



ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

For the year ended
31 March 2013

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Explanatory Foreword

By the Assistant Director (Finance & Resources)

As the Council's Chief Financial Officer (now referred to as the Responsible Financial Officer in the legislation), I am pleased to present the Council's 2012/13 Annual Financial Report which outlines the Council's financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2013.

The purpose of this foreword is to provide a guide to the most significant matters reported in the Council's accounts and is in three sections.

- Commentary and review of 2012/13.
- The Financial Statements
- Technical information

Commentary and review of 2012/13

Review of the Year

2012/13 has been another challenging year for the council as a result of reductions in grant funding that the Government has made to Local Authorities due to the national and international economic situation.

The Council set a net budget for the year of £21.722m (2011/12; £22.615m) after allowing for general government grant of £9.288m (2011/12; £10.522m), New Homes Bonus £1.913m (2011/12; £0.832m), the use of revenue reserves of £2.547m (2011/12; £3.589m) and a Council Tax of £128.51 (2011/12; £124.17).

The Council's success in supporting the development of the new homes needed in the District meant the increase in New Homes Bonus significantly offset the fall in general grant, thus allowing the Council to plan less significant service reductions.

However, a cash reduction in the budget of £0.893m, more in real terms due to inflation, is still very significant and creates significant challenges for the Council to maintain quality services to its residents in line with its Corporate Themes. The following paragraphs outline some of the Council's successes during 2012/13:

Theme: Strong local economy

Alconbury Enterprise Zone

The Alconbury Enterprise Zone is one of the most significant economic developments in the East Midlands. To date in excess of £6.0m has been invested on site in delivery of early infrastructure including a new heavy commercial vehicles access, internal road restructuring and main entrance refurbishment. A new Incubator building for start up and small businesses is being built and Huntingdonshire Regional College has established a Skills and Training Centre on site to:

- support businesses to identify their business needs, and
- act as a gateway to help existing and new businesses coming to the Zone to access training across local Further and Higher Education institutions and private sector training providers.

The first tenant has signed up; a spin-out from Cambridge University “Enval Ltd”, which has been developed with Jobcentre Plus and other local training providers to support both Enterprise Zone tenants and contractors in the recruitment of local people and associated up-skilling.

A £0.100m grant from the Skills Funding Agency has been awarded to the project in respect of “Skills Strategy Funding” that will assist in strategy development with existing local businesses and sectors targeted for the Enterprise Zone.

Huntingdon Town Centre Development

The Council has been negotiating a redevelopment plan for the centre of Huntingdon with Churchmanor Estates Company (owners of Chequers Court) and Sainsburys for some years. Most issues were finally resolved last year and on the 10th May 2013 the contract was signed allowing construction of a new multi-storey car park and the re-design of the existing car park with a new exit on the ring road to commence. The multi-storey car park is due to be completed by December 2013 ready for Christmas trading.

Once the Sainsburys’ store has moved to its new location on the Western Relief Road (another project successfully led by the Council last year), the current Sainsburys’ building will be converted into three new shop units. Development proposals include the replacement of the petrol station with a major new shop unit and the complete re-development of Chequers Court.

Overall, 110,000 sq ft of new floor space will be created in Huntingdon.

Business Improvement District

During the year a Business Improvement District (BID) for Huntingdon Town Centre was established by ballot of the business rate payers within the BID area. It is funded through a £0.180m levy of business rate payers which the Council is required by statute to collect on behalf of the BID.

Theme: Enable sustainable growth

Planning Development

During the year the Council received nearly 1,700 planning applications which generated income in excess of £1.0m. Applications ranged from small scale householder extensions to major applications including Alconbury Weald (up to 290,000 sqm of employment space and up to 5,000 dwellings), large scale housing applications in Godmanchester and St Neots and various wind and solar farm applications. During the year, the amount of New Homes Bonus received by the Council was £1.913m, an increase of £0.926m compared to 2011/12.

Refuse Collection

To reflect the high growth in domestic properties within the Council area the Council’s current refuse collection rounds have been rescheduled. The rescheduling has enabled the service to achieve an ongoing reduction in fuel costs and also, through more efficient vehicle utilisation, allowed the Council to delay previous capital investment in vehicle replacement. In addition, the rescheduling exercise has also introduced additional capacity that will enable the Council to meet future housing growth.

Fuel and Energy Efficiency

- **Fuel**
Over the past two years the council has reduced vehicle fuel consumption by almost 200,000 litres; this has been achieved by changes in the approach taken in undertaking refuse collection, green waste and general recycling.
- **Carbon Management**
The Council continues to review the running costs of its buildings under its Carbon Management [Plan](#) and is considering all opportunities to implement energy saving measures and to generate its own energy. A wide range of projects have been implemented in the last year including a Combined Heat and Power Unit at One Leisure St Ives, variable speed drives for air conditioning and pool pumps, LED lighting with passive infra red sensors, cavity wall insulation and glazing improvements.

