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# Audited Statement of Accounts

2023-24



Council of the  
ISLES OF SCILLY

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| CONTENTS  | PAGE      |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Narrative Report</b>   | <b>5</b>  |
| An Introduction to the Council of the Isles of Scilly                               | 5         |
| Foreword by the Section 151 Officer   | 6         |
| <b>Statement of Responsibilities</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| The Council's responsibilities  | 14        |
| Responsibilities of the Council's Section 151 Officer                               | 14        |
| Certificate   | 15        |
| <b>Core Statements</b>  | <b>16</b> |
| Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement                                      | 16        |
| Movement in Reserves Statement  | 17        |
| Balance Sheet   | 18        |
| Cash Flow Statement   | 20        |
| <b>Notes to the Accounts</b>  | <b>21</b> |
| Note 1 Accounting Policies  | 21        |
| Note 2 Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued, But Have Not<br>Yet Been Adopted | 36        |
| Note 3 Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies                          | 37        |
| Note 4 Assumptions and Estimation Uncertainty about the Future                      | 37        |
| Note 5 Material Items of Income and Expense   | 38        |
| Note 6 Events after the Reporting Period  | 38        |
| Note 7 Expenditure and Funding Analysis   | 38        |
| Note 8 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature                                    | 40        |
| Note 9 Adjustments between Accounting/Funding Basis<br>under Regulations            | 41        |
| Note 10 Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves  | 43        |
| Note 11 Other Operating Expenditure   | 43        |
| Note 12 Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure                             | 43        |
| Note 13 Total Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income                                | 44        |
| Note 14 Property, Plant & Equipment   | 44        |
| Note 15 Heritage Assets   | 46        |

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| Note 16 Financial Instruments  | 47        |
| Note 17 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments                            | 50        |
| Note 18 Inventories  | 52        |
| Note 19 Debtors  | 52        |
| Note 20 Cash and Cash Equivalents  | 53        |
| Note 21 Creditors  | 53        |
| Note 22 Provisions   | 54        |
| Note 23 Contingent Liabilities   | 54        |
| Note 24 Usable Reserves  | 54        |
| Note 25 Unusable Reserves  | 55        |
| Note 26 Cash flow Statement - Operating Activities   | 58        |
| Note 27 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities   | 59        |
| Note 28 Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities   | 60        |
| Note 29 Cash Flow Statement - Reconciliation of Liabilities arising<br>from Financing Activities | 60        |
| Note 30 Members' Allowances  | 60        |
| Note 31 Officers' Remuneration   | 60        |
| Note 32 External Audit Costs   | 62        |
| Note 33 Grant Income   | 62        |
| Note 34 Related Parties  | 65        |
| Note 35 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing  | 66        |
| Note 36 Leases   | 67        |
| Note 37 Local Government Pension Scheme  | 68        |
| Note 38 Collection Fund  | 73        |
| Note 39 Fire Fighters' Pension Fund  | 74        |
| <b>Auditor's Report and Opinion</b>  | <b>76</b> |
| <b>Glossary of Terms</b>   | <b>82</b> |

## Narrative Report

The Council of the Isles of Scilly, as all local authorities, is required by law to publish an Annual Statement of Accounts which sets out the Council's financial position for the year ended 31 March 2024. This Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 (The Code). The 2023/24 Code is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for public sector accounting in the United Kingdom. The Code specifies the principles and practices of accounting required to prepare a Statement of Accounts which gives a true and fair view of the financial position and transactions of a local Council.

As a unitary Council which provides a wide variety of public services to the islands, the Council's formal accounts are necessarily technical and complex as they are compiled to meet relevant accounting, as well as legislative, regulations. We have attempted to make them clear and concise so the reader can determine how the Council has received and spent public monies.

This narrative report provides a guide to the most significant matters contained within the Accounts. It focuses specifically on how the Council has spent its revenue and capital budgets in 2023/24 in delivering the objectives of the Council's Corporate Plan and in providing positive outcomes for the Isles of Scilly. It reviews the financial position as at 31 March 2024 and looks forward over the next few years.

At the back of the document there is a glossary which covers some of the technical terms used throughout the document.

## An Introduction to the Council of the Isles of Scilly

The Council of the Isles of Scilly is a small unitary Council delivering a breadth of services to an island community of approximately 2,200 residents spread over five inhabited Islands, located 28 miles south west of Land's End, England.

The Council delivers one of the widest range of services of any Council in the country. As well as the usual statutory services the Council has the challenge of operating St Mary's Airport, a lifeline transport link, and in addition has to provide comprehensive services, including a Fire Service, to five separate Islands with the impact of weather and tidal conditions adding to the challenge.

Geographical distance from the mainland and between the islands has a major impact on the provision of services on the islands and means that there is a significant additional cost and complexity to all service delivery that no other Local Authority in England has to face.

The Islands are an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with enchanting coasts and beaches and diverse wildlife. These natural assets combined with the warmth and sunshine abundant during the summer months have resulted in the Islands being economically sustained by tourism. The influx of tourists creates an additional pressure on the services provided by the Council and when combined with stormy winters, presents unique challenges for the Council in wide ranging areas including; Transport, Economic Development, Infrastructure and Services to Our Community, etc.

## Forward by the Section 151 Officer

It has been a challenging year for the Council both financially and non financially. The continuation of the difficult global economic situation has seen inflation stay higher and for longer than expected which has led to costs continuing to increase and interest rates being higher than forecast. Towards the end of the financial year inflation had begun to fall and is getting closer to the Government target which is beginning to provide a more stable economic environment.

The issues that have specifically impacted the Council this year are a significant reduction in the number of passengers using the Council's Airport, an Ofsted Inspection of Children Services resulted in an inadequate rating and an unprecedented number of vacancies in key critical roles that could not be recruited to ranging from Directors to Care Workers to Caretakers which resulted in a burdensome reliance on interim and agency staff. This has all put a huge pressure on the Council's finances and has led to a significant overspend before the use of reserves. This level of spending is not sustainable, Airport charges have had to be increased significantly and every effort is being pursued to reduce the need for interim and agency staff although this is challenging when they are mostly in the highly regulated services covering children and adult social care. The Council has invested in some housing during the year through a mixture of units purchased and long rental arrangements to help address the housing crisis and to provide accommodation for key workers and help the recruitment process. The strength of the Council's finances and the level of reserves it has means that it can deal with this overspend without it having a direct impact on services although as stated it cannot continue as reserves are finite and can only be used once.

The major Levelling Up funded project to replace the old freight and passenger vessels had a turbulent year with the existing operator deciding to pursue an alternative funding solution for the vessels leading to the Government withdrawing the offer of Levelling Up Funding. This was a disappointing outcome particularly with all the hard work and effort put into the project by all those involved and does bring a level of uncertainty around the transport provision between the Islands and the mainland and its affordability.

On a more positive nature the Council has managed to attract all the funding required to deliver the new Cultural Centre and Museum building and working with colleagues on health we have also managed to get the funding for a new integrated health and care hub which will replace the existing care home and help ensure the hospital is modernised. Both of these projects should start construction in summer 2024, therefore it will be a busy year or two in terms of major construction on the Islands. The Duchy has also announced it will build ten new houses at Telegraph which will also mean more construction but it will deliver vitally needed new housing.

Next year, 2024-25, will also be challenging in having to deliver some major construction projects as well as delivering the improvements needed in children services to address the negative Ofsted inspection outcome. There will also be a general election which will mean change whatever the outcome, the very recent announcement that this will now happen in July 2024 is probably a good decision for the Council as it should allow the Government the time needed to deliver a more constructive spending review for 2025-26 which may not have the case if the Election was called much later in the year.

## The 2023/24 Budget and Outturn

The Council's budget for 2023/24 was set in February 2023 at £6.329m. This resulted in a council tax requirement of £1.860m leading to an increase of 4.99% equating to a band D charge of £1,507.62. The 2023/24 budget and Medium Term Financial Plan required total savings of £0.298m although these savings did not impact on the Council's front line services.

The overall outturn position for the Council's revenue budget for 2023/24 was a net overspend of £0.698m against the Council's revised budget. The quarter 3 budget report (as at December 2023) reported a forecast overspend of £0.533m. This net position was comprised of a number of forecast over and underspends, the most significant of which included a reduction in income at the airport due to reduced passenger numbers, additional staffing and agency costs in Children and Adult services and increased grant funding income. The movement of £0.166m between quarter 3 and the end of the financial year was mainly as a result of further increased costs in Adult and Children services.

|                                       | <b>Revised Budget</b> | <b>Outturn</b> | <b>Variance</b> |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|                                       | <b>£</b>              | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>        |
| <b>CEO Department</b>                 | 1.982                 | 2.157          | 0.175           |
| <b>People and Communities</b>         | 2.514                 | 3.086          | 0.572           |
| <b>Place, Economy and Environment</b> | 1.833                 | 1.928          | 0.095           |
| <b>Funding</b>                        | -6.329                | -6.473         | -0.144          |
|                                       | <u>0.000</u>          | <u>0.698</u>   | <u>0.698</u>    |

The overall net overspend of £0.698m was funded as follows:

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| <b>Funded</b>                                  |              |
| <b>General Fund Reserve</b>                    | 0.026        |
| <b>Park House Equalisation Reserve</b>         | 0.365        |
| <b>Investment &amp; Infrastructure Reserve</b> | 0.260        |
| <b>Airport Reserve</b>                         | <u>0.047</u> |
|  | <u>0.698</u> |

Going in to the 2023/24 financial year the General Fund Reserve had a balance of £3.175m which was well above the target level of £1.000m. Following the production of the 2023/24 accounts the General Fund balance has reduced by £0.642m to £2.533m, although this still represents a healthy position. The movement in the General Fund balance is broken down as follows:

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| <b>General Fund Balance Brought Forward 01/04/23 (£m)</b> | <b>3.175</b>   |
| Funding part of the net year-end overspend (as above)     | (0.026)        |
| In-year funding of the budget (revenue)                   | (0.216)        |
| In-year funding of the budget (capital)                   | <u>(0.400)</u> |
| Movement in General Fund                                  | <u>(0.642)</u> |
| <b>General Fund Balance Carried Forward 31/03/24</b>      | <b>2.533</b>   |

## Capital Programme

The outturn spend of the Council's capital programme was £7.438m. Approximately 73% of this was funded from grants and external contributions, 12% from reserves, 10% from borrowing and 5% from revenue budgets. The main areas of spend and the funding are set out below.

Total capital expenditure in 2023/24:

| Schemes                                  | 2023/24<br>Expenditure<br><br>£ |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Adaptive Scillies                        | 4,455,284                       |
| Museum & Culture Centre                  | 942,016                         |
| Purchase of Kirklees                     | 657,923                         |
| Corporate Estate                         | 623,633                         |
| Purchase of Bosuns Locker                | 204,273                         |
| Storage Containers                       | 105,245                         |
| Housing Improvements                     | 102,486                         |
| Go-EV                                    | 73,318                          |
| Fire & Rescue Service Asset Replacements | 62,261                          |
| Airport Asset Replacements               | 55,639                          |
| Waste Management Vehicles                | 40,188                          |
| Other                                    | 35,326                          |
| Ennor Farm                               | 31,143                          |
| Disabled Facility Grants                 | 26,231                          |
| Waste Service Improvements               | 23,225                          |
| <b>Total Capital Expenditure</b>         | <b>7,438,191</b>                |

Capital expenditure in 2023/24 was financed as follows:

| Source of Funding                 | 2023/24<br>Amount<br><br>£ |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Grants and external contributions | 5,453,914                  |
| Reserves                          | 861,816                    |
| Borrowing                         | 710,013                    |
| Capital Receipts                  | 412,448                    |
| <b>Total Funding</b>              | <b>7,438,191</b>           |

The original capital programme agreed by the Council as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process totalled £9.383m. The outturn position of £7.438m represents an underspend against the original programme of £1.945m.

## Reserves

The Council has a General Fund balance of £2.533m. This is about 37% of the net revenue budget, or put another way, is equivalent to just over 4 month's net expenditure

The General Fund is included within Usable Reserves. A schedule of the resources held by the Council at 31 March 2024, and available for future expenditure is shown below. There is also a reference to identify these reserves in the Statement of Accounts.



| <b>Available Resources</b> | <b>Description of the Resource and link to the Statement of Accounts</b>  | <b>31/3/24</b> |
|----------------------------|---|----------------|
| General Fund Reserve       | This is the Council's main non-earmarked reserve. It is the reserve that is generally used for unplanned and therefore non-budgeted expenditure. It should be maintained at a reasonable level. The year-end balance is shown on the Balance Sheet. | £2.533m        |
| Earmarked Reserves         | These are reserves that have been held for a specific purpose. The Council has a number of earmarked reserves and these are shown in Note 10.   | £1.320m        |
| Capital Receipts Reserve   | Proceeds from past asset sales held for recycling into future capital expenditure   | £0.371m        |
| Capital Grants Reserve     | These are capital grants which have been received by the Council, but which have not yet been allocated/spent on capital projects. As there are no conditions attached to the grants, the Council can determine how to spend them.                  | £2.303m        |

Reserves are 'one-off' in nature and are not recurring funding sources. Whilst reserve balances are relatively healthy, it is important that the Council continues to use its resources to meet priorities and build on its track record of leveraging Government funding for key infrastructure improvements. The Council continues to work with Central Government Departments on key infrastructure improvements and is looking to negotiate increased Government funding to fund these vital projects.

All local authorities face a difficult few years in terms of revenue budgets. The Council will continue to carefully manage both its revenue budget and capital resources and will seek to align these against corporate priorities set out in its Corporate Plan.

## Other Key Points arising from the Statement of Accounts

### Property Plant and Equipment

The Council maintains a significant property portfolio which it maintains and enhances through its capital programme. Note 14 shows these capital projects as additions, but also shows the impact of the annual valuation of assets and the level of depreciation which is charged to the annual accounts. Valuations are valued on depreciated replacement cost (DRC) or existing use value (EUV). For this reason, valuations are often at levels lower than the building costs incurred.

### Pension Liabilities

Note 37 covers the Council's Pension Fund and Firefighters' Pension Fund, which are administered by Cornwall Council. The balance sheet shows a £3.702m liability (£1.017m of this is for Fire) which is effectively the Council's liability to the Local Government Pension Scheme. These liabilities have decreased in 2023/24 due to actuarial assessments on future returns, costs and demographic changes. Whilst the amounts have no impact on revenue

balances as they are matched by a pension reserve, the level of future contributions to be made by the Council are set by independent actuaries and are reviewed every three years.

### **Collection Fund**

The Council accounts for Council Tax and Business Rates within its Collection Fund. Income is paid into the Collection Fund and the Council and Devon and Cornwall Police precept on the fund. Any surplus or deficit at the year-end is then redistributed in future years. The Collection Fund is shown in note 38.

### **2023/24 – Non-financial Performance**

The Council's Scrutiny Committee will receive a report on non-financial performance at its meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024. This report will include performance against national and local performance measures and will be available on the Council's website.

### **Looking Ahead - The Council's Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan**

The Council's Corporate Plan covers a period of four years (currently 2022-2026) and is refreshed annually. Councillors began the process of writing the current Corporate Plan in June 2021. A period of public consultation was then undertaken in November and December 2021 which resulted in 268 survey responses and 1636 comments from residents. These responses were used to inform the final decisions on what to include in the Plan. The Plan sets the tone for the Council to work with its community over the Plan's period of 4 years.

The Corporate Plan sets out a number of objectives within key areas as follows:

- **Housing**
- **Climate Change and Waste Management**
- **Transport and Highways**
- **Community Wellbeing and Fairness**
- **Our Council**
- **Promises to Our Community**

Details of the Objectives within these key areas are set out in the Corporate Plan on the Council's website.

The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) supports the delivery of the Corporate Plan and the MTFP is updated annually. The MTFP sets out the Council's financial plan for the period 2024/25 – 2026/27 to support its Corporate Plan. The MTFP contains assumptions around the Council's potential resources over the period, its forecast spending requirements and how it will bridge any gap between the two.

The Council's forecast resources for the period of the MTFP are as follows:

|  | <b>2023/24</b>   | <b>2024/25</b>   | <b>2025/26</b>   | <b>2026/27</b>   |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         |
| Council Tax  | 1,860,252        | 1,969,065        | 2,083,602        | 2,204,853        |
| Council Tax Collection fund Surplus/(Deficit)      | (52,892)         | (8,542)          | 0                | 0                |
| Second Homes Council Tax premium                   | 0                | 0                | 156,702          | 164,521          |
| Business Rates (Incl S31 grants & Top up)          | 1,970,747        | 2,108,561        | 2,161,172        | 2,211,494        |
| Business Rates Collection fund Surplus/(Deficit)   | 2,009            | 13,143           | 0                | 0                |
| Covid Business Rate Relief Grant                   | 59,999           | 0                | 0                | 0                |
| Revenue Support Grant                              | 2,135,121        | 2,293,117        | 2,338,979        | 2,385,759        |
| Improved Better Care Fund                          | 81,490           | 81,490           | 83,120           | 84,782           |
| Social Care Grant                                  | 169,401          | 227,318          | 231,864          | 236,502          |
| New Homes Bonus                                    | 0                | 1,050            | 0                | 0                |
| Services Grant                                     | 61,654           | 160,643          | 163,856          | 167,133          |
| ASC Market Sustainability & Fair cost of care fund | 29,648           | 55,392           | 56,500           | 57,630           |
| ASC Discharge Fund                                 | 11,425           | 19,041           | 19,422           | 19,810           |
| <b>Total Resources</b>                             | <b>6,328,854</b> | <b>6,920,278</b> | <b>7,295,217</b> | <b>7,532,485</b> |

The assumptions above include increases in council tax of 4.99% for 2024/25, 2025/26 and 2026/27.

