 9 of the MTFS for
- (i) Upper limit of fixed interest rate exposure of £450 million of net outstanding principal sums
 - (ii) Upper limit of variable rate exposure of zero of net outstanding principal sums
 - (iii) the maturity structure of borrowings as set out in Annex 9
 - (iv) the upper limit for principal sums invested for more than 364 days of £50 million
- e) That approval is given to the Treasury Management Strategy set out in Annex 9 of the MTFS.