Also under the programme 1,170 Photovoltaic (PV) panels have been installed on the roof of Eastfield House, the Council's Operations Centre. Generating electricity and an income from the Government's feed-in-tariff, the panels supply the site with over 166,000 kWh of electricity per year, one third of the electricity demand for the site.

Theme: Improve the quality of life in Huntingdonshire

Housing Benefits Administration

The Council has been introducing "electronic" housing benefit forms and, to date, take up is in excess of 85% and it is expected that this will achieve annual savings of £40,000 once the process is fully embedded. In addition, a further annual saving of £14,000 has been achieved by introducing automated telephone payments. This has had an additional "efficiency" benefit in that it has freed up telephone advisor time within the call centre.

Food Safety and Health & Safety Enforcement

By migrating from the Council's own "Scores on the Doors" food safety scheme to the Food Standard Agency's "National Food Hygiene Scheme", this has generated for the Council additional grant support (£12,000) to support the migration and has had a consequential impact of improvements in food standard ratings across the district.

In addition, the Council has been able to make efficiencies in its Health & Safety Enforcement service; together with the Food Safety savings made during the year, the total annual savings for this service are expected to be in excess of £36,000.

One Leisure

Following on from the successful redevelopment at One Leisure St Neots which was completed in 2010/11, the St Ives redevelopment commenced in 2012/13. The new reception area, Cafe Zest and Basement Lanes (10 Pin Bowling) were all completed and open for business in the final quarter of 2012/13. The new Impressions Gym, Spa and treatment area, Fitness Studios, Crèche and office accommodation will be completed during the first half of 2013/14. The total investment in the project is £4.6m and is one of the key elements to One Leisure covering all of its direct costs from income.

Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system replacement

Staff at the Council have been looking at the future of the CRM system. This business critical system is used by customer service staff and allows them to track the progress of work requests made by customers. The Council has found a replacement system that will fulfil its needs and it is estimated that this will save in excess of £70,000 per annum and improve customer services.

Doing things online saves the council tax payer money and improves customer service

The Council has endeavoured to make its website as comprehensive and easy to use as possible, this means customers can access services and information 24/7 and not just when the Council offices are open; this has freed up Council staff to focus on those who most need one-to-one support.

Theme: Working with our communities.Grants to Voluntary Organisations

During the year, the Council introduced a new grant regime for the voluntary sector. This new regime has achieved savings in the region of almost £80,000 and the new approval process allows for a more sustainable “grant aided” future. However, a key aspect of the new regime is that the funding provided by the Council is directly linked to the money enterprises can raise themselves and this has resulted in generating an additional £0.350m for voluntary organisations across the district.

Other Areas of Council Activity

Outside of these themes, the Council has sought to achieve year-on-year service efficiencies, these have included the following:

Cambs Home Improvement Agency

In partnership with Cambridgeshire City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, the Home Improvement Agency Service (HIA) started operating during the year. The new service, called Cambs HIA provides greater opportunities for cross boundary working, improvements in resilience and improvements in case load management for approvals of both Disabled Facilities and Repairs Assistance Grants. It is estimated that once the service is “bedded-down” the annual saving to be shared by the three Councils will be in the region of £0.170m.

Information Technology

The Council’s Information Management Division (IMD) have been carrying out work with other partners including:

- business analysis and project management support to Cambridge City Council.
- joint procurement with 5 other Cambridgeshire public sector organisations of a new, innovative, communications network (CPSN) which will provide faster, more resilient data and voice communications.
- selling products & services to other authorities to Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire and Oxfordshire County Councils.