The Council recognised that it previously had a structural deficit within its revenue budget and it has addressed this over recent years. This has led to some significant in-year savings required with the aim of achieving a balanced position. Ongoing unfunded budget pressures would mean the Council would continue to need to identify savings in order to achieve a balance budget. Budget pressures and growth over the period are set out below:

|  | <b>2024/25</b>   | <b>2025/26</b> | <b>2026/27</b> |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------------|
|  | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>       | <b>£</b>       |
| <b>Inflation</b>   |                  |                |                |
| Pay  | 266,255          | 99,973         | 101,472        |
| Supplies & Services  | 199,349          | 97,776         | 93,271         |
| Income   | (153,080)        | (67,999)       | (66,731)       |
| <b>Total Inflation</b>   | <b>312,525</b>   | <b>129,750</b> | <b>128,012</b> |
| <b>Other Pressures</b>   |                  |                |                |
| Capital Financing Costs  | 33,747           | 186,694        | 135,816        |
| Reduction in planning Fees due to Economic downturn                  | (5,000)          | 0              | 0              |
| Safety works on Vehicles   | (4,000)          | (4,000)        | 0              |
| Airport Costs due to reduced activity                                | 250,000          | 0              | 0              |
| Fire & Rescue Service SLA with Cornwall Council                      | 30,000           | 0              | 0              |
| Housing Delivery Consultancy   | 6,000            | (6,000)        | 0              |
| Property Service Legal Fees relating to disposals                    | 0                | 6,000          | (6,000)        |
| Corporate Property Consultancy                                       | 0                | 5,000          | (5,000)        |
| Housing Reactive Repairs & Maintenance                               | 0                | 0              | 0              |
| Corporate Properties Compliance Works                                | 95,000           | (25,000)       | 10,000         |
| Housing Service - Staffing   | 15,000           | 0              | 0              |
| Environmental Health - IDOX system                                   | 5,000            | 0              | 0              |
| Young People Services - Additional Staff to address Improvement Plan | 111,000          | 0              | (93,000)       |
| Waste Services - Roll out new collection services                    | 40,000           | 0              | 0              |
| Waste Services Weighbridge Software Upgrades                         | 25,000           | (25,000)       | 0              |
| Flood Risk Officer Post Grade 4/5                                    | 32,000           | 0              | 0              |
| AONB Increase revenue capacity to support delivery                   | 15,000           | 0              | 0              |
| Minimum Wage Increase on Contracts                                   | 0                | 0              | 0              |
| Fire Pension   | 16,575           | 0              | 0              |
| Audit Fee Increase   | 75,000           | 0              | 0              |
| Audit Fee Grant - Partial Offset                                     | (26,000)         | 0              | 0              |
| Old Town Cemetery Ground Prep (reversal)                             | (15,000)         | 0              | 0              |
| 12 Months Fixed Term Waste Reduction Officer                         | (38,000)         | 0              | 0              |
| Increase Contingency Budget re Add £150k settlement                  | 150,000          |                |                |
| <b>Total Other Pressures</b>   | <b>811,322</b>   | <b>137,694</b> | <b>41,816</b>  |
| <b>Total all Pressures &amp; Growth</b>                              | <b>1,123,847</b> | <b>267,444</b> | <b>169,829</b> |

When these budget pressures are compared to the resources available there is a budget gap in the first of next three years as follows:

- 2024/25 £760,231;
- 2025/26 £225,736;
- 2026/27 £70,297.

Therefore, in order to set a balanced budget and MTFP these gaps need to be addressed through a number of measures and the use of reserves as follows:

| <b>Service Spending Savings</b>   | <b>2024/25</b>   | <b>2025/26</b>  | <b>2026/27</b>  |
|---|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|   | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>        | <b>£</b>        |
| Increase Airport Fees   | (237,960)        | 0               | 0               |
| Airport Savings on Operations   | (19,040)         |                 |                 |
| Environmental Health - review software licences                               | (5,000)          | 0               | 0               |
| Customer hub - book classes and services on line                              | (5,000)          | 0               | 0               |
| Corporate Property Salary Savings re Engagement Support Assistant             | (7,000)          | 0               | 0               |
| New Waste Disposal Contract   | 0                | (80,000)        | 0               |
| New Waste Haulage Contract  | 0                | 0               | (50,000)        |
| Commercial Waste Services   | (10,000)         | (10,000)        | 0               |
| Hire of Open Spaces   | (1,000)          | 0               | 0               |
| Remove Carboard from DMR waste - will require investment                      | (15,000)         | 0               | 0               |
| Trade Waste - ensure all Business premises are paying & paying full cost rate | (10,000)         | 0               | 0               |
| Additional Planning Fees  | 0                | (5,000)         | 0               |
| Additional Housing Income   | (50,000)         | 0               | 0               |
| S151 Officer  | (7,000)          | 7,000           | 0               |
| New Energy Contract - Green   | (60,000)         | 0               | 0               |
| Reduce Contingency Budget   |                  | 0               | (20,297)        |
| <b>Overall Total Proposed Savings</b>   | <b>(427,000)</b> | <b>(88,000)</b> | <b>(70,297)</b> |

In order to balance the budget there will be reserve contributions as follows:-

- 2024-25 £333,232 (£5,000 existing planned usage, £111,000 to fund the Ofsted improvement resources and £217,232 to smooth the budget)
- 2025-26 £137,736 (£2,550 existing planned usage plus £111,000 to fund the Ofsted improvement plan resources and £24,186 to smooth the budget)
- 2026-27 £0 (no usage at all and balanced within existing annual resources)

The summary budget position for the term of the MTFP is as follows:

|  | <b>2024/25</b>   | <b>2025/26</b>   | <b>2026/27</b>   |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|  | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         | <b>£</b>         |
| Service Budgets brought Forward                  | 6,556,663        | 7,253,510        | 7,432,954        |
| Inflation  | 312,524          | 129,750          | 128,012          |
| Other Pressures and Growth                       | 811,322          | 137,694          | 41,816           |
| Service Savings Plan                             | (427,000)        | (88,000)         | (70,297)         |
| <b>Service Budget Requirements</b>               | <b>7,253,510</b> | <b>7,432,954</b> | <b>7,532,485</b> |
| Specific Projects Expenditure                    | 1,410,000        | 350,000          | 155,850          |
| Specific Projects Income                         | (1,410,000)      | (350,000)        | (155,850)        |
| Transfer to/(from) General Fund Reserve          | (328,232)        | (135,186)        | 0                |
| Transfer to/(from) Specific Reserves             | (5,000)          | (2,550)          | 0                |
| <b>Total Net Budget</b>                          | <b>6,920,278</b> | <b>7,295,217</b> | <b>7,532,485</b> |
| Funded by:                                       |                  |                  |                  |
| Council tax                                      | 1,969,065        | 2,083,602        | 2,204,853        |
| Business Rates                                   | 2,108,561        | 2,161,172        | 2,211,494        |
| Government Grants                                | 2,838,051        | 2,893,741        | 2,951,616        |
| Council Tax Premium                              | 0                | 156,702          | 164,521          |
| Council Tax Collection fund Surplus/(Deficit)    | (8,542)          | 0                | 0                |
| Business Rates Collection fund Surplus/(Deficit) | 13,143           | 0                | 0                |
| <b>Total Resources</b>                           | <b>6,920,278</b> | <b>7,295,217</b> | <b>7,532,485</b> |

## Statement of Responsibilities

### The Council's responsibilities

The Council is required to:

Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Section 151 Officer.

- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

### Responsibilities of the Council's Section 151 Officer

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 Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) in the United Kingdom ('the Code of Practice'), and is required to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at the accounting date and its income and expenditure for the year ending 31 March 2024.



In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer has:

- Selected appropriate accounting policies and then applied them consistently,
- Made judgments and estimates that were reasonable and prudent, and
- Complied with the Code of Practice.

The Section 151 Officer has also:

- Kept proper accounting records that were up to date, and
- Taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Certificate

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>By the Section 151 Officer.</p> <p>I hereby certify that the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 has been prepared in accordance with the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 and that it gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31 March 2024, and its income and expenditure for the year then ended.</p> <p>The Accounts were authorised for issue to the Council on the dates below:</p>  <p><b>Russell Ashman</b><br/>Section 151 Officer<br/>Original Date: 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024<br/>Approved 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025</p> | <p>By the Chairman of the Council</p> <p>I confirm that these accounts were approved by Full Council at its meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025.</p>  <p><b>Robert Francis</b><br/>Chairman of the Council<br/>Date: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025</p> |
|---|--|

## Core Statements

### Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) shows the economic cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS).

|  | 2023/24           |                 |                | Restated<br>2022/23 |                 |                 | Notes |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|
|  | Expenditure<br>£m | Income<br>£m    | Net<br>£m      | Expenditure<br>£m   | Income<br>£m    | Net<br>£m       |       |
| Chief Executives Department  | 4.204             | (2.493)         | 1.711          | 4.528               | (2.585)         | 1.943           |       |
| People & Communities   | 6.162             | (2.568)         | 3.594          | 5.420               | (2.264)         | 3.156           |       |
| Place, Economy & Environment   | 9.324             | (7.021)         | 2.303          | 8.764               | (6.414)         | 2.350           |       |
| <b>Cost of services</b>  | <b>19.690</b>     | <b>(12.082)</b> | <b>7.608</b>   | <b>18.712</b>       | <b>(11.263)</b> | <b>7.449</b>    |       |
| Other operating expenditure  |                   |                 | 1.099          |                     |                 | 0.447           | 11    |
| Financing and investment income and expenditure                      |                   |                 | 0.109          |                     |                 | 0.452           | 12    |
| Taxation and non-specific grant income                               |                   |                 | (7.745)        |                     |                 | (7.301)         | 13    |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit on provision of services</b>                 |                   |                 | <b>1.071</b>   |                     |                 | <b>1.047</b>    |       |
| (Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of property, plant and equipment |                   |                 | (2.756)        |                     |                 | (1.350)         |       |
| Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability                  |                   |                 | (0.723)        |                     |                 | (12.459)        |       |
| <b>Other comprehensive (income) and expenditure</b>                  |                   |                 | <b>(3.479)</b> |                     |                 | <b>(13.809)</b> |       |
| <b>Total comprehensive (income) and expenditure</b>                  |                   |                 | <b>(2.408)</b> |                     |                 | <b>(12.762)</b> |       |



## Movement in Reserves Statement

This Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into usable reserves (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The surplus/(deficit) on the provision of services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Council's services, more details of which are shown in the CIES. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance for Council Tax setting and dwellings rent setting purposes. The 'Net Increase / (Decrease) before transfers to earmarked reserves' line shows the statutory General Fund Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

Restated

### Movement in Reserves Statement

|  | Note | General Fund Balance<br>£m | Earmarked General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Total General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Capital Receipts Reserve<br>£m | Capital Grants Reserve<br>£m | Total Usable Reserves<br>£m | Unusable Reserves<br>£m | Total Council Reserves<br>£m |
|--|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Balance at 31 March 2022 carried forward</b>                          |      | (3.117)                    | (2.350)                               | (5.467)                           | (0.727)                        | (1.459)                      | (7.653)                     | (9.760)                 | (17.413)                     |
| <b>Movement in reserves during 2022/23</b>                               |      |                            |                                       |                                   |                                |                              |                             |                         |                              |
| Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure                               |      | 1.047                      | -                                     | 1.047                             | -                              | -                            | 1.047                       | (13.809)                | (12.762)                     |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations | 9    | (1.034)                    | -                                     | (1.034)                           | 0.157                          | (0.627)                      | (1.504)                     | 1.504                   | -                            |
| Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves                                   | 10   | (0.071)                    | 0.071                                 | -                                 | -                              | -                            | -                           | -                       | -                            |
| <b>(Increase)/Decrease in 2022/23</b>                                    |      | <b>(0.058)</b>             | <b>0.071</b>                          | <b>0.013</b>                      | <b>0.157</b>                   | <b>(0.627)</b>               | <b>(0.457)</b>              | <b>(12.305)</b>         | <b>(12.762)</b>              |
| <b>Balance at 31 March 2023 carried forward</b>                          |      | (3.175)                    | (2.279)                               | (5.454)                           | (0.570)                        | (2.086)                      | (8.110)                     | (22.065)                | (30.175)                     |
| <b>Movement in reserves during 2023/24</b>                               |      |                            |                                       |                                   |                                |                              |                             |                         |                              |
| Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure                               |      | 1.071                      | -                                     | 1.071                             | -                              | -                            | 1.071                       | (3.479)                 | (2.408)                      |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations | 9    | 0.530                      | -                                     | 0.530                             | 0.199                          | (0.217)                      | 0.512                       | (0.512)                 | -                            |
| Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves                                   | 10   | (0.959)                    | 0.959                                 | -                                 | -                              | -                            | -                           | -                       | -                            |
| <b>(Increase)/Decrease in Year</b>                                       |      | <b>0.642</b>               | <b>0.959</b>                          | <b>1.601</b>                      | <b>0.199</b>                   | <b>(0.217)</b>               | <b>1.583</b>                | <b>(3.991)</b>          | <b>(2.408)</b>               |
| <b>Balance at 31 March 2024 carried forward</b>                          |      | (2.533)                    | (1.320)                               | (3.853)                           | (0.371)                        | (2.303)                      | (6.527)                     | (26.056)                | (32.583)                     |

## Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date, of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories: the first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those 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). The second category of reserves is unusable reserves, i.e. those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves 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 disposed of or sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the MiRS line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

| Balance Sheet                        | 31 March 2024   | Restated<br>31 March 2023 | Notes | Restated           |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------|
|                                      | £m              | £m                        |       | 1 April 2022<br>£m |
| Property, Plant and Equipment        | 37.233          | 33.433                    | 14    | 32.494             |
| Heritage Assets                      | 0.117           | 0.117                     | 15    | 0.117              |
| Long Term Debtors                    | 0.052           | 0.058                     | 19    | 0.062              |
| <b>Long Term Assets</b>              | <b>37.402</b>   | <b>33.608</b>             |       | <b>32.673</b>      |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents            | 1.328           | 3.100                     | 20    | 5.099              |
| Short Term Investments               | 5.500           | 3.000                     | 16    | -                  |
| Inventories                          | 0.036           | 0.031                     | 18    | 0.032              |
| Short Term Debtors                   | 1.742           | 2.944                     | 19    | 2.905              |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                | <b>8.606</b>    | <b>9.075</b>              |       | <b>8.036</b>       |
| Short Term Creditors                 | (2.949)         | (4.963)                   | 21    | (4.236)            |
| Short Term Borrowing                 | -               | (0.250)                   | 16    | (0.250)            |
| Grants Receipts in Advance - Revenue | (1.185)         | (0.076)                   | 33    | (0.076)            |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>           | <b>(4.134)</b>  | <b>(5.289)</b>            |       | <b>(4.562)</b>     |
| Provisions                           | (0.022)         | (0.107)                   | 22    | (0.219)            |
| Long Term Borrowing                  | (1.750)         | (1.750)                   | 16    | (1.750)            |
| Pension Liability                    | (3.702)         | (4.273)                   | 37    | (15.384)           |
| Grants Receipts in Advance - Capital | (3.817)         | (1.089)                   | 33    | (1.381)            |
| <b>Long Term Liabilities</b>         | <b>(9.291)</b>  | <b>(7.219)</b>            |       | <b>(18.734)</b>    |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                    | <b>32.583</b>   | <b>30.175</b>             |       | <b>17.413</b>      |
| Usable Reserves                      |                 |                           |       |                    |
| General Fund Balance                 | (2.533)         | (3.175)                   | 24    | (3.117)            |
| Other Usable Reserves                | (3.994)         | (4.935)                   | 24    | (4.536)            |
| Unusable Reserves                    | (26.056)        | (22.065)                  | 25    | (9.760)            |
| <b>Total Reserves</b>                | <b>(32.583)</b> | <b>(30.175)</b>           |       | <b>(17.413)</b>    |

## 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 operating, investing and 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 receipts 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 (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

|   | <b>2023/24</b> | <b>Restated</b> |              |
|---|----------------|-----------------|--------------|
|   | <b>£m</b>      | <b>2022/23</b>  | <b>Notes</b> |
|   |                | <b>£m</b>       |              |
| <b>Net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services</b>  | <b>1.071</b>   | <b>1.047</b>    |              |
| Adjustments to net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements   | (1.098)        | (3.920)         | 26           |
| Adjustments for items included in the net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities | 6.122          | 5.304           | 26           |
| <b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b>   | <b>6.095</b>   | <b>2.431</b>    |              |
| Investing activities  | (4.633)        | (0.420)         | 27           |
| Financing activities  | 0.310          | (0.012)         | 28           |
| <b>Net (increase) or decrease in cash and cash equivalents</b>  | <b>1.772</b>   | <b>1.999</b>    |              |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>   | <b>3.100</b>   | <b>5.099</b>    |              |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>   | <b>1.328</b>   | <b>3.100</b>    |              |

## Notes to the Accounts

### Note 1 Accounting Policies

#### 1.1 General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2023/24 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2024. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 which require them to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 (The Code) and 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 categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

**Legislative Requirements** – It is a fundamental principle that where specific legislative requirements and accounting principles conflict, legislative requirements take precedence.

#### 1.2 Accruals of Income and Expenditure

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

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for service or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract;
- 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. Exceptions include school balances and utility bills that are recorded at the date of meter readings.
- 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.
- Where revenue 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 provided for and a charge made to the service for the income that might not be collected.

#### 1.3 Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments that mature in three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts, if they exist, that would be repayable on demand.

#### 1.4 Exceptional Items

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

## 1.5 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, i.e. 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, other 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.

There has been an adjustment to Property, Plant and Equipment and the Revaluation Reserve of £1.294m, due to 17 assets having their floor area recalculated to provide more accurate data for Valuation purposes.

| Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement  | Restated<br>2022/23 |                 |                     | 2022/23           |                 |                     | Notes |
|---|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------|
|   | Expenditure<br>£m   | Income<br>£m    | Net<br>£m           | Expenditure<br>£m | Income<br>£m    | Net<br>£m           |       |
| Chief Executives Department   | 4.528               | (2.585)         | 1.943               | 4.544             | (2.585)         | 1.959               |       |
| People & Communities  | 5.420               | (2.264)         | 3.156               | 5.457             | (2.264)         | 3.193               |       |
| Place, Economy & Environment  | 8.764               | (6.414)         | 2.350               | 8.766             | (6.414)         | 2.352               |       |
| <b>Cost of services</b>   | <b>18.712</b>       | <b>(11.263)</b> | <b>7.449</b>        | <b>18.767</b>     | <b>(11.263)</b> | <b>7.504</b>        |       |
| Other operating expenditure   |                     |                 | 0.447               |                   |                 | 0.447               | 11    |
| Financing and investment income and expenditure   |                     |                 | 0.452               |                   |                 | 0.452               | 12    |
| Taxation and non-specific grant income  |                     |                 | (7.301)             |                   |                 | (7.301)             | 13    |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit on provision of services</b>  |                     |                 | <b>1.047</b>        |                   |                 | <b>1.102</b>        |       |
| (Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of<br>Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability / (asset) |                     |                 | (1.350)<br>(12.459) |                   |                 | (1.653)<br>(12.459) |       |
| <b>Other comprehensive (income) and expenditure</b>   |                     |                 | <b>(13.809)</b>     |                   |                 | <b>(14.112)</b>     |       |
| <b>Total comprehensive (income) and expenditure</b>   |                     |                 | <b>(12.762)</b>     |                   |                 | <b>(13.010)</b>     |       |

| Balance Sheet                 | Restated         | 31 March<br>2023 | Restated         | 1 April<br>2022 | 1 April<br>2022 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                               | 31 March<br>2023 |                  | 31 March<br>2023 |                 |                 |
|                               |                  | £m               | £m               | £m              | £m              |
| Property, Plant and Equipment |                  | 33.433           | 34.727           | 32.494          | 33.540          |
| Unusable Reserves             |                  | (22.065)         | (23.359)         | (9.760)         | (10.806)        |

Restated 2022/23 balances:

Movement in Reserves Statement Restated

|  | Note | General Fund Balance<br>£m | Earmarked General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Total General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Capital Receipts Reserve<br>£m | Capital Grants Reserve<br>£m | Total Usable Reserves<br>£m | Unusable Reserves<br>£m | Total Council Reserves<br>£m |
|--|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Balance at 31 March 2022 carried forward                                 |      | (3.117)                    | (2.350)                               | (5.467)                           | (0.727)                        | (1.459)                      | (7.653)                     | (9.760)                 | (17.413)                     |
| <b>Movement in reserves during 2022/23</b>                               |      |                            |                                       |                                   |                                |                              |                             |                         |                              |
| Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure                               |      | 1.047                      | -                                     | 1.047                             | -                              | -                            | 1.047                       | (13.809)                | (12.762)                     |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations | 9    | (1.034)                    | -                                     | (1.034)                           | 0.157                          | (0.627)                      | (1.504)                     | 1.504                   | -                            |
| Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves                                   | 10   | (0.071)                    | 0.071                                 | -                                 | -                              | -                            | -                           | -                       | -                            |
| <b>(Increase)/Decrease in 2022/23</b>                                    |      | <b>(0.058)</b>             | <b>0.071</b>                          | <b>0.013</b>                      | <b>0.157</b>                   | <b>(0.627)</b>               | <b>(0.457)</b>              | <b>(12.305)</b>         | <b>(12.762)</b>              |
| Balance at 31 March 2023 carried forward                                 |      | (3.175)                    | (2.279)                               | (5.454)                           | (0.570)                        | (2.086)                      | (8.110)                     | (22.065)                | (30.175)                     |

Original 2022/23 balances:

Movement in Reserves Statement

|  | Note | General Fund Balance<br>£m | Earmarked General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Total General Fund Reserves<br>£m | Capital Receipts Reserve<br>£m | Capital Grants Reserve<br>£m | Total Usable Reserves<br>£m | Unusable Reserves<br>£m | Total Council Reserves<br>£m |
|--|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Balance at 31 March 2022 carried forward                                 |      | (3.117)                    | (2.350)                               | (5.467)                           | (0.727)                        | (1.459)                      | (7.653)                     | (10.806)                | (18.459)                     |
| <b>Movement in reserves during 2022/23</b>                               |      |                            |                                       |                                   |                                |                              |                             |                         |                              |
| Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure                               |      | 1.102                      | -                                     | 1.102                             | -                              | -                            | 1.102                       | (14.112)                | (13.010)                     |
| Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations | 9    | (1.089)                    | -                                     | (1.089)                           | 0.157                          | (0.627)                      | (1.559)                     | 1.559                   | -                            |
| Transfers (to)/from Earmarked Reserves                                   | 10   | (0.071)                    | 0.071                                 | -                                 | -                              | -                            | -                           | -                       | -                            |
| <b>(Increase)/Decrease in 2022/23</b>                                    |      | <b>(0.058)</b>             | <b>0.071</b>                          | <b>0.013</b>                      | <b>0.157</b>                   | <b>(0.627)</b>               | <b>(0.457)</b>              | <b>(12.553)</b>         | <b>(13.010)</b>              |
| Balance at 31 March 2023 carried forward                                 |      | (3.175)                    | (2.279)                               | (5.454)                           | (0.570)                        | (2.086)                      | (8.110)                     | (23.359)                | (31.469)                     |

## 1.6 Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding fixed 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;
- The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisations, although it may set aside sums for the replacement of assets. However, the Council is required to make an annual contribution from revenue Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. This is equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by the MRP contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account shown in the MiRS for the difference between the two.

## 1.7 Employee Benefits - Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits 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 holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. 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 Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the MiRS so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

## 1.8 Employee Benefits - Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an Officer's employment before the normal retirement date, or an Officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy. The amounts are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service line in the CIES when the Council is demonstrably committed to the termination of the employment of an Officer or group of Officers, or making an offer to encourage voluntary redundancy.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund balance 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 MiRS, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits. These are replaced with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year end.

## 1.9 Employee Benefits - Post Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of two separate pension schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Cornwall Council;
- Firefighters' Pension Scheme, administered by Cornwall Council.

All schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned whilst employees work for the Council.



## 1.10 The Local Government Pension Scheme

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

- The liabilities of the Cornwall Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. 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 and projections of anticipated earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 4.85% as recommended by the Council’s actuaries.

The assets of Cornwall 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 |
| unitised securities | current bid price     |
| property            | market value          |

The change in the net pension’s liability is analysed into seven components:

- Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the CIES to the services for which the employees work;
- Past service cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the relevant service line in the costs of services in the CIES;
- Interest cost – the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year as they move one year closer to being paid – debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES;
- Expected return on assets – the annual investment return on the fund assets attributable to the Council, based on an average of the expected long-term return credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES;
- Gains or losses on settlements and curtailments – the result of actions to relieve the Council of liabilities or events that reduce the expected future service or accrual of benefits of employees – debited or credited to the relevant service line in the cost of services in the CIES;
- 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 – debited to the Pensions Reserve;
- Contributions paid to the Cornwall 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 balance 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 MiRS, this means that there are appropriations 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 of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows, rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

### **1.11 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, 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.

### **1.12 Firefighters' Pension Scheme**

The accounts for the scheme are prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Council Accounting, issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA), and with guidance notes issued by CIPFA on the application of accounting standards to Local Authorities. They do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future. Income and expenditure have been accounted for on an accruals basis for contributions and benefits payable.

### **1.13 Events after the Balance Sheet Date (Reporting Period)**

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, 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 are 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 authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

### **1.14 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. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES 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 over the life of the instrument, to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

This means that all of the borrowings presented in the Balance Sheet are the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the CIES is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

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 CIES 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 or discount is respectively deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan, and the write-down to the CIES is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the CIES, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the CIES 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 MiRS.

## 1.15 Financial Instruments - Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified into three types:

- Amortised cost;
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVLP);
- Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI).

### Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost 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 CIES 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 financial assets held by the authority, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES, at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that 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 CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance, is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the MiRS.

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

### Expected Credit Loss Model

The Council recognises expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost, either on a 12-month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the authority.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation, that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

### Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit of Loss

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL 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 fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arrive, in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

The fair value measurements of the financial assets are based on the following techniques:

- instruments with quoted market prices – the market price;

- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis.

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 authority 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.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

### 1.16 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 CIES for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. If the Council has made any loans, it would mean that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest). Interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

If the Council makes any loans to organisations at less than market rates (soft loans), the loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal. Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES, at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that 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 CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance, is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the MiRS.

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 service (for receivables specific to that service), or the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. 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 and losses that arise where an asset is no longer held, are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

### 1.17 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 CIES until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or

service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution, are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or the future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grantor contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions), or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (non ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the CIES.

Where capital grants are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the MiRS. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is held within the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve. Where it has been applied, it is recognised in the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

### **1.18 General Grant**

General grants are allocated by central government directly to local authorities as additional revenue funding. Such grants are non-ringfenced and are credited to Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income in the CIES.

### **1.19 Heritage Assets**

The Council has a small number of assets that it holds for the purposes of increasing the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of its history and local area. For the purposes of this statement they are known as heritage assets. They are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment.

The carrying amounts of heritage assets are reviewed where there is evidence of impairment for heritage assets, e.g. where an item has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or where doubts arise as to its authenticity. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment.

### **1.20 Long-term Contracts**

Long-term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, with the value of works and services received under the contract during the financial year.

### **1.21 Leases**

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards fundamental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as 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.

### **1.22 The Council as Lessee**

#### **Finance Leases**

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases, 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. Premiums 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 CIES).

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 MiRS for the difference between the two.

### **Operating Leases**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the CIES as an expense of the services benefitting 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 (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

## **1.23 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 (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Council's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the CIES also as part of the gain or loss on disposal i.e. offset against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal and 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 (together with any premiums received); and
- Finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES).

The gain credited to the CIES on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is transferred out of the General Fund Balance and into the Capital Receipts Reserve in the MiRS. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is transferred out of the General Fund Balance and into the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the MiRS. When the future rentals are received, the element for the capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point, the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against Council Tax, as the cost of fixed 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 in the MiRS.

## 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 CIES. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). 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.

### 1.24 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 that 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, i.e. repairs and maintenance, is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

The Council operates a de minimis level of £6,000 when capitalising expenditure, unless it is creating or enhancing a group of assets, when amounts below this level can be capitalised.

#### 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 initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. 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.

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 CIES, 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 CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the MiRS.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement basis:

- Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost;
- Dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH);

- All other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use value (EUUV).

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

Where non-property assets that have short useful lives and/or low values, 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 that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year end, and 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 CIES where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service).

Where decreases in value are identified, they are treated in the following way:

- 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 (up to the amount of the accumulated gains);
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the CIES.

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 in the Capital Adjustment Account.

### **Impairment**

Assets are assessed at each year end as to whether there is any indication that an asset's value has fallen. Where indications exist and any possible differences are 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, they are accounted for in the following way:

- 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 (up to the amount of the accumulated gains);
- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the CIES.

Where an impairment loss is subsequently reversed, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the CIES, up to the amount of the original loss, but adjusted for the depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided for on all property, plant and equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life i.e. freehold land and certain community assets (the majority of community assets held by the Council are land assets which have an unlimited useful life and therefore depreciation is not charged) and assets that are not yet available for use i.e. assets under construction.

Depreciation is calculated on the following basis:



- Council Dwellings - Straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer currently 30 years;
- Other Land and Buildings – Straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer currently between 1 to 30 years;
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment – Straight-line allocation over the useful life of the asset class, as advised by a suitably qualified Officer between 1 to 25 years;
- Infrastructure – Straight-line allocation of between 10 to 40 years.

Where an item of property, plant and equipment, whose cost or valuation is greater than 2.5% of the total value of assets held by the Council, has major components that are greater than 10% of the value of the individual asset, the components are depreciated separately.

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.

### **1.25 Infrastructure assets**

Infrastructure assets include carriageways, footways and cycle tracks, structures (eg bridges), street lighting, street furniture (eg illuminated traffic signals, bollards), traffic management systems, land and coastal defences.

#### **Recognition**

Expenditure on the acquisition or replacement of components of the infrastructure network is capitalised on an accrual basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

#### **Measurement**

Infrastructure assets are generally measured at depreciated historical cost. However, this is a modified form of historical cost – opening balances for infrastructure assets were originally recorded in balance sheets at amounts of capital undischarged for sums borrowed as at 1 April (1994 England and Scotland) (1996 Wales), which was deemed at that time to be historical cost. Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by the carrying amount of the asset being written down to the recoverable amount.

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on the parts of the infrastructure network assets that are subject to deterioration or depletion and by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis. Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year. The Council has deemed an average useful life of between 10 to 40 years for infrastructure assets.

#### **Disposals and derecognition**

Following a national issue with accounting for infrastructure assets and subsequent CIPFA guidance, where a local authority replaces, disposes or decommissions a component of an infrastructure asset the carrying amount to be derecognised can be determined as nil or calculated in accordance with normal accounting practices specified in the CIPFA Code.

### **1.26 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 fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is accounted for in the Other

Operating Expenditure line in the CIES. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on assets held for sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as assets held for sale, they are reclassified as 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 value at the date of the decision not 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 (whether property, plant and equipment or assets held for sale) is written off in the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the CIES also as part of the gain or loss on disposal, i.e. offset against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal. Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow the capital financing requirement. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the MiRS.

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

## **1.27 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 instance, 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 service line in the CIES 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.

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 service.

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

### **Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence 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 a note 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 a note to the accounts where it is probable that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

### **1.28 Reserves**

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the MiRS. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the MiRS 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, retirement and employee benefits and financial instruments and do not represent usable resources for the Council – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

### **1.29 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)**

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of a non-current asset, has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the CIES in that year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources, or by borrowing, a transfer in the MiRS from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account is made. An adjustment to reverse out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of Council Tax is then made.

### **1.30 VAT**

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from His Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC). VAT receivable is excluded from income.

### **1.31 Accounting for the Collection Fund**

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 national non-domestic rates.

#### **Council Tax**

In its capacity as a billing authority the Council acts as an agent, collecting and distributing council tax on behalf of the major preceptors of the Fund - Devon and Cornwall Police and itself. While council tax income 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 transferred to Devon and Cornwall Police. The amount credited to the Council's General Fund under statute is the Council's demand on the Fund for that year, plus the Council's share of surplus/deficit on the Collection Fund for the previous year. This amount may be more or less than the accrued income for the year, any difference is then transferred to the General Fund via the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and reversed out through the MiRS.

Since the collection of council tax is in substance an agency arrangement, the cash collected by the Council belongs proportionately to itself and Devon and Cornwall Police. Therefore, there will be a debtor/creditor relationship

between the Council and the Police, since the cash paid to the latter in the year will not be equal to their share of the cash collected.

### **National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)**

The Council act as agent, collecting NNDR on behalf of central government and as principal collecting rates for itself. This means that the Council and central government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of NNDR collected could be more or less than predicted. The effect of any bad debts written off or movements in the impairment allowance is also shared proportionately.

However, the cost of collection allowance is solely the Council's income and this appears in the Strategic Development and Finance Service line of the CIES.

## **1.32 Going Concern**

### **Going Concern - Council of the Isles of Scilly**

The accounts are prepared on a going concern basis on the assumption that the authority's functions and services will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future ie. there is no intention to significantly curtail the scale of the operation.

## **Note 2 Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued, But Have Not Yet Been Adopted**

Where a new standard has been published but has not yet been adopted by the Code, the Council is required to disclose information relating to the impact of these accounting changes. This requirement applies to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) that have not been applied in the 2023/24 Code and that came into effect on or before 1 January 2024.

For 2023/24 the following potentially relevant standards include:

- IFRS 16 Leases (but only for those local authorities that have decided to voluntarily implement IFRS 16 in the 2023/24 year, which Council of the Isles of Scilly has not).
- Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current (Amendments to IAS 1) issued in January 2020. The amendments:
  - specify that an entity's right to defer settlement must exist at the end of the reporting period
  - clarify that classification is unaffected by management's intentions or expectations about whether the entity will exercise its right to defer settlement
  - clarify how lending conditions affect classification, and
  - clarify requirements for classifying liabilities an entity will or may settle by issuing its own equity instruments.
- Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback (Amendments to IFRS 16) issued in September 2022. The amendments to IFRS 16 add subsequent measurement requirements for sale and leaseback transactions.
- Non-current Liabilities with Covenants (Amendments to IAS 1) issued in October 2022. The amendments improved the information an entity provides when its right to defer settlement of a liability for at least 12 months is subject to compliance with covenants.
- International Tax Reform: Pillar Two Model Rules (Amendments to IAS 12) issued in May 2023. Pillar Two applies to multinational groups with a minimum level of turnover. The amendments introduced:
  - a temporary exception to the requirements to recognise and disclose information about deferred tax assets and liabilities related to Pillar Two income taxes, and
  - targeted disclosure requirements for affected entities.

- Supplier Finance Arrangements (Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7) issued in May 2023. The amendments require an entity to provide additional disclosures about its supplier finance arrangements. The IASB developed the new requirements to provide users of financial statements with information to enable them to:
  - assess how supplier finance arrangements affect an entity’s liabilities and cash flows, and
  - understand the effect of supplier finance arrangements on an entity’s exposure to liquidity risk and how the entity might be affected if the arrangements were no longer available to it.

Application of the standards is required from 1 April 2024. Therefore, these changes will be reflected in the Council’s 2024/25 or future Statement of Accounts.

## Note 3 Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

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

### **Future Funding**

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.

## Note 4 Assumptions and Estimation Uncertainty about the Future

### **Revaluations of Property, Plant and Equipment**

Certain classes of assets are re-valued according to the rolling revaluation programme outlined in the accounting principles.

Whilst these valuations are carried out by a professionally qualified valuer and the valuations themselves are made in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as interpreted by the current CIPFA Code of Practice for Local Council Accounting, there is an element of assumption built into these valuations, as detailed in the valuation reports.

For example the estimated remaining economic life of each asset is based on assumptions surrounding the continuation of repairs and maintenance programmes. The overall valuation of the assets is based on the assumption that the inspection of the visible and accessible element of the assets provides a reasonable assessment of the whole asset.

The impact of a change in valuation or useful life would be to affect the carrying value of the asset in the balance sheet and the charge for depreciation or impairment in the CIES.

## Pension Liability Estimation

The estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets.

A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be seen in Note 37.

## Arrears

At 31 March 2024, the Council had a gross sundry debtors balance of £1.582m. A review of significant balances over 30 days suggested that an impairment allowance for doubtful debts of £0.145m was appropriate. Changes in the current economic climate could lead to either an increase or a reduction in this allowance.

The Council will monitor its collection rates of debt and will undertake a quarterly review of those that are significant and which do not fall within the remit of its credit control team. If there are indications the current assumptions used in calculating the impairment allowance are significantly wrong, then they will be reviewed and the impairment allowance adjusted accordingly with the corresponding potential impact for the Council's revenue account.

## Note 5 Material Items of Income and Expense

The Council's CIES has no items which are deemed exceptional by virtue of the size and nature and which, to prevent distortion of other figures in the accounts, have been separately reported.

## Note 6 Events after the Reporting Period

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by Russell Ashman, Section 151 Officer on 28<sup>th</sup> May 2024. 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 2024, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information. The financial statements and notes have not been adjusted for any events which took place after 31 March 2024.

## Note 7 Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA) shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated 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 CIES.

## Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting basis

|  | Directorate Total as reported for resource management | Adjustment to arrive at the net amount chargeable to the general fund | Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund | Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting basis |  |                                    |  | Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis | Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
|  |   |   |  | Adjustment for Capital Purposes                      | Net change for the Pensions Adjustment | Net change for the Collection Fund | Net Change for Accumulated Absences Adjustment |  |   |
|  | £m  | £m  | £m   | £m   | £m                                     | £m                                 | £m   | £m   |   |
| Chief Executives Department                          | 2.157   | (0.299)   | 1.858  | (0.104)  | (0.043)                                | -                                  | -  | (0.147)  | 1.711   |
| People & Communities                                 | 3.086   | 0.172   | 3.258  | 0.314  | 0.026                                  | -                                  | (0.004)  | 0.336  | 3.594   |
| Place, Economy & Environment                         | 1.928   | 0.033   | 1.961  | 0.385  | (0.033)                                | -                                  | (0.010)  | 0.342  | 2.303   |
| <b>Net Cost of Services</b>                          | <b>7.171</b>  | <b>(0.094)</b>  | <b>7.077</b>                                   | <b>0.595</b>   | <b>(0.050)</b>                         | <b>-</b>                           | <b>(0.014)</b>                                 | <b>0.531</b>                                     | <b>7.608</b>  |
| Other income and expenditure                         | (6.473)   | (0.148)   | (6.621)  | -  | 0.202                                  | (0.118)                            | -  | 0.084  | (6.537)   |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit on provision of services</b> | <b>0.698</b>  | <b>(0.242)</b>  | <b>0.456</b>                                   | <b>0.595</b>   | <b>0.152</b>                           | <b>(0.118)</b>                     | <b>(0.014)</b>                                 | <b>0.615</b>                                     | <b>1.071</b>  |
| Transfer to/from Reserves for Statutory Movements    |   |   | 1.145  |  |  |                                    |  |  |   |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit</b>                          |   |   | <b>1.601</b>                                   |  |  |                                    |  |  |   |

|   | General Fund Balance | Earmarked General Fund Reserves | Total General Fund and Earmarked Reserves |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|   | £m                   | £m                              | £m  |
| Opening balances at 31 March 2023       | (3.175)              | (2.279)                         | (5.454)                                   |
| Add (Surplus)/Deficit in year           | 0.642                | 0.959                           | 1.601                                     |
| <b>Closing balance at 31 March 2024</b> | <b>(2.533)</b>       | <b>(1.320)</b>                  | <b>(3.853)</b>                            |

Restated  
2022/23

## Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting basis

|  | Directorate Total as reported for resource management | Adjustment to arrive at the net amount chargeable to the general fund (Note 1) | Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund | Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting basis |  |                                    |  | Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis | Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|------------------------------------|--|--|---|
|  |   |  |  | Adjustment for Capital Purposes                      | Net change for the Pensions Adjustment | Net change for the Collection Fund | Net Change for Accumulated Absences Adjustment |  |   |
|  | £m  | £m   | £m   | £m   | £m                                     | £m                                 | £m   | £m   |   |
| Chief Executives Department                          | 1.787   | (0.378)  | 1.409  | 0.312  | 0.219                                  | -                                  | 0.003  | 0.534  | 1.943   |
| People & Communities                                 | 2.263   | 0.195  | 2.458  | 0.229  | 0.466                                  | -                                  | 0.003  | 0.698  | 3.156   |
| Place, Economy & Environment                         | 1.739   | (0.021)  | 1.718  | 0.394  | 0.228                                  | -                                  | 0.010  | 0.632  | 2.350   |
| <b>Net Cost of Services</b>                          | <b>5.789</b>  | <b>(0.204)</b>   | <b>5.585</b>                                   | <b>0.935</b>   | <b>0.913</b>                           | <b>-</b>                           | <b>0.016</b>                                   | <b>1.864</b>                                     | <b>7.449</b>  |
| Other income and expenditure                         | (5.860)   | (0.374)  | (6.234)  | -  | 0.435                                  | (0.603)                            | -  | (0.168)  | (6.402)   |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit on provision of services</b> | <b>(0.071)</b>  | <b>(0.578)</b>   | <b>(0.649)</b>                                 | <b>0.935</b>   | <b>1.348</b>                           | <b>(0.603)</b>                     | <b>0.016</b>                                   | <b>1.696</b>                                     | <b>1.047</b>  |
| Transfer to/from Reserves for Statutory Movements    |   |  | 0.662  |  |  |                                    |  |  |   |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit</b>                          |   |  | <b>0.013</b>                                   |  |  |                                    |  |  |   |

|   | General Fund Balance | Earmarked General Fund Reserves | Total General Fund and Earmarked Reserves |
|---|----------------------|---------------------------------|---|
|   | £m                   | £m                              | £m  |
| Opening balances at 31 March 2022       | (3.117)              | (2.350)                         | (5.467)                                   |
| Add (Surplus)/Deficit in year           | (0.058)              | 0.071                           | 0.013                                     |
| <b>Closing balance at 31 March 2023</b> | <b>(3.175)</b>       | <b>(2.279)</b>                  | <b>(5.454)</b>                            |

## Adjustments for Capital Purposes

Adjustments for capital purposes – this column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the services lines.

## Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments

Net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income.

- For net cost of services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the Council as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs;
- For other income and expenditure the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES.

## Note 8 Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

The Council's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

### Reconciliation to Subjective Analysis

|  | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Fees, charges and other service income                   | (3.850)                | (3.821)                |
| Interest and investment income                           | (0.128)                | (0.020)                |
| Income from council tax and NNDR                         | (3.207)                | (3.007)                |
| Government grants and contributions                      | (12.797)               | (11.736)               |
| <b>Total Income</b>                                      | <b>(19.982)</b>        | <b>(18.584)</b>        |
| Employee expenses  | 7.504                  | 7.659                  |
| Other service expenses                                   | 7.333                  | 6.192                  |
| Capital Charges  | 5.149                  | 5.351                  |
| Interest payments  | 0.035                  | 0.037                  |
| Loss on disposal of fixed assets                         | 1.099                  | 0.447                  |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>                                 | <b>21.120</b>          | <b>19.686</b>          |
| <b>(Surplus) or deficit on the provision of services</b> | <b>1.138</b>           | <b>1.102</b>           |



## Note 9 Adjustments between Accounting/Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total CIES, 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.

| 2023/24  | Movement in Usable Reserves      |                                      |                                    | Movement in<br>in Unusable<br>Reserves<br>£m |
|--|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
|  | General<br>Fund<br>Balance<br>£m | Capital<br>Receipts<br>Reserve<br>£m | Capital<br>Grants<br>Reserve<br>£m |  |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| <b>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement :</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Charges for depreciation of non current assets   | (1.392)                          |                                      |                                    | 1.392  |
| Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment  | 0.797                            |                                      |                                    | (0.797)                                      |
| Capital grants and contributions applied   | 4.701                            |                                      | (0.218)                            | (4.483)                                      |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute  | (4.487)                          |                                      |                                    | 4.487  |
| Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement   | (1.099)                          | (0.214)                              |                                    | 1.313  |
| <b>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment  | 0.204                            |                                      |                                    | (0.204)                                      |
| Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund   | 0.625                            |                                      |                                    | (0.625)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account  | 1.207                            |                                      |                                    | (1.207)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Use of Capital Receipts to finance new capital expenditure   |                                  | 0.413                                |                                    | (0.413)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Lease receipts for leases that became finance leases on transition to IFRS (transferred to(or from) the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve)   | (0.005)                          |                                      |                                    | 0.005  |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited/credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement   | (1.130)                          |                                      |                                    | 1.130  |
| Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year  | 0.978                            |                                      |                                    | (0.978)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rating income credited to Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax and non-domestic rating income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements | 0.118                            |                                      |                                    | (0.118)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences Account:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Amount by which officer remuneration charged to Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements                                  | 0.014                            |                                      |                                    | (0.014)                                      |
| Other Movements - roundings  | (0.001)                          |                                      | 0.001                              | -  |
| <b>Total Adjustments</b>   | <b>0.530</b>                     | <b>0.199</b>                         | <b>(0.217)</b>                     | <b>(0.512)</b>                               |

Restated  
2022/23

|   | Movement in Usable Reserves      |                                      |                                    | Movement in<br>in Unusable<br>Reserves<br>£m |
|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
|   | General<br>Fund<br>Balance<br>£m | Capital<br>Receipts<br>Reserve<br>£m | Capital<br>Grants<br>Reserve<br>£m |  |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Adjustment Account:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| <b>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive<br/>Income and Expenditure Statement :</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Charges for depreciation of non current assets  | (1.316)                          |                                      |                                    | 1.316  |
| Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment   | 0.381                            |                                      |                                    | (0.381)                                      |
| Capital grants and contributions applied  | 5.053                            |                                      | (0.627)                            | (4.426)                                      |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute   | (4.360)                          |                                      |                                    | 4.360  |
| Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as<br>part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income<br>and Expenditure Statement  | (0.446)                          | (0.044)                              |                                    | 0.490  |
| <b>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive<br/>Income and Expenditure Statement:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment   | 0.191                            |                                      |                                    | (0.191)                                      |
| Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund  | 0.027                            |                                      |                                    | (0.027)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied<br/>Account:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive<br>Income and Expenditure Account  | 0.207                            |                                      |                                    | (0.207)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Use of Capital Receipts to finance new capital expenditure  |                                  | 0.201                                |                                    | (0.201)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:</b>   |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Lease receipts for leases that became finance leases on transition<br>to IFRS (transferred to(or from) the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve)   | (0.010)                          |                                      |                                    | 0.010  |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Pensions Reserve:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited/credited<br>to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement   | (2.256)                          |                                      |                                    | 2.256  |
| Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to<br>pensioners payable in the year  | 0.908                            |                                      |                                    | (0.908)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Collection Fund Adjustment<br/>Account:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rating income credited<br>to Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different<br>from council tax and non-domestic rating income calculated for the<br>year in accordance with statutory requirements | 0.603                            |                                      |                                    | (0.603)                                      |
| <b>Adjustments primarily involving the Accumulated Absences<br/>Account:</b>  |                                  |                                      |                                    |  |
| Amount by which officer remuneration charged to Comprehensive<br>Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is<br>different from remuneration chargeable in the year in<br>accordance with statutory requirements                                  | (0.016)                          |                                      |                                    | 0.016  |
| <b>Total Adjustments</b>  | <b>(1.034)</b>                   | <b>0.157</b>                         | <b>(0.627)</b>                     | <b>1.504</b>                                 |

## Note 10 Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund into earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2023/24.

|                                     | Balance at 1 April 2022<br>£m | Transfer Out 2022/23<br>£m | Transfer In 2022/23<br>£m | Balance at 31 March 2023<br>£m | Transfer Out 2023/24<br>£m | Transfer In 2023/24<br>£m | Balance at 31 March 2024<br>£m |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Revenue earmarked reserves:-        |                               |                            |                           |                                |                            |                           |                                |
| Airport                             | (0.173)                       | 0.027                      | -                         | (0.146)                        | 0.103                      | -                         | (0.043)                        |
| Children's Services                 | (0.070)                       | 0.030                      | -                         | (0.040)                        | 0.030                      | -                         | (0.010)                        |
| Economic Initiative Reserve         | (0.032)                       | -                          | (0.029)                   | (0.061)                        | 0.042                      | -                         | (0.019)                        |
| IFCA                                | (0.060)                       | -                          | (0.136)                   | (0.196)                        | -                          | (0.082)                   | (0.278)                        |
| Public Health                       | (0.052)                       | 0.052                      | -                         | (0.000)                        | -                          | -                         | (0.000)                        |
| Housing Reserve                     | (0.342)                       | -                          | (0.127)                   | (0.469)                        | 0.171                      | -                         | (0.298)                        |
| Local Plan Reserve                  | (0.103)                       | 0.005                      | -                         | (0.098)                        | 0.014                      | -                         | (0.084)                        |
| Collection Fund Volatility Reserve  | (0.551)                       | 0.491                      | -                         | (0.060)                        | 0.060                      | -                         | (0.000)                        |
| Park House Equalisation Reserve     | (0.400)                       | -                          | (0.130)                   | (0.530)                        | 0.365                      | -                         | (0.165)                        |
| Community Chest Reserve             | (0.004)                       | -                          | -                         | (0.004)                        | -                          | -                         | (0.004)                        |
| Investment & Infrastructure Reserve | (0.200)                       | -                          | (0.125)                   | (0.325)                        | 0.136                      | -                         | (0.189)                        |
| Biodiversity Reserve                | -                             | -                          | (0.047)                   | (0.047)                        | 0.002                      | -                         | (0.045)                        |
| Hardship Reserve                    | -                             | -                          | (0.020)                   | (0.020)                        | -                          | -                         | (0.020)                        |
| IT Reserve                          | -                             | -                          | (0.050)                   | (0.050)                        | -                          | -                         | (0.050)                        |
| Revenue Grants Unapplied            | (0.363)                       | 0.130                      | -                         | (0.233)                        | 0.118                      | -                         | (0.115)                        |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>(2.350)</b>                | <b>0.735</b>               | <b>(0.664)</b>            | <b>(2.279)</b>                 | <b>1.041</b>               | <b>(0.082)</b>            | <b>(1.320)</b>                 |

## Note 11 Other Operating Expenditure

|  | 31 March 2024<br>£m | 31 March 2023<br>£m |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| (Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets | 1.099               | 0.447               |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1.099</b>        | <b>0.447</b>        |

## Note 12 Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

|   | 31 March 2024<br>£m | 31 March 2023<br>£m |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Interest payable and similar charges                      | 0.035               | 0.037               |
| Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) | 0.202               | 0.435               |
| Interest receivable and similar income                    | (0.128)             | (0.020)             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>0.109</b>        | <b>0.452</b>        |

## Note 13 Total Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income

|   | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Council tax income                        | (1.807)                | (1.697)                |
| Non-domestic rates income and expenditure | (1.282)                | (0.707)                |
| Non ringfenced government grants          | (3.088)                | (3.144)                |
| Capital grants and contributions          | (1.450)                | (1.150)                |
| Collection Fund (surplus)/deficit         | (0.118)                | (0.603)                |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>(7.745)</b>         | <b>(7.301)</b>         |

## Note 14 Property, Plant and Equipment

\* In accordance with the Temporary Relief offered by the Update to the Code on infrastructure assets this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements. The Council continues to maintain that information and does not consider that the non-disclosure will detrimentally impact on readers of the Council's accounts and their understanding of the Council's financial position. The Council's reported position of its assets in the Balance Sheet remains unchanged.

| Movements on Balances 2023/24  | Council<br>Dwellings<br>£m | Other<br>Land and<br>Buildings<br>£m | Vehicles,<br>Plant,<br>Furniture,<br>Equipment<br>£m | Comm-<br>unity<br>Assets<br>£m | Assets<br>Under<br>Con-<br>struction<br>£m | Property,<br>Plant and<br>Equipment<br>£m | Infra-<br>structure<br>Assets<br>£m | Total<br>Property,<br>Plant and<br>Equipment<br>£m |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Cost or Valuation</b>   |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| <b>At 1 April 2023</b>   | 10.785                     | 13.674                               | 4.707  | 0.054                          | 0.293                                      | 29.513                                    | -                                   | 29.513   |
| Additions  | 0.303                      | 0.677                                | 0.307  | -                              | 1.633                                      | 2.920                                     | 0.031                               | 2.951  |
| Accumulated Depreciation written out to Gross Carrying Amount after Revaluation                  | (0.315)                    | (0.493)                              | -  | -                              | -  | (0.808)                                   | -                                   | (0.808)  |
| Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve                          | 0.155                      | 2.601                                | -  | -                              | -  | 2.756                                     | -                                   | 2.756  |
| Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the surplus/deficit on the Provision of Services | 0.443                      | 0.354                                | -  | -                              | -  | 0.797                                     | -                                   | 0.797  |
| Derecognition - disposals  | (0.143)                    | -                                    | (1.381)  | -                              | -  | (1.524)                                   | -                                   | (1.524)  |
| Assets reclassified to/(from) Other Categories   | 0.004                      | (0.579)                              | 0.170  | -                              | 0.394                                      | (0.011)                                   | 0.011                               | -  |
| <b>At 31 March 2024</b>  | 11.232                     | 16.234                               | 3.803  | 0.054                          | 2.320                                      | 33.643                                    | -                                   | 33.643   |
| <b>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment</b>   |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| <b>At 1 April 2023</b>   | -                          | -                                    | (2.626)  | -                              | -  | (2.626)                                   | -                                   | (2.626)  |
| Depreciation charge  | (0.318)                    | (0.493)                              | (0.264)  | -                              | -  | (1.075)                                   | (0.317)                             | (1.392)  |
| Accumulated Depreciation written out to Gross Carrying Amount after Revaluation                  | 0.315                      | 0.493                                | -  | -                              | -  | 0.808                                     | -                                   | 0.808  |
| Derecognition - disposals  | 0.003                      | -                                    | 0.208  | -                              | -  | 0.211                                     | -                                   | 0.211  |
| <b>At 31 March 2024</b>  | -                          | -                                    | (2.682)  | -                              | -  | (2.682)                                   | -                                   | (2.682)  |
| <b>Net Book Value</b>  |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| at 31 March 2024   | 11.232                     | 16.234                               | 1.121  | 0.054                          | 2.320                                      | 30.961                                    | 6.272                               | 37.233   |
| at 1 April 2023  | 10.785                     | 13.674                               | 2.081  | 0.054                          | 0.293                                      | 26.887                                    | 6.546                               | 33.433   |

| Restated<br>Movements on Balances 2022/23  | Council<br>Dwellings<br>£m | Other<br>Land and<br>Buildings<br>£m | Vehicles,<br>Plant,<br>Furniture,<br>Equipment<br>£m | Comm-<br>unity<br>Assets<br>£m | Assets<br>Under<br>Con-<br>struction<br>£m | Property,<br>Plant and<br>Equipment<br>£m | Infra-<br>structure<br>Assets<br>£m | Total<br>Property,<br>Plant and<br>Equipment<br>£m |
|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Cost or Valuation</b>   |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| <b>At 1 April 2022</b>   | 10.465                     | 12.391                               | 4.544  | 0.054                          | 0.613                                      | 28.067                                    | -                                   | 28.067   |
| Additions  | 0.112                      | 0.477                                | 0.275  | -                              | 0.135                                      | 0.999                                     | 0.016                               | 1.015  |
| Accumulated Depreciation written out to Gross Carrying Amount after Revaluation                  | (0.275)                    | (0.447)                              | -  | -                              | -  | (0.722)                                   | -                                   | (0.722)  |
| Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve                          | 0.089                      | 1.261                                | -  | -                              | -  | 1.350                                     | -                                   | 1.350  |
| Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the surplus/deficit on the Provision of Services | 0.394                      | (0.013)                              | -  | -                              | -  | 0.381                                     | -                                   | 0.381  |
| Derecognition - disposals  | -                          | (0.450)                              | (0.112)  | -                              | -  | (0.562)                                   | -                                   | (0.562)  |
| Derecognition - other  | -                          | -                                    | -  | -                              | -  | -   | -                                   | -  |
| Assets reclassified to/(from) Other Categories   | -                          | 0.455                                | -  | -                              | (0.455)                                    | -   | -                                   | -  |
| <b>At 31 March 2023</b>  | 10.785                     | 13.674                               | 4.707  | 0.054                          | 0.293                                      | 29.513                                    | -                                   | 29.513   |
| <b>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment</b>   |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| <b>At 1 April 2022</b>   | -                          | -                                    | (2.424)  | -                              | -  | (2.424)                                   | -                                   | (2.424)  |
| Depreciation charge  | (0.275)                    | (0.447)                              | (0.273)  | -                              | -  | (0.995)                                   | (0.321)                             | (1.316)  |
| Accumulated Depreciation written out to Gross Carrying Amount after Revaluation                  | 0.275                      | 0.447                                | -  | -                              | -  | 0.722                                     | -                                   | 0.722  |
| Derecognition - disposals  | -                          | -                                    | 0.071  | -                              | -  | 0.071                                     | -                                   | 0.071  |
| <b>At 31 March 2023</b>  | -                          | -                                    | (2.626)  | -                              | -  | (2.626)                                   | -                                   | (2.626)  |
| <b>Net Book Value</b>  |                            |                                      |  |                                |  |   |                                     |  |
| at 31 March 2023   | 10.785                     | 13.674                               | 2.081  | 0.054                          | 0.293                                      | 26.887                                    | 6.546                               | 33.433   |
| at 1 April 2022  | 10.465                     | 12.391                               | 2.120  | 0.054                          | 0.613                                      | 25.643                                    | 6.851                               | 32.494   |

## 14.1 Depreciation

The following useful lives and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

- Council Dwellings - 30 years.
- Vehicles, Plant & Equipment - 1 to 25 years.
- Other Land and Buildings - 1 to 30 years .
- Infrastructure - 10 to 40 years.