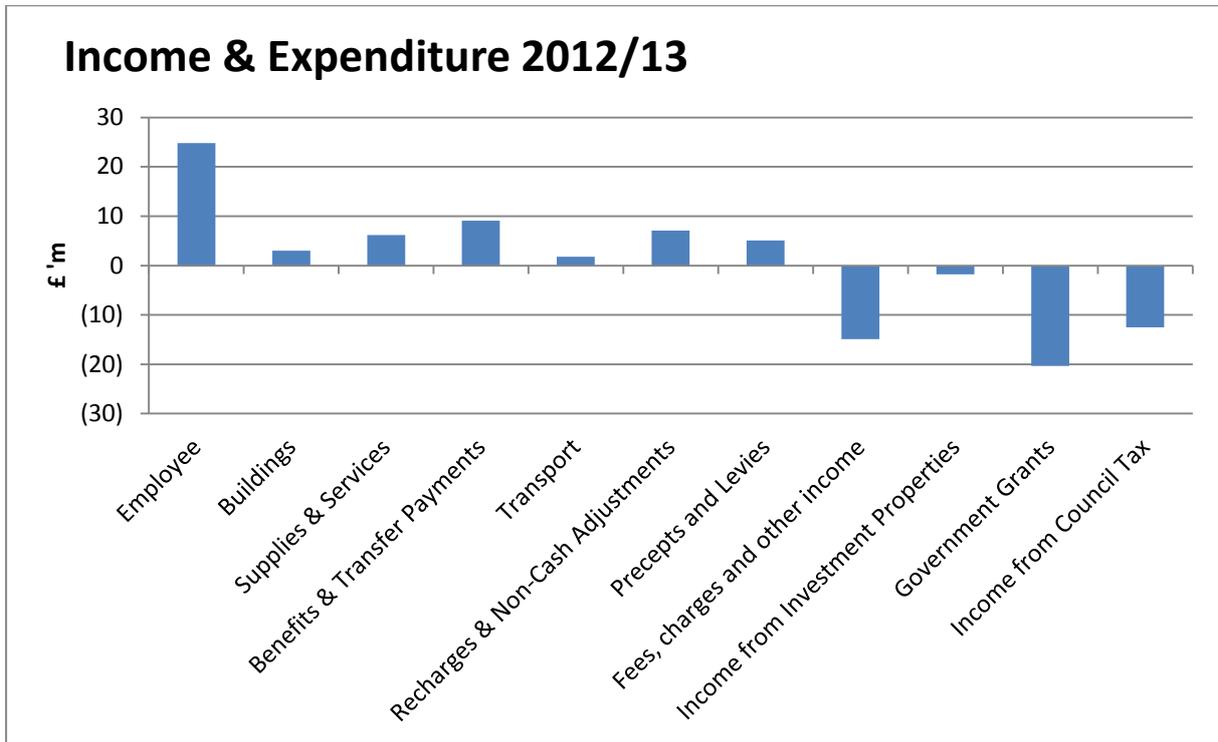
This work provides extra income to the Council and allows our staff to learn and gain ideas from fellow professionals.

Revenue Spending and Sources of Income

The table below mirrors the format required in the formal statement of accounts and shows the total impact on reserves as a result of the Council's activities in 2012/13. It shows a reduction of £2.327m which is little different from the original budget but this masks the fact that there have been:

- flows of funds for items such as Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy receipts that immediately transfer to earmarked reserves, and so do not have an impact on the net position.
- adjustments on Repairs and Renewal Funds to record any differences between contributions made to them and the actual expenditure on them during the year.
- delays on a number of revenue projects which mean that the resulting saving needs to be put into the Delayed Projects Reserve to allow them to be funded in 2013/14.
- significant savings achieved that have allowed £1.0m to be added to the Earmarked "Special" Reserve. This reserve is to provide the necessary up-front costs that are often required when making savings.
- A transfer to unusable reserves of £0.047m relating to direct financing of assets.

2011/12 Outturn £000		Budget £000	2012/13 Outturn £000	Variation £000
85,725	Gross Expenditure	86,100	90,230	4,130
(4,056)	Statutory Adjustments	(5,277)	(4,925)	352
81,669		80,823	85,305	4,482
	Income and Other Items			
(15,526)	Fees & Charges	(15,424)	(15,644)	(220)
(44,989)	Government Grants (including housing & Council Tax benefits)	(43,052)	(47,608)	(4,556)
(588)	Investment Income	(436)	(445)	(9)
(662)	Trading undertakings (surplus)/deficits	(189)	26	215
(61,765)		(59,101)	(63,671)	(4,570)
19,904	Net expenditure	21,722	21,634	(88)
	Funding			
(7,383)	Council Tax	(7,727)	(7,727)	0
(11,538)	Revenue support grant, business rates and other special grants	(11,385)	(11,483)	(98)
(105)	Collection fund (surplus)/deficit	(63)	(97)	(34)
(19,026)		(19,175)	(19,307)	(132)
878	Deficit met from reserves	2,547	2,327	(220)
	Application of General Fund Reserve			
125	Applied to meet the costs of Council services		709	
	Earmarked Reserves			
190	- Contribution to delayed projects reserve		237	
(100)	- Contribution to Special Reserve		1,000	
329	- Increase in S106 Reserve		124	
334	- Increase in other earmarked reserves		210	
0	Transfer to unusable reserves		47	
878	Total		2,327	



Reserves

The table below shows the results of the movements in reserves to show how these have affected the actual sums held at the 31 March 2013.

The size of the contribution to the Special Reserve was approved by Cabinet on the basis that the remaining funds in the General Fund would be similar to the £10.398m forecast when the MTP was approved in February 2013.

Revenue Usable Reserves 2012/13	B/f £000	Contributions To From £000 £000		C/f £000
General Fund	12,914	0	(2,327)	10,587
Earmarked				
Delayed Projects	749	237	0	986
Special Reserve	260	1,000	0	1,260
S.106	2,739	416	(292)	2,863
Other	1,485	643	(433)	1,695
	5,233	2,296	(725)	6,804
Total Usable Reserves	18,147	2,296	(3,052)	17,391

Capital Spending

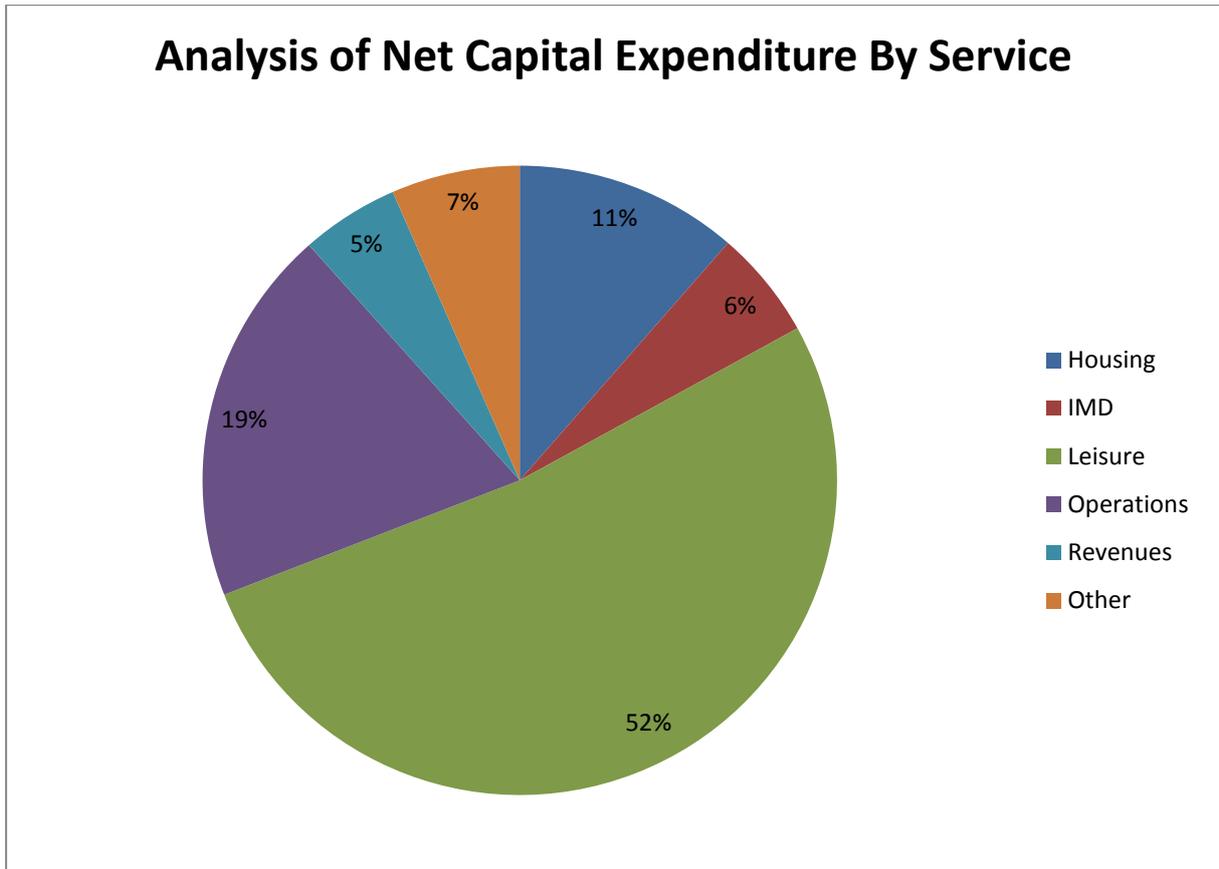
The original net budget was for £10.370m and it was assumed that there would be schemes brought forward from 2011/12 of £0.400m. The schemes actually brought forward from 2011/12 totalled £1.798m; however a combination of delays has resulted in £6.5m being spent during the year.

Several large schemes were planned to commence in 2012/13. These included the Huntingdon Western Relief Road and the Huntingdon Multi-Storey Car Park which were both delayed because of protracted land negotiations, but did commence in the final weeks of the year. Transportation schemes included a grant towards programme of improvements at St Neots railway station that will now commence during 2013/14. One Leisure improvements at St Ives have commenced and are expected to be completed in early 2013/14. A planned redevelopment of One Leisure Ramsey was removed from the programme.

The capital programme includes rolling programmes to provide disabled facilities and housing improvement grants to householders and also for replacing and renewing IT systems and replacing replacements to ensure that equipment is up to date and fit for purpose.

During the year the Council disposed of several parcels of land and property including, Castle Hill House Huntingdon, land at the old Fire Station, St Neots and Cambridge Street, St Neots and a small area of land in Mill Hill Eaton Socon. The receipts from these sales have been used to fund 2012/13 capital expenditure, so reducing the need for external borrowing.