## 14.2 Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2024 there was one capital scheme contract in place for over £0.05m This was for the Park House Refurbishment Scheme of £0.241m.

## 14.3 Effects of Changes in Estimates

In 2023/24 the Council made no material changes to its accounting estimates for property, plant & equipment.

## 14.4 Revaluation

During 2023/24 all council dwellings were revalued and all required land and building assets were revalued. Other assets are carried at carrying value. All valuations were carried out by External Valuers, Cornwall Council's Senior Technical Surveyor in accordance with the required practice, methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors. They were all completed as at the 31st March 2024.

The property, plant & equipment revaluation resulted in a net increase in net book value of £2.506m. The revaluation reserve increased by £1.529m to reflect the part of the upward revaluation and a reduction was made to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement of £0.797m to reverse previous charges for downward revaluations. 93% of the portfolio was revalued during the year.

#### 14.5 Accounting for Infrastructure Assets

In 2022 a national issue in respect of accounting for infrastructure assets emerged. This highlighted a risk that where authorities have incurred expenditure on the replacement or enhancement of existing infrastructure assets, they may not readily be able to identify the original assets being replaced or enhanced.

This could result in an overstatement of both gross book values and accumulated depreciation, and potentially also net book values where assets lives have not been assessed regularly and on an appropriate basis.

Following discussions with auditors and formal consultation exercises the following key updates have been made to address this issue:

- on 29 November 2022 CIPFA issued a Code update which removed the requirement for the disclosure of gross cost and gross accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets;
- on 30 November the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities issued an update to the Capital Finance and Accounting Regulations for England via a Statutory Instrument (SI) which became effective on 25 December 2022. The SI included two key elements:
  - a local authority is not required to make any prior period adjustments (PPAs) in respect of infrastructure assets; and
  - where a local authority replaces a component of an infrastructure asset the carrying amount to be derecognised can be determined as nil or calculated in accordance with normal accounting practices specified in the CIPFA Code.

On 11 January 2023 CIPFA issued a bulletin to accompany the changes to the Code and the publication of the SI referred to above. This bulletin was issued to explain the impact of the changes and to provide practical examples which can be used by Local Authorities.

Note 14 of the financial statements (Property, Plant and Equipment) excludes cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets. The Net Book Value (the figure on the balance sheet) is unaffected.

#### Note 15 Heritage Assets

|                          | Total Assets<br>£m |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Cost or Valuation</b> |                    |
| 1 April 2022             | 0.117              |
| Additions                | -                  |
| <b>31 March 2023</b>     | <b>0.117</b>       |
| <b>Cost or Valuation</b> |                    |
| 1 April 2023             | 0.117              |
| Additions                | -                  |
| <b>31 March 2024</b>     | <b>0.117</b>       |

The Council's collection of historical assets is valued in the Balance Sheet at insurance valuation, which is based on market values. These insurance valuations are updated regularly. The collection of historical assets includes a pair of 18-inch library globes made by J. Cary, London, two antique chairs, a George I coat of arms, the Chairman's regalia, a collection of rifles, pistols and swords, a clock mechanism obtained from St Mary's Church, various framed and mounted Council Emblems, a framed copy of the 335 year war cessation treaty with the Netherlands and a Bronze Bust of Mahatma Gandhi gifted by the Jamnalal Bajaj Foundation, India.

There have been no additions or disposals of heritage assets in year (£Nil – 2022/23).

## Note 16 Financial Instruments

### 16.1 Categories of Financial Instrument

A financial instrument is a contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity. Non-exchange transactions, such as those relating to taxes and government grants, do not give rise to financial instruments.

The following categories of financial instruments are carried in the Balance Sheet:

|  | Long-term              |                       | Current                |                       | Total                  |                       |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|  | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 1 April<br>2023<br>£m | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 1 April<br>2023<br>£m | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 1 April<br>2023<br>£m |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                            |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Debtors</b>                                     |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Amortised cost</b>                              |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| Loans and receivables - debtors                    | 0.052                  | 0.058                 | -                      | -                     | 0.052                  | 0.058                 |
| Financial assets carried at contract amounts       | -                      | -                     | 1.415                  | 2.721                 | 1.415                  | 2.721                 |
| Statutory debtors~                                 | -                      | -                     | 0.077                  | 0.065                 | 0.077                  | 0.065                 |
| Non-Financial instrument debtors*                  | -                      | -                     | 0.250                  | 0.158                 | 0.250                  | 0.158                 |
| <b>Total included in Debtors</b>                   | <b>0.052</b>           | <b>0.058</b>          | <b>1.742</b>           | <b>2.944</b>          | <b>1.794</b>           | <b>3.002</b>          |
| <b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>                   |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Amortised cost</b>                              |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| Other bank balances                                | -                      | -                     | 1.328                  | 3.100                 | 1.328                  | 3.100                 |
| <b>Fair value through profit or loss</b>           |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| Short Term cash investments                        | -                      | -                     | 5.500                  | 3.000                 | 5.500                  | 3.000                 |
| <b>Total Cash and cash equivalents</b>             | <b>-</b>               | <b>-</b>              | <b>6.828</b>           | <b>6.100</b>          | <b>6.828</b>           | <b>6.100</b>          |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Borrowings</b>                                  |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Amortised cost</b>                              |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| Financial liabilities at amortised cost - treasury | (1.750)                | (1.750)               | -                      | (0.250)               | (1.750)                | (2.000)               |
| <b>Total included in borrowings</b>                | <b>(1.750)</b>         | <b>(1.750)</b>        | <b>-</b>               | <b>(0.250)</b>        | <b>(1.750)</b>         | <b>(2.000)</b>        |
| <b>Creditors</b>                                   |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| <b>Amortised cost</b>                              |                        |                       |                        |                       |                        |                       |
| Financial liabilities carried at contract amounts  | -                      | -                     | (2.736)                | (4.760)               | (2.736)                | (4.760)               |
| Statutory creditors~                               | -                      | -                     | (0.213)                | (0.203)               | (0.213)                | (0.203)               |
| <b>Total Creditors</b>                             | <b>-</b>               | <b>-</b>              | <b>(2.949)</b>         | <b>(4.963)</b>        | <b>(2.949)</b>         | <b>(4.963)</b>        |

~ the statutory debtors and creditors amounts are not financial instruments but are included to enable to match back to the balance sheet for completeness.

\* Payments in advance are a non financial instrument and have been moved to the appropriate line

Instruments which have an option for premature redemption have been categorised according to their final maturity date, rather than assumptions being made regarding the likelihood for premature redemption.

## 16.2 Fair Values of Assets & Liabilities

The financial liabilities and assets disclosed in the Balance Sheet are made up of the following categories of Financial Instruments.

|  | 31 March 2024         |                  | 1 April 2023          |                  |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|  | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m |
| <b>Financial Assets</b>                                |                       |                  |                       |                  |
| Loans and receivables held at amortised cost - debtors | 0.052                 | 0.052            | 0.058                 | 0.058            |
| Investment   | 5.500                 | 5.500            | 3.000                 | 3.000            |

The Council has a Short Term Investment with CCLA which is classed as Level 1 in the fair value hierarchy. On 31st March 2024 the mid market value of one unit in the fund share class was 100.00 pence. The bid market value of one unit in the fund was 100.00 pence.

|   | 31 March 2024         |                  | 1 April 2023          |                  |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|   | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>                            |                       |                  |                       |                  |
| Financial liabilities held at amortised cost - treasury | (1.750)               | (1.159)          | (2.000)               | (1.456)          |

The fair value of borrowing is lower than the carrying amount which reflects the fact that the rate of interest on the loans is lower than the prevailing rates for similar instruments as at the balance sheet date.

Short term debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value.

As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 the Council holds five loans with the PWLB at various interest rates ranging from 1.80% to 2.22%.

The fair value of these loans is lower than their carrying value to reflect that the interest on the loans is higher than the prevailing rates for similar instruments. The fair value of all creditors is taken to be the invoiced amount.

## Income, Expenses, Gains and Losses

The income, expense, gains and losses recognised in the comprehensive income and expenditure statement in relation to financial instruments are made up as follows:



| Income, Expense, Gains and Losses           | 2023/24   |  | 2022/23   |  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
|   | Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services<br>£m | Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure<br>£m | Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services<br>£m | Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure<br>£m |
| Interest revenue:                           |   |  |   |  |
| Financial assets measured at amortised cost | 0.121   | -  | 0.012   | -  |
| <b>Total interest revenue</b>               | <b>0.121</b>  | <b>-</b>   | <b>0.012</b>  | <b>-</b>   |
| <b>Interest Expense</b>                     | <b>0.037</b>  | <b>-</b>   | <b>0.037</b>  | <b>-</b>   |

The valuation of Financial Instruments can be classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values:

Level 1: **Quoted Prices** - where fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (quoted equities, quoted fixed securities, quoted index linked securities and unit trusts). Listed investments shown at bid prices. The bid value of the investment is based on the market quotation of the relevant stock exchange.

Level 2: **Inputs other than Quoted prices** - where market prices are not available, for example, where an instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active or where the valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data.

Level 3: **Observable inputs** – where there is at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation and where that input is not based on observable market data. Such instruments would include unquoted equity investments and hedge funds, neither of which the Council currently invests in.

The following table provides an analysis of the financial assets and liabilities grouped into the level at which fair value is observable:

|   | 31 March 2024         |                  | 1 April 2023          |                  |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|   | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m | Carrying Amount<br>£m | Fair Value<br>£m |
| <b>Financial Liabilities</b>                            |                       |                  |                       |                  |
| Financial liabilities held at amortised cost - treasury | (1.750)               | (1.294)          | (2.000)               | (1.456)          |

There were no transfers between input levels during the year and there has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year.

## Note 17 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council.
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments.
- Market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates.

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by the Finance Team, under policies approved by the Council in the annual Treasury Management Strategy.

### 17.1 Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers.

The risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy which required that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria.

Customers for goods and services are generally not credit assessed as the Council has no choice as to whom services are generally supplied. However, for small exchange transactions payment in advance is required.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments with Lloyds Bank and CCLA, which is a charitable fund manager, has been assessed as minimal.

### 17.2 Amounts Arising from Expected Credit Losses

Credit risk in relation to treasury investments is considered very low and there have been no defaults within the year or impairments. The reason is due to we only have one investment with CCLA, which is a charitable fund manager and all other cash deposits are held in liquid bank accounts with reputable financial institutions.

The credit quality of debtors is reflected in the level of bad debt provision allowed for, the Council has short term debtor amount of £1.347m (£2.678m 2022/23) and long term debtors of £0.052 (£0.058m 2022/23, with an impairment allowance of £0.299m (£0.267m 2022/23).

### 17.3 Credit Risk Exposure

The authority has the following exposure to credit risk at 31 March 2024.

|                                       | <b>Credit<br/>risk<br/>rating<br/>£m</b> | <b>Gross<br/>carrying<br/>amount<br/>£m</b> |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|
| 12 month expected credit losses       |  |   |
| Loans and receivables - treasury CCLA | AAA                                      | 5.500                                       |
| Simplified approach                   |  |   |
| Loans and receivables - debtors       | n/a                                      | 0.052                                       |
| Short term debtors                    | n/a                                      | 1.742                                       |
| Shor                                  |  |   |
| Other bank balances                   | n/a                                      | 1.328                                       |

The Authority has one Investment with CCLA which has a AAA rating, and a simplified approach was used for the debtor financial assets, with each asset class being reviewed, short term debtors contains a bad debt provision, which amounts to £0.299m.

## 17.4 Liquidity Risk

The Council manages its cash flow to ensure that cash is available as needed. If unexpected movements happen, the Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets and the Public Works Loans Board. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments. Instead the risk is that the Council will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Council sets limits on the proportion of its fixed rate borrowing during specified periods. The strategy is to ensure that loans do not all mature within any rolling three-year period through a combination of careful planning of new loans taken out and, where it is economic to do so, making early repayments.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

|                                | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Less than one year             | -                               | (0.250)                         |
| Between two and five years     | (0.500)                         | -                               |
| Between five and ten years     | (0.250)                         | (0.500)                         |
| Between ten and twenty years   | (0.250)                         | (0.500)                         |
| Between twenty and fifty years | (0.750)                         | (0.750)                         |
|                                | <b>(1.750)</b>                  | <b>(2.000)</b>                  |

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year.

## 17.5 Market Risk

The Council is exposed to market risk in terms of its exposure to fluctuations in the value of an instrument as a result of changes in:

- Interest rate risk;
- Price risk; and/or
- Foreign exchange rate risk.

### 17.5.1 Interest Rate Risk

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council. For instance, a rise in interest rates could have the following effects:

- Borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise;
- Borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the liabilities will fall;
- Investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise;
- Investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.
- Investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the surplus or deficit on the provision of services will rise.

However, the Council only has a small portfolio of PWLB loans and all are at fixed rates. Borrowings are not carried at fair value, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

### 17.5.2 Price Risk

The Council does not currently invest in this type of investment and therefore is not exposed to the risk of investment prices rising or falling.

### 17.5.3 Foreign Exchange Risk

The Council does not undertake any significant financial transactions, nor has any financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and thus has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

## Note 18 Inventories

|  | Consumable     |               | Maintenance    |               | Total          |               |
|--|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
|  | Stores         |               | Materials      |               |                |               |
|  | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m |
| Balance outstanding at start of year   | <b>0.013</b>   | 0.006         | <b>0.018</b>   | 0.026         | <b>0.031</b>   | 0.032         |
| Purchases                              | <b>0.053</b>   | 0.046         | <b>0.051</b>   | 0.045         | <b>0.104</b>   | 0.091         |
| Recognised as an expense in the year   | <b>(0.050)</b> | (0.039)       | <b>(0.049)</b> | (0.053)       | <b>(0.099)</b> | (0.092)       |
| <b>Balance outstanding at year end</b> | <b>0.016</b>   | 0.013         | <b>0.020</b>   | 0.018         | <b>0.036</b>   | 0.031         |

## Note 19 Debtors

|                            | Current                |                        | Long Term              |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|                            | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
|                            | Trade Receivables      | 0.945                  | 2.316                  | -                      |
| Prepayments                | 0.250                  | 0.158                  | -                      | -                      |
| Debtors for Local Taxation | 0.070                  | 0.069                  | -                      | -                      |
| Other Receivable Amounts   | 0.477                  | 0.401                  | 0.052                  | 0.058                  |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>1.742</b>           | <b>2.944</b>           | <b>0.052</b>           | <b>0.058</b>           |

**Debtors for Local Taxation****Council Tax****NNDR**

|                        | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Less than three months | 0.001                           | 0.003                           | -                               | -                               |
| Three to six months    | 0.001                           | 0.003                           | -                               | 0.001                           |
| Six months to one year | 0.053                           | 0.043                           | 0.002                           | 0.002                           |
| More than one year     | 0.079                           | 0.069                           | 0.046                           | 0.038                           |
| <b>Total</b>           | <b>0.134</b>                    | <b>0.118</b>                    | <b>0.048</b>                    | <b>0.041</b>                    |

To offset the debt a bad debt provision of £0.074m for Council Tax and £0.040m for NNDR has been provided for.

**Note 20 Cash and Cash Equivalents**

|  | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Cash/(Overdraft) held by the Council   | 1.328                           | 3.100                           |
| <b>Total Cash and Cash Equivalents</b> | <b>1.328</b>                    | <b>3.100</b>                    |

**Note 21 Creditors**

|                     | <b>Current</b>                  |                                 | <b>Long Term</b>                |                                 |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|                     | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> |
| Trade Payables      | (0.893)                         | (1.618)                         | -                               | -                               |
| Receipts in Advance | (0.024)                         | (1.494)                         | -                               | -                               |
| Other Payables      | (2.032)                         | (1.851)                         | -                               | -                               |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>(2.949)</b>                  | <b>(4.963)</b>                  | <b>-</b>                        | <b>-</b>                        |

## Note 22 Provisions

|                                    | National<br>Non<br>Domestic<br>Rates<br>Appeals<br>£m | Total Long<br>Term<br>Provisions<br>£m |
|------------------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Balance as at 1 April 2023</b>  | (0.107)   | (0.107)                                |
| Reduced provisions made in year    | 0.085   | 0.085                                  |
| <b>Balance as at 31 March 2024</b> | <b>(0.022)</b>  | <b>(0.022)</b>                         |

## Note 23 Contingent Liabilities

The Council has one Contingent Liabilities.

The Council provides the Isles of Scilly Museum association with a building under a long lease to deliver a museum service to the community and visitors. The existing building has had to be closed due to major structural issues and is no longer operational. The Council has an obligation under the lease to provide a building, currently a short term solution is being provided albeit it is a reduced offering. A new cultural centre and museum is beginning construction in 2024 which will house the museum activity and deliver the Councils liability, once this happens the old Museum association will surrender the lease but until then the existing lease is still valid.