2011/12 £m	Capital Spending	2012/13 £m
1.7	One Leisure Redevelopment	3.8
2.1	Housing Grants	1.4
0.3	Vehicle Replacement Programme	1.1
0.9	Information & Communication Technology	0.7
0.0	St Neots Railway Station Improvements	0.3
0.3	Recreation	0.2
0.9	Huntingdon West Development	0.2
0.4	Photovoltaic Panels (Eastfield House)	0.0
1.2	Transportation	0.0
0.6	Other	0.6
8.4	Gross Expenditure	8.3
	Less	
(3.0)	External contributions and capital grants	(1.2)
(0.0)	Castle Hill House capital receipt	(0.6)
5.4	Net Expenditure	6.5
	Funded from	
(1.2)	Other Capital Receipts	(0.5)
(4.2)	Borrowing	(6.0)
(5.4)		(6.5)



Treasury Management

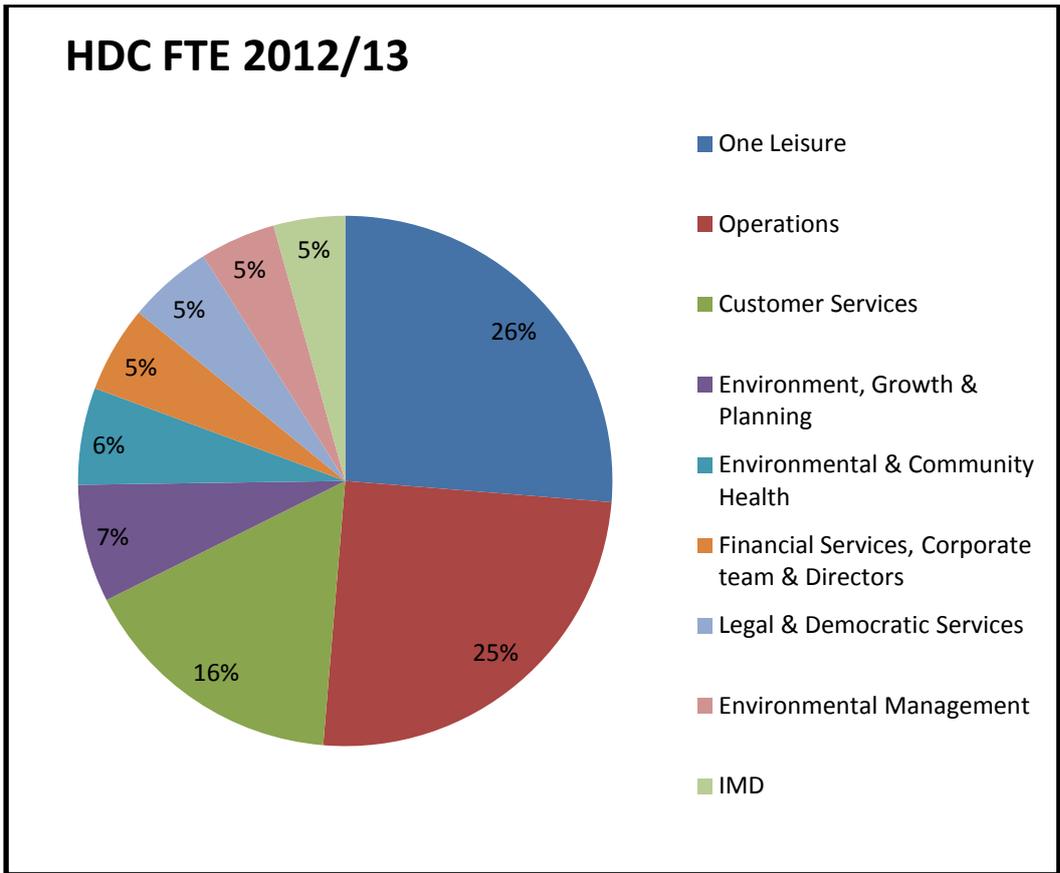
Short term borrowing for the Council is undertaken throughout the year to help maintain daily cash flow and for the year this averaged £1.937m. This was carried out at very low interest rates due to a combination of the bank base rate remaining at 0.50% and borrowing from local authorities willing to offer lower rates to other local authorities as they are seen as a safe counterparty. No long term borrowing was carried out.

The economic climate and the Euro crisis led to the downgrading of credit ratings for several financial institutions. In order to manage risk, surplus funds have been invested in AAA rated Money Market Funds or in Call or Liquidity accounts that offer instant access to funds, with the added benefit of interest rates at or above the bank base rate.

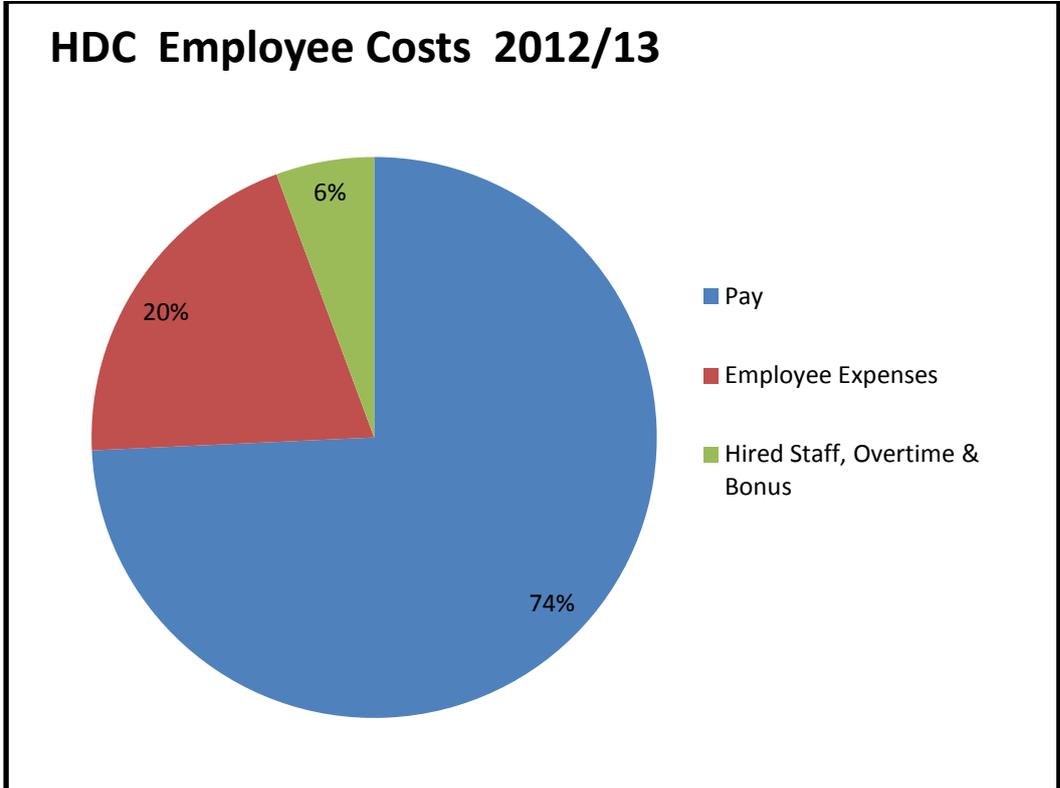
Trend in staffing number over recent years

Between the end of 2011/12 and 31 March 2013, the Council’s staff numbers have decreased by 16.9 FTE’s (2.4%).

As at the 31 March 2013 the Council employed 699.5 full time equivalent employees. The following graph shows the Council’s staff numbers in 2012/13 for each service.



Of the total cost of employing staff, £24.791m, the split of this cost based on pay type is as follows:



The Financial Statements

The Council's financial statements for 2012/13 have been prepared in accordance with the:

- standard format for local authority accounts recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for the Statement of Accounts in 2012/13 as prescribed by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 based on International Financial Reporting Standards.
- Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011

The primary financial statements are supported by explanatory notes, including details of the accounting policies adopted by the Council.

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, *rather than the amount to be funded from taxation*. 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.

	Gross Expenditure £m	Gross Income £m	Net Expenditure £m
Cost of Services	85.629	(61.549)	24.080
Other Operating Expenditure	5.110	0.000	5.110
Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure	3.638	(3.178)	0.460
Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income	0.000	(24.016)	(24.016)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services			5.634
Other CIES adjustments			6.098
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure			11.732

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the council, analysed into 'useable reserves', (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and 'unusable' reserves. The surplus or (deficit) from the CIES (which shows the true economic cost) is then adjusted in accordance with statutory provisions to give the net increase/decrease before transfers to earmarked reserves. A final adjustment shows any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

	Total Useable Reserves £m	Total Unusable Reserves £m
Balance – 31 March 2012	18.675	2.808
Total Comprehensive Expenditure & Income	(5.634)	(6.098)
Adjustments between accounting & funding basis.	5.195	(5.195)
Net Increase/(Decrease) before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves	(0.439)	(11.293)
Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	(0.047)	0.047
Increase/(Decrease) in 2012/13	(0.486)	(11.246)
Balance – 31 March 2013	18.189	(8.438)

Useable Reserves are:

	£m
General Fund:	10.587
Earmarked Reserves:	6.804
Capital Grants Unapplied:	0.798
Total:	18.189

As at the 31 March 2013, Unusable Reserves have become negative. The main reasons for this is because of:

- An increase in the Pension Fund Reserve
The Pension Reserve has increased by of £7.093m. This directly reflects the increase in the Pension Liability (Note 39). This liability is not “immediately” payable but will become payable over the life of the contributors to the Pension Scheme. Further this liability is assessed, in detail, following the triennial valuation that is undertaken by the Pension Fund that can result in a change to the employers’ contribution rate.
- A decrease in the Capital Adjustment Account
The Capital Adjustment Account has decreased by £3.830m. The main reason for this decrease is that whilst, available capital financing (e.g. capital receipts, statutory provision for financing) remains low, this will be exceeded by the charge for consumption of non-current assets (eg depreciation, amortisation) with the result being a reduction in the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value at the 31 March of the assets and liabilities recognised by the council. The net assets of the councils (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are useable 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 are unusable and includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement at the line entitled 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

	31 March 2013 £m
Long Term Assets	77.738
Current Assets	13.433
Current Liabilities	(12.191)
Long Term Liabilities	(69.229)
Net Assets	9.751
Useable Reserves	18.189
Unusable Reserves	(8.438)
Total Reserves	9.751

The Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in “cash” (cash and cash equivalents) of the council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the council generates and uses “cash” 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 recipients of services provided by the council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the council.