## Note 24 Usable Reserves

The Council maintains the following usable reserves within its Balance Sheet:

|  | 31 March<br>2024 |                | 31 March<br>2023 |                |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|  | £m               | £m             | £m               | £m             |
| General Fund Balance                       |                  | (2.533)        |                  | (3.175)        |
| Other usable reserves                      |                  |                |                  |                |
| Earmarked General Fund Reserves            | (0.907)          |                | (1.577)          |                |
| Earmarked Revenue Grants Unapplied Reserve | (0.115)          |                | (0.233)          |                |
| Earmarked Housing Reserves                 | (0.298)          |                | (0.469)          |                |
| Capital Receipts Reserve                   | (0.371)          |                | (0.570)          |                |
| Capital Grants Reserve                     | (2.303)          |                | (2.086)          |                |
| <b>Total other usable reserves</b>         |                  | <b>(3.994)</b> |                  | <b>(4.935)</b> |
| <b>Total Usable Reserves</b>               |                  | <b>(6.527)</b> |                  | <b>(8.110)</b> |

Movements in the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the MiRS.

## Note 25 Unusable Reserves

|                                    | <b>31 March<br/>2024</b> | <b>Restated<br/>31 March<br/>2023</b> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                                    | <b>£m</b>                | <b>£m</b>                             |
| Revaluation Reserve                | (9.005)                  | (6.456)                               |
| Capital Adjustment Account         | (20.701)                 | (19.958)                              |
| Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve  | (0.069)                  | (0.073)                               |
| Pensions Reserve                   | 3.702                    | 4.273                                 |
| Collection Fund Adjustment Account | (0.048)                  | 0.070                                 |
| Accumulated Absences Account       | 0.065                    | 0.079                                 |
| <b>Total Unusable Reserves</b>     | <b>(26.056)</b>          | <b>(22.065)</b>                       |

### 25.1 Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost; or
- 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.

| <b>Revaluation Reserve</b>  | <b>2023/24</b> | <b>Restated<br/>2022/23</b> |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------|
|   | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>                   |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>   |                | <b>(6.456)</b>              |
| Upward revaluation of assets  | (3.334)        | (1.526)                     |
| Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the (Surplus) or deficit on the provision of services     | 0.578          | 0.176                       |
| (Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the (Surplus) or deficit on the provision of services |                | <b>(2.756)</b>              |
| Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation   | 0.201          | 0.136                       |
| Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped  | 0.006          | 0.117                       |
| Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account  |                | <b>0.207</b>                |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>  |                | <b>(9.005)</b>              |

### 25.2 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 as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the CIES (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 contains accumulated gains and losses on investment properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council.

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.

The table below provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

| <b>Capital Adjustment Account</b>  | <b>2023/24</b> |                 | <b>Restated</b> |
|--|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|  | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>       | <b>2022/23</b>  |
|  |                |                 | <b>£m</b>       |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>  |                | <b>(19.958)</b> | <b>(20.438)</b> |
| Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:                               |                |                 |                 |
| Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets  | 1.392          |                 | 1.316           |
| Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment  | (0.797)        |                 | (0.381)         |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute  | 4.487          |                 | 4.360           |
| Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the (gain)/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement | 1.313          |                 | 0.490           |
|  |                | <b>6.395</b>    | <b>5.785</b>    |
| Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve   |                | (0.207)         | (0.253)         |
| <b>Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year</b>   |                | <b>6.188</b>    | <b>5.532</b>    |
| Capital financing applied in the year:   |                |                 |                 |
| Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure   | (0.413)        |                 | (0.201)         |
| Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing                | (4.483)        |                 | (4.426)         |
| Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account   | (1.207)        |                 | (0.207)         |
| Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund   | (0.204)        |                 | (0.191)         |
| Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund   | (0.625)        |                 | (0.027)         |
| Other  | 0.001          |                 | -               |
|  |                | <b>(6.931)</b>  | <b>(5.052)</b>  |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>   |                | <b>(20.701)</b> | <b>(19.958)</b> |



### 25.3 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 authority 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.

| <b>Deferred Capital Receipts Account</b>                                   | <b>2023/24</b> |              | <b>2022/23</b> |
|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|  | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>    | <b>£m</b>      |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>  |                | <b>0.073</b> | <b>0.083</b>   |
| Lease receipts for leases that became finance leases on transition to IFRS | (0.004)        |              | (0.010)        |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>   |                | <b>0.069</b> | <b>0.073</b>   |

### 25.4 Pensions Reserve – Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)

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 CIES 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 pay 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.

| <b>Pensions Reserve</b>  | <b>2023/24</b> |              | <b>2022/23</b> |
|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|  | <b>£m</b>      |              | <b>£m</b>      |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>  |                | <b>4.273</b> | <b>15.384</b>  |
| Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability  |                | (0.723)      | (12.459)       |
| Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the (Surplus) or deficit on the provision of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement |                | 1.130        | 2.256          |
| Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year  |                | (0.978)      | (0.908)        |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>   |                | <b>3.702</b> | <b>4.273</b>   |

## 25.5 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 CIES as it falls due from Council Tax payers, compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

| <b>Collection Fund Adjustment Account</b>   | <b>2023/24</b> | <b>2022/23</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>      |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>   | <b>0.070</b>   | <b>0.673</b>   |
| Amount by which council tax and national non domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax and non domestic rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements | (0.118)        | (0.603)        |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>  | <b>(0.048)</b> | <b>0.070</b>   |

## 25.6 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. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

| <b>Accumulated Absences Account</b>   | <b>2023/24</b> |              | <b>2022/23</b> |
|---|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|   | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>    | <b>£m</b>      |
| <b>Balance at 1 April</b>   |                | <b>0.079</b> | <b>0.063</b>   |
| Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year   | (0.079)        |              | (0.063)        |
| Amounts accrued at the end of the current year  | 0.065          |              | 0.079          |
| 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 |                | (0.014)      | 0.016          |
| <b>Balance at 31 March</b>  |                | <b>0.065</b> | <b>0.079</b>   |

## Note 26 Cash flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

|   | <b>2023/24</b> | <b>2022/23</b> |
|---|----------------|----------------|
|   | <b>£m</b>      | <b>£m</b>      |
| Interest received                               | (0.128)        | (0.023)        |
| Interest paid                                   | 0.035          | 0.037          |
| <b>Net cash flows from operating activities</b> | <b>(0.093)</b> | <b>0.014</b>   |

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following non-cash movements:

|   | 2023/24<br>£m  | Restated<br>2022/23<br>£m |
|---|----------------|---------------------------|
| Depreciation and impairment   | (1.392)        | (1.316)                   |
| Upward/(downward) valuations  | 0.797          | 0.381                     |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors  | 0.739          | (0.190)                   |
| Increase/(decrease) in debtors  | 0.139          | (1.062)                   |
| Increase/(decrease) in inventories  | 0.005          | (0.001)                   |
| Movement in pension liability   | (0.152)        | (1.348)                   |
| Contributions to/(from) provisions  | -              | 0.112                     |
| Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or de-recognised | (1.313)        | (0.490)                   |
| Other non-cash items charged to the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services           | 0.079          | (0.006)                   |
| <b>Adjustment to net cash flows from operating activities</b>                                     | <b>(1.098)</b> | <b>(3.920)</b>            |

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing and financing activities:

|  | 2023/24<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Capital grants credited to (surplus)/deficit on the provision of services                          | 5.908         | 5.260         |
| Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets | 0.214         | 0.044         |
| <b>Adjustment to net cash flows from operating activities</b>                                      | <b>6.122</b>  | <b>5.304</b>  |

## Note 27 Cash Flow Statement - Investing Activities

|  | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m  |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets               | 3.087          | 0.498          |
| Purchase of short-term and long-term investments   | 2.500          | 3.000          |
| Other receipts from investing activities   | (10.006)       | (3.874)        |
| Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets | (0.214)        | (0.044)        |
| <b>Net cash flows from investing activities</b>  | <b>(4.633)</b> | <b>(0.420)</b> |

## Note 28 Cash Flow Statement - Financing Activities

|   | 2023/24<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m  |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| Other (receipts)/payments from financing activities | 0.060         | (0.012)        |
| Repayments of short and long-term borrowing         | 0.250         | -              |
| <b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>     | <b>0.310</b>  | <b>(0.012)</b> |

## Note 29 Cash Flow Statement – Reconciliation of Liabilities arising from Financing Activities

|  | 2022/23<br>31st March<br>£m | Financing<br>cash flows<br>£m | Non-cash changes  |                                     | 2023/24<br>31st March<br>£m |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  |                             |                               | Acquisition<br>£m | Other non-<br>cash<br>changes<br>£m |                             |
| Long-term borrowings                               | (1.750)                     | -                             | -                 | -                                   | (1.750)                     |
| Short-term borrowings                              | (0.250)                     | 0.250                         | -                 | -                                   | -                           |
| <b>Total liabilities from financing activities</b> | <b>(2.000)</b>              | <b>0.250</b>                  | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>                            | <b>(1.750)</b>              |

|  | 2021/22<br>31st March<br>£m | Financing<br>cash flows<br>£m | Non-cash changes  |                                     | 2022/23<br>31st March<br>£m |
|--|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
|  |                             |                               | Acquisition<br>£m | Other non-<br>cash<br>changes<br>£m |                             |
| Long-term borrowings                               | (1.750)                     | -                             | -                 | -                                   | (1.750)                     |
| Short-term borrowings                              | (0.250)                     | -                             | -                 | -                                   | (0.250)                     |
| <b>Total liabilities from financing activities</b> | <b>(2.000)</b>              | <b>-</b>                      | <b>-</b>          | <b>-</b>                            | <b>(2.000)</b>              |

## Note 30 Members' Allowances

The total amount of allowances and expenses paid to Members during the year was £0.169m (£0.154m -2022/23).

## Note 31 Officers' Remuneration

The number of employees, whose emoluments (excluding pension contributions) were £50,000 or more were:

| Remuneration Bands (£): |         | Number of Employees |           |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------------|-----------|
| From                    | To      | 2023/24             | 2022/23   |
| 50,000                  | 54,999  | 6                   | 5         |
| 55,000                  | 59,999  | 2                   | 3         |
| 60,000                  | 64,999  | 4                   | 3         |
| 65,000                  | 69,999  | 2                   | 1         |
| 70,000                  | 74,999  | 1                   | 2         |
| 75,000                  | 79,999  | -                   | 2         |
| 80,000                  | 84,999  | 1                   | -         |
| 85,000                  | 89,999  | -                   | -         |
| 90,000                  | 94,999  | 2                   | -         |
| 95,000                  | 99,999  | 1                   | -         |
| 100,000                 | 104,999 | -                   | 1         |
|                         |         | <b>19</b>           | <b>17</b> |

Note that, consistent with the approach taken in prior years this table includes senior employees also included in the next table.

The Council has classified the following posts as Senior Posts in place during the year in line with the disclosure requirements:

|   |         | Salary,<br>Fees and<br>Allowances<br>£ | Pension<br>Contribution<br>£ | Total<br>£ |
|---|---------|--|------------------------------|------------|
| Chief Executive*                                  | 2023/24 | 133,869                                | 23,764                       | 157,633    |
|   | 2022/23 | 103,958                                | 17,632                       | 121,590    |
| Senior Manager: Place, Economy & Environment      | 2023/24 | 82,373                                 | 15,651                       | 98,024     |
|   | 2022/23 | 79,587                                 | 14,007                       | 93,594     |
| Senior Manager: People & Communities <sup>2</sup> | 2023/24 | 53,011                                 | 4,207                        | 57,218     |
|   | 2022/23 | 79,587                                 | 14,007                       | 93,594     |
| Head of Adult Social Care                         | 2023/24 | 67,755                                 | 12,874                       | 80,629     |
|   | 2022/23 | -                                      | -                            | -          |
| Chief Fire Officer <sup>3</sup>                   | 2023/24 | 23,680                                 | 4,499                        | 28,179     |
|   | 2022/23 | 4,670                                  | 822                          | 5,492      |

#### Notes

\*Chief Executive left on the 31/12/2023 and was replaced on the 12/01/2024, they have also taken over the role of Chief Finance Officer from that date.

<sup>2</sup>Senior Manager: People & Communities left on the 07/07/2023 and has not yet been replaced.

<sup>3</sup>Chief Fire Officer - A collaborative agreement commenced 01/07/2016 which saw the Chief Fire Officer of Cornwall Council appointed as the Chief Fire Officer for both Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Rescue Services. This agreement ceased on the 19th January 2023 when the Council of the Isles of Scilly recruited their own Chief Fire Officer.

Director of Public Health - the Officer is based in Cornwall and employed by Cornwall Council. The Council of the IOS contribute towards the Director of Public Health's salary based on services provided. The remuneration for the Director of Public Health is published in the Cornwall Council Statement of Accounts 2022/24.

Chief Finance Officer - the Officer was based in Cornwall and employed by Cornwall Council until the 12/01/2024, the new Chief Executive of the Council of the Isles of Scilly has now taken over this role

The Council incurred costs during 2023/24 relating to employee exit packages as shown below:

| Exit package cost band<br>(including special payments) | (c)                               |          | Total number of exit packages by cost band |          | Total cost of exit packages in each band |          |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------|--|----------|--|----------|
|  | Number of other departures agreed |          |  |          | £  |          |
|  | 2023/24                           | 2022/23  | 2023/24                                    | 2022/23  | 2023/24                                  | 2022/23  |
| £0- £20,000  | 1                                 | -        | 1  | -        | 2,000                                    | -        |
| £20,000- £25,000                                       | 1                                 | -        | 1  | -        | 24,740                                   | -        |
| <b>Total cost included in bandings and CIES</b>        | <b>2</b>                          | <b>0</b> | <b>2</b>                                   | <b>0</b> | <b>26,740</b>                            | <b>0</b> |

## Note 32 External Audit Costs

|   | 2023/24<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Fees payable with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year | 0.138         | 0.060         |
| Fees payable for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year                           | 0.018         | 0.013         |
| Additional Fees for 2022/23 paid in 2023/24   | 0.007         | -             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>0.163</b>  | <b>0.073</b>  |

## Note 33 Grant Income

### 33.1 General Capital Grants

General capital grants credited as Taxation and Non-specific Grants Income in the CIES:

|  | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m  |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Grants &amp; Contributions Used for Capital Expenditure</b>             |                |                |
| Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - Water & Sewerage Grants | (0.083)        | (0.089)        |
| Go EV Grant  | (0.073)        | (0.031)        |
| Culture Centre Grants  | (0.942)        | -              |
| Housing Land Release Grants  | (0.024)        | (0.082)        |
| Overlay Service Grant  | (0.012)        | -              |
| Waste Bin Renewal Grant  | -              | (0.006)        |
| High Needs Grant   | -              | (0.116)        |
| Disabled Facilities Grant  | -              | (0.009)        |
| Home Office Fire Grant   | (0.006)        | -              |
| Other Grants & Contributions   | (0.026)        | -              |
| <b>Other Capital Grants Received in Year</b>                               |                |                |
| Disabled Facilities Grant  | (0.032)        | (0.029)        |
| Basic Needs Grant  | (0.040)        | -              |
| High Needs Grant   | (0.212)        | (0.788)        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>(1.450)</b> | <b>(1.150)</b> |

### 33.2 General Revenue Grants

General revenue grants credited as Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income in the CIES:

|   | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m  |
|---|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Credited to Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income</b> |                |                |
| Revenue Support Grant                                     | (2.135)        | (1.937)        |
| Changing Reform Implementation Grant                      | -              | (0.146)        |
| Streamline Local Authority Grant                          | -              | (0.130)        |
| New Burdens Grants  | (0.016)        | (0.128)        |
| Small Business Rates Relief                               | (0.710)        | (0.474)        |
| Redmond Review Grant                                      | -              | (0.026)        |
| Sales Fees & Charges Grant                                | -              | (0.080)        |
| Services Grant  | (0.062)        | (0.105)        |
| Business Rate Reconciliation Grant                        | (0.007)        | (0.020)        |
| Better Care Fund  | (0.082)        | (0.082)        |
| Market Sustainability Grant                               | (0.030)        | -              |
| Care Quality Commission Review Grant                      | (0.027)        | -              |
| Other   | (0.019)        | (0.016)        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>(3.088)</b> | <b>(3.144)</b> |

### 33.3 General Revenue Grants Credited within the Net Cost of Services

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations within the Net Cost of Services section of the CIES:

|                              | 2023/24<br>£m  | 2022/23<br>£m  |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>Credited to Services</b>  |                |                |
| Chief Executive Department   | (0.843)        | (0.801)        |
| People & Communities         | (1.500)        | (1.307)        |
| Place, Economy & Environment | (5.916)        | (5.334)        |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>(8.259)</b> | <b>(7.442)</b> |

### 33.4 Capital Grants Received in Advance

The Council has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies or property to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year-end relating to capital grants are as follows:

|   | 2023/24<br>31 March<br>£m | 2022/23<br>31 March<br>£m |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Capital Grants Receipts in Advance</b>                                 |                           |                           |
| <b>Place, Economy &amp; Environment</b>                                   |                           |                           |
| European Regional Development Fund - Navigational Overlay Service Funding | -                         | (0.012)                   |
| Water/Sewerage Grant  | (0.016)                   | (0.098)                   |
| Home Office Fire Grant  | -                         | (0.006)                   |
| Go EV Grant   | -                         | (0.043)                   |
| Housing Grants  | (0.883)                   | (0.908)                   |
| Shared Prosperity Grant   | (2.891)                   | -                         |
| Active Travel Grant   | (0.011)                   | (0.011)                   |
| <b>People &amp; Communities</b>   |                           |                           |
| Education Grants  | (0.016)                   | (0.011)                   |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>(3.817)</b>            | <b>(1.089)</b>            |

### 33.5 Revenue Grants Received in Advance

The balances at the year-end relating to revenue grants are as follows:

|  | 2023/24<br>31 March<br>£m | 2022/23<br>31 March<br>£m |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Revenue Grant Receipts in Advance</b> |                           |                           |
| <b>Place, Economy &amp; Environment</b>  |                           |                           |
| Heat Network Development                 | -                         | (0.076)                   |
| Active Travel Grant                      | (0.026)                   | -                         |
| Planning Skills Delivery Grant           | (0.075)                   | -                         |
| ACE Lottery Grant                        | (0.004)                   | -                         |
| <b>People &amp; Communities</b>          |                           |                           |
| Post 16 Grant                            | (0.034)                   | -                         |
| Community Safety Grant                   | (0.005)                   | -                         |
| Chief Executives Department              |                           |                           |
| Department of Transport Grant            | (1.030)                   | -                         |
| PCC - Election Grant                     | (0.011)                   | -                         |
| <b>Total</b>                             | <b>(1.185)</b>            | <b>(0.076)</b>            |

### 33.6 Covid 19 Grants

Council of the Isles of Scilly acted as an agent on behalf of the Government to distribute Business Grants. The amounts are as follows:



|                                     | 2023/24<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Grants received from Government     | -             | (0.085)       |
| Grants distributed to Businesses    | -             | 0.061         |
| Net amount distributed for the year | -             | (0.024)       |
| Payable to the Government           | -             | 0.026         |
| Receivable from the Government      | -             | (0.002)       |
| <b>Total</b>                        | <b>0.000</b>  | <b>0.000</b>  |

## Note 34 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 the reader 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.

### 34.1 Central Government

Central government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council and is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates. Central Government provides the majority of our funding in the form of grants and they prescribe the terms of many of the transactions that our Council has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills, housing benefits). Grants received from government departments are set out in the Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature in Note 8. Grant receipts outstanding at 31st March 2024 are shown in Note 33.

### 34.2 Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council’s financial and operating policies. The Council’s constitution requires Members to declare their interests in related parties in a register of interests and they are asked to declare their interests during Committee meetings. These declarations are maintained by the Council’s Administration team, and can also be found online on the Council’s website in minutes of Committee Meetings. During 2023/24, payments for works and services to the value of £0.429m (£0.380m – 2022/23) were commissioned from companies, organisations or individuals in which sixteen declarations of interest were made by Members. These payments were made in compliance with the Council’s Financial Regulations. Members’ allowances are detailed in Note 30 to the accounts.

During 2023/24 sales for works and services to the value of £0.032m (£0.050m -2022/23) were commissioned from companies, organisations or individuals in which sixteen declarations of interest were made by Members. These sales were made in compliance with the Council’s Financial Regulations.

### 34.3 Officers

Officers are required to declare their interests in the register of interests and during committee meetings when in attendance. During 2023/24 no declaration of interests were made by Officers.

Senior Officers' remuneration is contained in Note 31 to the accounts.

Declarations of Interest made during the year at Committee meetings by Members and Officers is available to view on the Council's website in the minutes for each meeting.

### 34.4 Other Public Bodies [subject to common control by central government]

Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner raise a precept upon the Council for sums collected by the Council Tax. This precept is shown within the Collection Fund Statement in Note 38.

As a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme, the Council paid employer's contributions to Cornwall Council Pension Fund during the year. This contribution is shown within Note 37 - Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Council administers the Core Grant which is managed by the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty team (AONB), and is designed to deliver the AONB management plan which includes funding locally based projects and initiatives. This involves providing grants to both external bodies and projects working in partnership with the Council of the Isles of Scilly. The funding for the core grant payment of £0.141m (£0.142m - 2022/23) is comprised of £0.141m Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs grants (£0.142m – 2022/23) and £0.009m contributions from members of the AONB Partnership (£0.009m – 2022/23).

The Council has entered into an arrangement with Cornwall Council for the provision of a number of support services, spend in this financial year £1.047m (£0.964 – 2022/23). In addition the Council's monitoring officer responsibilities will be undertaken by Officers of Cornwall Council.

## Note 35 Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the Council, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed.

|   | 2023/24<br>£m | 2022/23<br>£m |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Opening capital financing requirement</b>                      | <b>7.002</b>  | <b>6.678</b>  |
| Capital investment  |               |               |
| Property, plant and equipment                                     | 2.951         | 1.015         |
| Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute             | 4.487         | 4.360         |
| Sources of finance  |               |               |
| Capital receipts  | (0.413)       | (0.201)       |
| Government grants and contributions                               | (5.690)       | (4.633)       |
| Sums set aside from revenue:                                      |               |               |
| Direct revenue contributions/specific reserves                    | (0.625)       | (0.027)       |
| MRP   | (0.204)       | (0.191)       |
| Other adjustments   | -             | 0.001         |
| <b>Closing capital financing requirement</b>                      | <b>7.508</b>  | <b>7.002</b>  |
| Explanation of movements in year                                  |               |               |
| Increase in underlying need to borrow (unsupported by government) | 0.710         | 0.514         |
| Other adjustments   | -             | 0.001         |
| Less MRP payments (see above)                                     | (0.204)       | (0.191)       |
| <b>Increase/(decrease) in capital financing requirement</b>       | <b>0.506</b>  | <b>0.324</b>  |

## Note 36 Leases

### Council as a Lessor

#### Finance leases

The Council has a number of sites leased out under finance leases including the industrial estate sites.

The Council has a gross investment in these leases, made up of the minimum lease payments expected to be received over the remaining term and the residual value anticipated for the sites when the leases come to an end. The minimum lease payments comprise settlement of the long-term debtor for the interest in the sites acquired by the lessees 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:

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments that will be received over the following periods:

|  | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|
| Finance lease debtor                           |                        |                        |
| (net present value of minimum lease payments): |                        |                        |
| current  | 0.015                  | 0.015                  |
| non-current                                    | 0.052                  | 0.058                  |
| Unearned finance income                        | 0.316                  | 0.332                  |
| Unguaranteed residual value of property        | 0.210                  | 0.210                  |
| <b>Gross investment in the lease</b>           | <b>0.593</b>           | <b>0.615</b>           |

|   | Gross Investment in the Lease |                        | Minimum Lease Payments |                        |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
|   | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m        | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
| Not later than one year                           | 0.049                         | 0.044                  | 0.015                  | 0.015                  |
| Later than one year and not later than five years | 0.180                         | 0.168                  | 0.060                  | 0.060                  |
| Later than five years                             | 0.086                         | 0.120                  | 0.031                  | 0.045                  |
|   | <b>0.315</b>                  | 0.332                  | <b>0.106</b>           | 0.120                  |

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.

### Operating Leases

The Council leases out property and equipment under operating leases for the following purposes: housing, office and other spaces and concessions at the Airport. The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

|   | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| Not later than one year                           | 0.034                  | 0.030                  |
| Later than one year and not later than five years | 0.049                  | 0.057                  |
|   | <b>0.083</b>           | 0.087                  |

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 37 Local Government Pension Scheme

### 37.1 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 that need to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Cornwall Council – this is a funded defined benefit final salary scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension's liabilities with investment assets.

### 37.2 Firefighters Pension Scheme

The operation of the Firefighter's Pension Scheme in England is controlled by the Firefighter's Pension Scheme (Amendment) (England) order 2006.

The Council, acting as a Fire and Rescue Council, administers and pays pensions. The fund itself is administered by Cornwall Council. Employee contributions and a new employer's contribution are paid into the pension fund from

which pension payments are then made. The fund is topped up by Government grant if the contributions are insufficient to meet the cost of pension payments, while any surplus in the fund is recouped by the Government.

Employees' and employer's contribution levels are based on percentages of pensionable pay which is set nationally by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and subject to triennial revaluation by the Government Actuary's Department.

As the scheme is unfunded, the Firefighter's Pension Scheme has no investment assets.

### 37.3 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 via the MiRS.

The following transactions have been made in the CIES and the General Fund Balance via the MiRS during the year:

|  | Local Government Pension Scheme |                     | Firefighters Pension Arrangements |                     |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
|  | 31 March 2024<br>£m             | 31 March 2023<br>£m | 31 March 2024<br>£m               | 31 March 2023<br>£m |
| <b>Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>  |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Cost of Services:  |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Current service cost   | 0.889                           | 1.692               | 0.039                             | 0.129               |
| Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure  |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset)  | 0.155                           | 0.391               | 0.047                             | 0.044               |
| <b>Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services</b>   | <b>1.044</b>                    | <b>2.083</b>        | <b>0.086</b>                      | <b>0.173</b>        |
| Other post-employment benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement   |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:   |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)  | (0.544)                         | 0.926               | -                                 | -                   |
| Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions   | (0.164)                         | (0.796)             | -                                 | (0.019)             |
| Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions   | (1.768)                         | (15.258)            | (0.076)                           | (0.791)             |
| Expected 2024 pension increase order   | -                               | -                   | 0.019                             | 0.031               |
| Asset Ceiling Adjustment   | 0.861                           | -                   | -                                 | -                   |
| Other experience   | 0.949                           | 3.427               |                                   | 0.021               |
| <b>Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</b>  | <b>0.378</b>                    | <b>(9.618)</b>      | <b>0.029</b>                      | <b>(0.585)</b>      |
| <b>Movement in Reserves Statement</b>  |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code | (1.044)                         | (2.083)             | (0.086)                           | (0.173)             |
| <b>Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:</b>  |                                 |                     |                                   |                     |
| <b>Employers' contributions payable to scheme</b>  | <b>1.006</b>                    | <b>0.940</b>        | <b>(0.028)</b>                    | <b>(0.032)</b>      |

### 37.4 Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

|  | Local Government Pension Scheme |                | Firefighters Pension Arrangements |                |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
|  | 2023/24<br>£m                   | 2022/23<br>£m  | 2023/24<br>£m                     | 2022/23<br>£m  |
| Present value of the defined benefit obligation              | (29.366)                        | (27.883)       | (1.017)                           | (0.960)        |
| Fair value of plan assets                                    | 26.681                          | 24.570         | -                                 | -              |
| <b>Net liability arising from defined benefit obligation</b> | <b>(2.685)</b>                  | <b>(3.313)</b> | <b>(1.017)</b>                    | <b>(0.960)</b> |

### 37.5 Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme Assets

|  | Local Government Pension Scheme |               | Firefighters Pension Arrangements |               |
|--|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|
|  | 2023/24<br>£m                   | 2022/23<br>£m | 2023/24<br>£m                     | 2022/23<br>£m |
| <b>Opening fair value of scheme assets</b>   | <b>24.570</b>                   | <b>24.519</b> | <b>-</b>                          | <b>-</b>      |
| Interest income  | 1.176                           | 0.679         | -                                 | -             |
| Remeasurement gain/(loss):   |                                 |               |                                   |               |
| The return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense | 0.544                           | (0.926)       | -                                 | -             |
| Other Experience   | -                               | (0.047)       | -                                 | -             |
| Contributions from employer  | 0.996                           | 0.930         | (0.028)                           | (0.032)       |
| Contributions from employees into the scheme   | 0.285                           | 0.265         | 0.037                             | 0.037         |
| Benefits paid  | (0.890)                         | (0.850)       | (0.009)                           | (0.005)       |
| <b>Closing fair value of scheme assets</b>   | <b>26.681</b>                   | <b>24.570</b> | <b>-</b>                          | <b>-</b>      |

### 37.6 Reconciliation of Present Value of the scheme Liabilities

|  | Funded Liabilities<br>Local Government Pension Scheme |                 | Unfunded Liabilities<br>Firefighters Pension Arrangements |                |
|--|---|-----------------|---|----------------|
|  | 2023/24<br>£m   | 2022/23<br>£m   | 2023/24<br>£m   | 2022/23<br>£m  |
| <b>Opening balance at 1 April</b>  | <b>(27.883)</b>                                       | <b>(38.390)</b> | <b>(0.960)</b>  | <b>(1.513)</b> |
| Current service cost   | (0.889)   | (1.692)         | (0.039)   | (0.129)        |
| Interest income  | (1.331)   | (1.070)         | (0.047)   | (0.044)        |
| Contributions from scheme participants~                                  | (0.285)   | (0.265)         | (0.037)   | (0.037)        |
| Remeasurement gains and (losses):  |   |                 |   |                |
| Actuarial gains/(losses) arising from changes in financial assumptions   | 1.768   | 15.258          | 0.076   | 0.791          |
| Actuarial gains/(losses) arising from changes in demographic assumptions | 0.164   | 0.796           | -   | 0.019          |
| Expected 2024 pension increase order                                     | -   | -               | (0.019)   | (0.031)        |
| Asset Ceiling Adjustment   | (0.861)   | -               | -   | -              |
| Other Experience   | (0.949)   | (3.380)         | -   | (0.021)        |
| Benefits paid  | 0.900   | 0.860           | 0.009   | 0.005          |
| <b>Closing balance at 31 March</b>                                       | <b>(29.366)</b>                                       | <b>(27.883)</b> | <b>(1.017)</b>  | <b>(0.960)</b> |

### 37.7 Local Government Pension Scheme Assets Comprised

|                                  | Local Government<br>Fair Value of Scheme Assets<br>Quoted prices in active markets |                        | Local Government<br>Fair Value of Scheme Assets<br>Quoted prices not in active markets |                        |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------------|--|------------------------|
|                                  | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m   | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m | 31 March<br>2024<br>£m   | 31 March<br>2023<br>£m |
| Cash and cash equivalents        | -  | 0.601                  | -  | -                      |
| Other Investment funds:          |  |                        |  |                        |
| Infrastructure                   | -  | -                      | 2.629  | 2.217                  |
| Equities                         | 11.687   | 10.887                 | -  | -                      |
| Other                            | 3.909  | 3.654                  | 8.456  | 7.212                  |
| Sub total other investment funds | 15.596   | 14.541                 | 11.085   | 9.428                  |
| <b>Total assets</b>              | <b>15.596</b>  | <b>15.142</b>          | <b>11.085</b>  | <b>9.428</b>           |

### 37.8 Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc.

The Local Government Pension Scheme has been estimated by Hymans Robertson LLP, an independent firm of actuaries. They are based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 1 April 2019.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary have been:

|  | Local Government<br>Pension Scheme |                  | Firefighters<br>Pension Arrangements |                  |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
|  | 31 March<br>2024                   | 31 March<br>2023 | 31 March<br>2024                     | 31 March<br>2023 |
| Long-term expected rate of return on assets in the scheme: |                                    |                  |                                      |                  |
| Equity investments   | 1.0%                               | 1.0%             | -                                    | -                |
| Bonds  | 1.0%                               | 1.0%             | -                                    | -                |
| Other  | 1.0%                               | 1.0%             | -                                    | -                |
| Mortality Assumptions:                                     |                                    |                  |                                      |                  |
| Longevity at 60 for current pensioners:                    |                                    |                  |                                      |                  |
| Men  | 21.7 years                         | 22.3 years       | 25.8 years                           | 25.9 years       |
| Women  | 23.6 years                         | 24.2 years       | 28.7 years                           | 28.5 years       |
| Longevity at 60 for future pensioners:                     |                                    |                  |                                      |                  |
| Men  | 22.2 years                         | 23.2 years       | 27.2 years                           | 27.3 years       |
| Women  | 25.5 years                         | 26.4 years       | 30.0 years                           | 29.8 years       |
| Rate of inflation  | 2.8%                               | 3.0%             | 3.1%                                 | 3.0%             |
| Rate of increase in salaries                               | 2.8%                               | 3.0%             | 3.1%                                 | 3.2%             |
| Rate of increase in pensions                               | 2.8%                               | 3.0%             | 2.8%                                 | 3.0%             |
| Rate for discounting scheme liabilities                    | 4.9%                               | 4.8%             | 4.9%                                 | 4.8%             |

The Firefighters arrangement has no assets to cover its liabilities.

### 37.9 Sensitivity Analysis

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in note 37.8 above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of 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, this is unlikely to 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, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

|  | Local Government                                       |                              | Firefighters   |                              |
|--|--|------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
|  | Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme |                              | Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme |                              |
|  | Increase in Assumption<br>£m                           | Decrease in Assumption<br>£m | Increase in Assumption<br>£m                           | Decrease in Assumption<br>£m |
| Longevity (increase or decrease in 1 year)                             | 1.140  | (1.140)                      | 0.030  | (0.030)                      |
| Rate of inflation (increase or decrease by 0.5%)                       | -  | -                            | 0.060  | (0.060)                      |
| Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.5%)            | -  | -                            | 0.010  | (0.010)                      |
| Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.5%)            | -  | -                            | 0.060  | (0.060)                      |
| Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.5%) | -  | -                            | 0.150  | (0.150)                      |
| Rate of inflation (increase or decrease by 0.1%)                       | 0.557  | (0.557)                      | -  | -                            |
| Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1%)            | 0.020  | (0.020)                      | -  | -                            |
| Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.1%)            | 0.557  | (0.557)                      | -  | -                            |
| Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.1%) | 0.566  | (0.566)                      | -  | -                            |

### Asset and Liability Matching (ALM) Strategy

The Pensions Committee of Cornwall Council has agreed to an asset and liability matching strategy (ALM) that matches, to the extent possible, the types of assets invested to the liabilities in the defined benefit obligation. The Fund has matched assets to the pensions' obligations by investing in long-term fixed interest securities and also by employing a liability driven investment, which hedges an element of the Fund's interest rate and inflation risk. This is balanced with a need to maintain the liquidity of the Fund to ensure that it is able to make current payments. As is required by the pensions and (where relevant) investment regulations the suitability of various types of investment have been considered, as has the need to diversify investments to reduce the risk of being invested in too narrow a range. A large proportion of the assets relate to equities (43% of scheme assets in March 2024; 43% in March 2023). The scheme also invests in alternative asset classes (e.g. property unit trusts and diversified growth funds) as a part of the diversification of the scheme's investments. The ALM strategy is monitored annually or more frequently if necessary.

### 37.10 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 20 years. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. The next triennial valuation is due to be completed in 2025.

The Council anticipated paying £0.949m in expected contributions to the scheme in 2024/25.

As at the date of the most recent valuation, the duration of the Employer's funded obligations is 19 years.