	31 March 2013
	£m
Net cash flows from:	
- operating activities	(1,448)
- investing activities	1,273
- financing activities	1,397
Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,222
Cash & Cash Equivalents	
- at the beginning of the reporting period	(320)
- at the end of the reporting period	902

The supplementary accounting statements comprise:

The Collection Fund Revenue Account

The Collection Fund is a separate account into which are paid the amounts raised from local taxation. The Council's contribution to the national business rates pool and the payments due to preceptors are also met from this account.

	£m	£m
Income		
Council Tax	92.090	
NNDR	54.359	
Total Income		146.449
Expenditure		
Precepts and Council:		
- Huntingdonshire	7.727	
- Cambridgeshire County	64.854	
- Cambridgeshire Fire and Police	14.058	
- Parish Precepts	4.708	
Business Rates payments to Pool	54.359	
Debts impaired	0.019	
Contribution towards previous years Collection Fund surplus	0.465	
Total Expenditure		146.190
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year		(0.259)
(Surplus) at beginning of the year		(0.454)
Deficit/(Surplus) for the year		(0.259)
Deficit/(Surplus) at end of year		(0.713)

Pension Fund

The Council is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Cambridgeshire County Council. The pension fund's actuary is required to review the fund to ensure that it can meet its future liabilities. To achieve this, the actuary undertakes a full revaluation of the fund every three years, the most recent having been undertaken at the 31 March 2010. Between each full revaluation, annual interim revaluations take place to ensure that the Council can appropriately report the current financial position of the fund. The 31 March 2013 actuarial valuation identified a deficit of £58.434m, which was an increase of £7.093m on the deficit of £51.341m that was reported as at 31 March 2012.

Although this deficit represents the sum that would have to be added to meet forecast claims on the fund, *if all the actuary's assumptions turn out to be valid*, it is standard practice for the deficit to be met by making extra annual contributions over a period of years to reflect the detailed full revaluation results every three years. The next triennial revaluation is being undertaken during 2013/14 and if the revaluation recommends that new employer contribution rates are required, and if the Council agrees to increase the Pension Rate, then these will be applicable from the 1 April 2014.

Provisions and Contingencies

➤ Provisions

The Council has established two new provisions for 2012/13, totalling £0.137m (2011/12; nil). The provisions are in respect of an insurance clawback arrangement with a former insurer for the Council and for termination payments in respect of service rationalisation.

➤ Contingent Assets and Liabilities

In respect of contingent assets, the Council has made a disclosure for 2012/13 of £2.431m (2011/12; £2.144m). In respect of contingent liabilities, the total disclosed for 2012/13 is £5.811m (2011/12; £6.045m).

Details of provisions, contingent assets and liabilities are shown in Note 40 of the statement of accounts.

Technical Information

Huntingdonshire's financial statements for 2012/13 have been prepared in accordance with the:

- standard format for local authority accounts recommended by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) for the Statement of Accounts in 2012/13 as prescribed by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 based on International Financial Reporting Standards.
- Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011.

International Financial Reporting Standards

The Council has reported its financial position based on the requirements of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and this is encapsulated within the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13.

Statement of Accounting Policies

The accounting policies applicable to the 2012/13 statement of accounts are the same as those that were applied to the 2011/12 accounts.

True and Fair View Override

As required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011, paragraph 8.2, it is noted that the Responsible Financial Officer has not had to use the "true and fair view override".

Changes to the Statement of Accounts

In the main, the 2012/13 Statement of Accounts is very similar to those for 2011/12. However, there have been some minor changes and these are noted below:

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

- **Trading Operations**
There has been a comprehensive review of those Council services that "trade" i.e. where there is the risk that the service could trade at a loss. For 2012/13, as well as those services that were reported in 2011/12 (Information Management Department: IT Software and Markets), the Council is additionally disclosing Car Parks, Leisure, Building Control, Grounds Maintenance, Printing and Commercial Waste. For 2012/13, the trading deficit for these services is £1.742m which is £1.005m less than that recorded in 2011/12 (£2.747m). This reduction in the deficit is primarily due to increases in income for both the Car Parks and Leisure Services.
- **Investment Property**
The Oak Tree Centre was recorded within Property Plant and Equipment as an Investment Property but the income and expenditure was previously reported within the Net Cost of Services. For 2012/13 the revenue related costs and income are now reported within Investment Property. The consequence of this change is that in 2012/13 the Net Cost of Services has reduced by £0.825m and Financing and Investment Income increased by the same amount (2011/12; £0.801m).

Material and Unusual Charges or Credits in the Accounts

There are no material and unusual charges or credits in the accounts.

Material Events After the Reporting Date

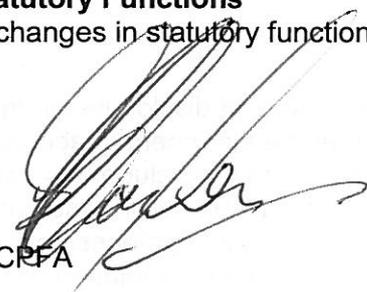
There have not been any material events after the reporting date.