## Note 38 Collection Fund

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing Council in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

### 38.1 Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Statement

|  | 2023/24<br>NNDR<br>£m | 2023/24<br>Council Tax<br>£m | 2023/24<br>Total<br>£m | 2022/23<br>NNDR<br>£m | 2022/23<br>Council Tax<br>£m | 2022/23<br>Total<br>£m |
|--|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Income</b>  |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Council tax receivable   | -                     | (2.228)                      | (2.228)                | -                     | (2.081)                      | (2.081)                |
| Previous year deficit funded:  |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner                     | -                     | (0.007)                      | (0.007)                | -                     | (0.015)                      | (0.015)                |
| Isles of Scilly  | -                     | (0.053)                      | (0.053)                | -                     | (0.088)                      | (0.088)                |
| Business rates receivable  | (1.101)               | -                            | (1.101)                | (1.114)               | -                            | (1.114)                |
| Previous year deficit funded:  |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Central Government   | -                     | -                            | -                      | (0.491)               | -                            | (0.491)                |
| Isles of Scilly  | -                     | -                            | -                      | (0.491)               | -                            | (0.491)                |
| Business rates transitional protection                               | (0.164)               | -                            | (0.164)                | -                     | -                            | -                      |
| <b>Total Income</b>  | <b>(1.265)</b>        | <b>(2.288)</b>               | <b>(3.553)</b>         | <b>(2.096)</b>        | <b>(2.184)</b>               | <b>(4.280)</b>         |
| <b>Expenditure</b>   |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| <b>Precepts, demands and shares</b>                                  |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Central Government   | 0.612                 | -                            | 0.612                  | 0.555                 | -                            | 0.555                  |
| Isles of Scilly  | 0.612                 | 1.860                        | 2.472                  | 0.555                 | 1.785                        | 2.340                  |
| Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner                     | -                     | 0.323                        | 0.323                  | -                     | 0.306                        | 0.306                  |
| Previous year surplus paid:  |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Central Government   | 0.002                 | -                            | 0.002                  | -                     | -                            | -                      |
| Isles of Scilly  | 0.002                 | -                            | 0.002                  | -                     | -                            | -                      |
| <b>Charges to Collection Fund</b>                                    |                       |                              |                        |                       |                              |                        |
| Less: write offs of uncollectable amounts                            | -                     | 0.005                        | 0.005                  | -                     | -                            | -                      |
| Less: increase/(decrease) in impairment allowance for doubtful debts | 0.008                 | 0.012                        | 0.020                  | (0.008)               | 0.020                        | 0.012                  |
| Less: cost of collection   | 0.026                 | -                            | 0.026                  | 0.026                 | -                            | 0.026                  |
| Less: provision for backdated appeals                                | (0.085)               | -                            | (0.085)                | (0.112)               | -                            | (0.112)                |
| <b>Total Expenditure</b>   | <b>1.177</b>          | <b>2.200</b>                 | <b>3.377</b>           | <b>1.016</b>          | <b>2.111</b>                 | <b>3.127</b>           |
| <b>(Surplus)/deficit for the year</b>                                | <b>(0.088)</b>        | <b>(0.088)</b>               | <b>(0.176)</b>         | <b>(1.080)</b>        | <b>(0.073)</b>               | <b>(1.153)</b>         |
| Collection Fund balance brought forward                              | (0.003)               | 0.084                        | 0.081                  | 1.077                 | 0.157                        | 1.234                  |
| <b>Collection Fund Balance carried forward</b>                       | <b>(0.091)</b>        | <b>(0.004)</b>               | <b>(0.095)</b>         | <b>(0.003)</b>        | <b>0.084</b>                 | <b>0.081</b>           |

### 38.2 The Total National Non-Domestic Rateable (NNDR) Value and the NNDR Multiplier

The Council is responsible for the collection of non-domestic rates in its area. However, from 1 April 2013 accounting regulations for NNDR changed with the Council retaining 50% of the income collected and 50% passed to Central Government.

The Government specifies an amount to be collected, the multiplier, which for 2023/24 was 51.2p, reducing to 49.9p for properties in receipt of Small Business Rate Relief with a rateable value of £51,000 or less. The total rateable value for all non-domestic properties as at 31 March 2024 was £4.700m (£4.730m – 2022/23).

### 38.3 The Council Tax Base

To enable the Council to set the Council Tax each year, there is requirement to calculate the Council Tax base.

This is derived from the number of domestic properties/dwellings in each Council Tax Band on the valuation list, applying discounts, exemptions and multiplying the result by a weighting factor applicable to each Band. Finally, the tax base is adjusted to allow for an element of non-collection.

| Valuation Band          | Dwellings on Valuation List | Adjusted Number of Dwellings per Band | Weighting Factor | Band D Equivalent Dwellings |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| A                       | 13                          | 10                                    | 6/9              | 7                           |
| B                       | 33                          | 25                                    | 7/9              | 19                          |
| C                       | 90                          | 76                                    | 8/9              | 68                          |
| D                       | 264                         | 223                                   | 9/9              | 223                         |
| E                       | 327                         | 290                                   | 11/9             | 354                         |
| F                       | 276                         | 249                                   | 13/9             | 360                         |
| G                       | 133                         | 123                                   | 15/9             | 205                         |
| H                       | 9                           | 9                                     | 18/9             | 17                          |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>1,145</b>                | <b>1,005</b>                          |                  | <b>1,253</b>                |
|                         |                             |                                       |                  | <b>(19)</b>                 |
| <b>Council Tax Base</b> |                             |                                       |                  | <b>1,234</b>                |

Less: Allowance for non-collection and Council Tax Support

### Note 39 Fire Fighters' Pension Fund

The funding arrangements for the fire fighters' pension scheme changed on 1 April 2006. Before April 2006, the employer did not make contributions into a fund based upon a percentage of pay. The employer was responsible for its own fire fighters on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Under the new arrangements, Council of the Isles of Scilly no longer meets the cost of pensions directly, instead paying its contributions into a fund. The fund will also receive contributions from employees and transfers from other pension funds. It will also pay out pensions to retired fire fighters and to other pension funds if a scheme member transfers out. The fund has no investment assets and is balanced to zero each year either by the receipt of a top-up grant from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, or by paying the surplus over to the government.

Employees and employer's contribution levels are based on percentages of pensionable pay set nationally by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and subject to triennial revaluation by the Government's Actuary Department.

| <b>Fund Account</b>                          | <b>2023/24<br/>£m</b> | <b>2022/23<br/>£m</b> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Contributions receivable:                    |                       |                       |
| Fire authority:                              |                       |                       |
| Contributions in relation to pensionable pay | (0.078)               | (0.077)               |
| Firefighters contributions                   | (0.037)               | (0.037)               |
| Benefits payable:                            |                       |                       |
| Pensions                                     | 0.018                 | 0.005                 |
| <b>Net amount payable for the year</b>       | <b>(0.097)</b>        | <b>(0.109)</b>        |
| Payable to the Government                    | 0.097                 | 0.109                 |
| <b>Total</b>                                 | <b>0.00</b>           | <b>0.00</b>           |

| <b>Net Liability Statement</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2024<br/>£m</b> | <b>31 March<br/>2023<br/>£m</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Current Assets                 |                                 |                                 |
| Amount Due from General Fund   | 0.013                           | 0.030                           |
| Current Liabilities            |                                 |                                 |
| Payment to the Government      | (0.013)                         | (0.030)                         |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>0.00</b>                     | <b>0.00</b>                     |

The accounting policies followed are those set out in the main Statement of Accounting Policies.

This Net Assets Statement does not include liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the Balance Sheet date.

Further information on Pension Scheme Assets and Liabilities can be found in note 37 in the main financial statements.

## Auditor's Report and Opinion

### Independent auditor's report to the members of Council of the Isles of Scilly

#### Report on the audit of the financial statements

#### Opinion on financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of Council of the Isles of Scilly (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2024, which comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and include the firefighters' pension fund financial statements comprising the Fund Account and the Net Liability Statement. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2024 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law, as required by the Code of Audit Practice (2024) ("the Code of Audit Practice") approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the Section 151 Officer's conclusions, and in accordance with the expectation set out within the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 that the Authority's financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuation of services provided by the Authority. In doing so we had regard to the guidance provided in Practice Note 10 Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom (Revised 2022) on the application of ISA (UK) 570 Going Concern to public sector entities. We assessed the reasonableness of the basis of preparation used by the Authority and the Authority's disclosures over the going concern period.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the other information. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Other information we are required to report on by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

Under the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office in November 2024 on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice) we are required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24, or is misleading or inconsistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit. We are not required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement addresses all risks and controls or that risks are satisfactorily addressed by internal controls.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Opinion on other matters required by the Code of Audit Practice

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the financial statements, the other information published together with the financial statements in the Statement of Accounts for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or

- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

## Responsibilities of the Authority and the Section 151 Officer

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities set out on page 14, the Authority 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 this authority, that officer is the Section 151 Officer. The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Section 151 Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they have been informed by the relevant national body of the intention to dissolve the Authority without the transfer of its services to another public sector entity.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements. Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Authority and determined that the most significant which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those related to the reporting frameworks the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24, the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Government Act 2003, the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992), the Local Government Finance Act 2012, the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004, the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) Regulations 2014 and the Firefighters' Pension Scheme (England) Order 2006.

We enquired of management and the Full Council concerning the Authority's policies and procedures relating to:

- the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
- the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
- the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.

We enquired of management, internal audit and the Full Council whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Authority's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating management's incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risk of management override of controls. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to:

- journals posted by senior officers,
- journals processed by unauthorised users,
- journals with a blank description, and
- journals with certain key words that could be indicative of inappropriate or fraudulent use.

Our audit procedures involved:

- evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud,
- journal entry testing, with a focus on large and unusual journals and those posted by senior officers,
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of land and buildings and defined benefit pensions liability valuations, and
- assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.

These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

We communicated relevant laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members, including the significant accounting estimates related to land and buildings and defined benefit pensions liability valuations. We remained alert to any indications of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, throughout the audit.

Our assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's.

- understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
- knowledge of the local government sector
- understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the Authority including:
  - the provisions of the applicable legislation
  - guidance issued by CIPFA/LASAAC and SOLACE
  - the applicable statutory provisions.

In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:

- the Authority's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
- the Authority's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the Authority to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor's report.

## Report on other legal and regulatory requirements – the Authority’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

### Matter on which we are required to report by exception – the Authority’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, we have not been able to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2024.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matter except on 3 October 2024 we identified a significant weakness in the Council’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

This was in relation to an OFSTED inspection in July 2023 which resulted in the Council’s Children’s Services being rated as ‘inadequate’. Subsequent monitoring visits by Ofsted, showed limited progress had been made against the Improvement Plan that had been developed by the Council in response to Ofsted’s findings.

We recommended that the Council renews its focus and approaches the implementation of the improvement plan with a sense of urgency, increasing the pace of delivery. This involves addressing all areas of improvement identified by Ofsted and ensuring that staff are fully aware of their responsibilities in implementing the plan. Regular monitoring of progress and continuous evaluation of the plan's effectiveness are also critical.

### Responsibilities of the Authority

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

### Auditor’s responsibilities for the review of the Authority’s arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to be satisfied that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We undertake our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in November 2024. This guidance sets out the arrangements that fall within the scope of ‘proper arrangements’. When reporting on these arrangements, the Code of Audit Practice requires auditors to structure their commentary on arrangements under three specified reporting criteria:

- Financial sustainability: how the Authority plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services;
- Governance: how the Authority ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks; and
- Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness: how the Authority uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services.

We document our understanding of the arrangements the Authority has in place for each of these three specified reporting criteria, gathering sufficient evidence to support our risk assessment and commentary in our Auditor’s Annual Report. In undertaking our work, we consider whether there is evidence to suggest that there are significant weaknesses in arrangements.

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements – Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate for Council of the Isles of Scilly for the year ended 31 March 2024 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice until we have completed the work necessary in relation to consolidation returns, including Whole of Government Accounts (WGA), and the National Audit Office has concluded their work in respect of WGA



for the year ended 31 March 2024. We are satisfied that this work does not have a material effect on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2024.

### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 85 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

*Barrie Morris*

Barrie Morris, Key Audit Partner  
for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor  
Bristol

11 February 2025

## Glossary of Terms

The definitions within the glossary are designed to provide the user with an understanding of the technical terminology contained within the Statement of Accounts.

| TERM                                       | DEFINITION  |
|--|---|
| <b>Accounting Policies</b>                 | These are the policies and codes of practice adopted when preparing the Statement of Accounts.  |
| <b>Accrual</b>                             | A balance included to ensure that income or expenditure attributable to the financial year for goods or services supplied and received or work done in the year but for which payment was not made by the year end.   |
| <b>Actuarial Gain or Loss</b>              | The change in actuarial deficits or surpluses that arise because either the actual events during the year have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made at the last valuation, or because the actuarial assumptions have changed.  |
| <b>Actuarial Valuation</b>                 | A valuation of assets within the pension fund carried out by an actuary (an independent pension valuation specialist).  |
| <b>Asset</b>                               | Any item of economic value, especially that which could be converted to cash.<br>Examples are cash, accounts receivable, inventory, office equipment, property, plant and equipment.  |
| <b>Balance Sheet</b>                       | This statement shows the financial position of the Council as at the end of the financial year.   |
| <b>Budget</b>                              | A statement of the Council's financial plans for a specific period of time prepared in line with the approved service plans and Medium Term Financial Strategy for the Council in advance of the financial year.  |
| <b>Capital Adjustment Account</b>          | The Account accumulates (on the debit side) the write-down of the historical cost of fixed assets as they are consumed by depreciation and impairments or written off on disposal. It accumulates (on the credit side) the resources that have been set aside to finance capital expenditure. The balance on the account represents timing differences between the amount of the historical cost of fixed assets that have been consumed and the amount that has been financed in accordance with statutory requirements. |
| <b>Capital Expenditure</b>                 | Expenditure on new assets or on the enhancement of existing assets which extends their useful life or increases their market value.   |
| <b>Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)</b> | This is the amount of Capital Expenditure financed by external debt and not by Capital Receipts, Revenue Contributions, Capital Grants or Third Party Contributions at the time of spending. It measures the Council's underlying need to borrow for a capital purpose.   |
| <b>Capital Grant</b>                       | Grant received for the purpose of funding Capital Expenditure.  |

| TERM   | DEFINITION   |
|--|--|
| <b>Capital Grants Unapplied</b>  | Capital Grants that have not been spent during the financial year.   |
| <b>Capital Receipts</b>  | Proceeds exceeding £10,000 from the sale of an asset for which the use is restricted to either funding new Capital Expenditure or to repaying loan debt.   |
| <b>Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Code of Practice (Code)</b> | The professional body for accountancy within the public sector. This is the guidance issued by CIPFA on the application of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for the public sector.   |
| <b>Collection Fund</b>   | A fund administered by the Council recording receipts from Council Tax and payments to the General Fund and other public authorities. It also records the retained share of non-domestic rates.  |
| <b>Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)</b>                                 | This statement shows the financial performance of the Council during the financial year. It details the surplus or deficit on the provision of service and includes details of the unrealised gains and losses (e.g. revaluations) for the Council.  |
| <b>Creditor</b>  | An amount owed by the Council for goods or services received before the end of the financial year for which the payment had not been made at the date of the Balance Sheet.  |
| <b>Current Service Cost (Pensions)</b>   | This is a measure of the increase in the present value of pension liabilities generated in the financial year by employees. It is an estimate of the true economic cost of employing people in the financial year, earning service that will eventually entitle them to the receipt of a lump sum and/or pension when they retire. |
| <b>Debtor</b>  | An amount owed to the Council at the Balance Sheet date for goods or services provided prior to the year end.  |
| <b>Deficit</b>   | Where the balance of expenditure exceeds the balance of income.  |
| <b>Depreciation</b>  | The measure of the consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of a non-current asset.  |
| <b>Earmarked Reserves</b>  | Reserves representing monies set aside that can only be used for their stated specific "earmarked" services.   |
| <b>Emoluments</b>  | All taxable sums paid to or received by an employee including the value of any non-cash benefits received.   |
| <b>External Audit</b>  | An independent examination of the activities and accounts of the Council to ensure that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices.  |
| <b>Expenditure</b>   | Amounts paid by the Council for goods or services received of either a capital or revenue nature.  |
| <b>Fair Value</b>  | Definition of fair value depends on the circumstances under which it has to be applied, but is broadly the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction.   |
| <b>Finance Lease</b>   | A lease whereby the risks and rewards of ownership are transferred to the lessee.  |
| <b>Financial Reporting Standard (FRS)</b>  | The standards by which the preparation and presentation of the Statement of Accounts has historically been governed within the UK.   |

| TERM   | DEFINITION  |
|--|---|
| <b>Financial Year</b>                                    | The year covered by the financial statements. The Council's financial year commences 1 April and finishes 31 March the following year.  |
| <b>Financial Instruments</b>                             | Any document with monetary value. Examples include cash and cash equivalents, but also securities such as bonds and stocks which have value and may be traded in exchange for money.  |
| <b>General Fund (GF)</b>                                 | This reserve is to provide for unexpected expenditure that cannot be managed within existing budgets, it is not earmarked or restricted and can be used at the discretion of the Members.   |
| <b>Heritage Asset</b>                                    | A tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained - principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.  |
| <b>Impairment</b>  | A reduction in the value of a non-current asset arising from damage, obsolescence or a reduction to the useful economic life, but not arising as a result of a formal revaluation.  |
| <b>Income</b>  | Amounts due to the Council for goods or services supplied of either a capital or a revenue nature.  |
| <b>IAS</b>   | International Accounting Standards.   |
| <b>International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS)</b> | The international standards by which the preparation and presentation of the Statement of Accounts is now governed. These are developed by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB).   |
| <b>Liability</b>   | A debt or obligation that the organisation must pay. Liabilities are recorded on the balance sheet and can include accounts payable, taxes, wages, accrued expenses, and deferred revenues.   |
| <b>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)</b>             | The MTFS sets out the overall shape of the Council's budget by establishing how the available resources will be allocated against the Strategic priorities established in the Sustainable Community Strategy over the coming three year period. |
| <b>Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)</b>                   | The amount which the Council charges to revenue on an annual basis as a provision for the redemption of debt.   |
| <b>Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)</b>             | This statement details the movements in the reserve balances.   |
| <b>Net Book Value</b>                                    | The value at which non-current assets are included in the balance sheet after the consideration of impairment, revaluation, enhancements, depreciation etc.   |
| <b>Non-Current Assets</b>                                | Assets which are of a physical nature owned by the Council such as land, buildings, vehicles etc.   |
| <b>Operating Lease</b>                                   | A lease which is not a Finance Lease.   |
| <b>Operational Assets</b>                                | Non-current assets held/used by the Council in the direct delivery of services for which it has a statutory responsibility.   |
| <b>Past Service Cost (Pensions)</b>                      | These costs represent the increase in liabilities arising in the current year on retirement benefits where the years of service were earned in earlier years.   |
| <b>Present Value</b>                                     | The discounted value of future payments or receipts to show their value if they were to be received as at the balance sheet date.   |

| <b>TERM</b>                           | <b>DEFINITION</b>  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)</b> | A Government Agency that provides loans to Local Authorities.  |
| <b>Remuneration</b>                   | Reward for employment in the form of pay, salary or wage, including allowances, benefits, bonuses, cash incentives and monetary value of non-cash incentives.  |
| <b>Revaluation Reserve</b>            | The Reserve records the accumulated gains on the fixed assets held by the Council arising from increases in value as a result of inflation or other factors (to the extent that these gains have not been consumed by subsequent downward movements in value). |
| <b>Revenue Expenditure</b>            | The day to day running costs incurred by the Council in providing services.  |
| <b>Revenue Financing</b>              | Resources provided from the Council's revenue budget to finance the cost of Capital Expenditure.   |
| <b>Surplus</b>                        | Where the balance of income exceeds the balance of expenditure.  |
| <b>Trust</b>                          | A savings account established under a trust agreement whereby a trustee administers the funds for the benefit of one or more beneficiaries.  |
| <b>Unusable Reserves</b>              | These are reserves resulting from the interaction of legislation and proper accounting practices. These reserves are not resource backed and cannot be used for any other purpose.   |
| <b>Usable Reserves</b>                | These are held as a working balance for a specific future purpose.   |
| <b>Yield</b>                          | Income earned from an investment.  |