Material Assets Acquired or Liabilities Incurred

There have not been any material assets acquired or liabilities incurred during the year.

Changes in Statutory Functions

There were no changes in statutory functions in 2012/13.


Steve Couper CRFA

Assistant Director (Finance & Resources)

26th September 2013

Further Information

Further information about the accounts is available from Clive Mason, Accountancy Manager.
☎ 01480 388157 or email clive.mason@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

Independent Auditors Report to the Members of Huntingdonshire

District Council

Report on Statement of Accounts

We have audited the statement of accounts of Huntingdonshire District Council for the year ended 31 March 2013 which comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet as at the end of the year, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in its preparation is the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 supported by the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2012/13.

Respective responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer and auditors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the statement of accounts and for being satisfied that it gives a true and fair view in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 and the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2012/13. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the statement of accounts in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998, the Code of Audit Practice 2010 – Local Government Bodies issued by the Audit Commission and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

This report, including the opinions, has been prepared for and only for the Authority's members as a body in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and for no other purpose, as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and of Audited Bodies – Local Government, published by the Audit Commission in March 2010. We do not, in giving these opinions, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Scope of the audit of the statement of accounts

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the statement of accounts sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the statement of accounts is free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Authority; and the overall presentation of the statement of accounts. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited statement of accounts. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on statement of accounts

In our opinion the statement of accounts:

- gives a true and fair view of the state of the Authority's affairs as at 31 March 2013 and of the Authority's income and expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended; and

- has been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 and the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2012/13.

Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Code of Audit Practice

In our opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the statement of accounts is prepared is consistent with the statement of accounts.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires us to report to you if:

- in our opinion, the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007 (updated as at December 2012) or is misleading or inconsistent with information of which we are aware from our audit;
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998;
- we make any recommendations under section 11 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 that requires the Authority to consider it at a public meeting and to decide what action to take in response ; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under the Audit Commission Act 1998.

Conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Authority's responsibilities

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditors' responsibilities

We are required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission.

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Authority has put in place 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.

Scope of the review of the arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our audit in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission in November 2012, as to whether the Authority has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Authority has put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2013.

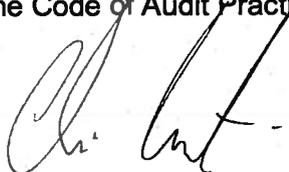
We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, the Authority had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission in November 2012, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, Huntingdonshire District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2013.

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the statement of accounts of Huntingdonshire District Council in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.



Clive Everest
For and on behalf of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Appointed auditors
St Albans

Date: 27 September 2013

Notes:

- (a) The maintenance and integrity of the Huntingdonshire District Council website is the responsibility of the council; the work carried out by the auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the statement of accounts since it was initially presented on the website.
- (b) Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of the statement of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement of Responsibilities

The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority 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 Authority, that officer is the Assistant Director (Finance & Resources);
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Assistant Director's (Finance & Resources) Responsibilities

The Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) is responsible for the preparation of the authority's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* (the Code).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts the Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) has:

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

The Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) has also:

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

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority at 31 March 2013 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2013



Steve Couper CPFA
Assistant Director (Finance & Resources)

26th September 2013

Chairman's Approval of the Statement of Accounts

This is the Annual Financial Report, incorporating the Statement of Accounts with all audit activities completed. The Corporate Governance Panel of Huntingdonshire District Council at its meeting on 26th September 2013 delegated authority to me as Chairman of the Panel to approve the Statement of Accounts.



Cllr E R Butler
Chairman of the Corporate Governance Panel

Date 26th September 2013

Movement in Reserves Statement

	General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	TOTAL USEABLE RESERVES	Unusable Reserves	TOTAL COUNCIL RESERVES
	£000	£000 Note 8	£000	£000 Note 33	£000	£000 Note 23	£000
Movement in reserves during 2012/13							
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2012 B/F	12,914	5,233	0	528	18,675	2,808	21,483
Surplus/(Deficit) on provision of services	(5,634)	0	0	0	(5,634)	0	(5,634)
Other comprehensive income and expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	(6,098)	(6,098)
Total comprehensive income and expenditure	(5,634)	0	0	0	(5,634)	(6,098)	(11,732)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 7)	4,925	0	0	270	5,195	(5,195)	0
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to earmarked reserves	(709)	0	0	270	(439)	(11,293)	(11,732)
Transfers to/from earmarked reserves (Note 8)	(1,618)	1,571	0	0	(47)	47	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	(2,327)	1,571	0	270	(486)	(11,246)	(11,732)
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2013 C/F	10,587	6,804	0	798	18,189	(8,438)	9,751
Movement in reserves during 2011/12							
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2011	13,882	4,480	2	594	18,958	17,600	36,558
Surplus/(Deficit) on provision of services	(6,218)	0	0	0	(6,218)	0	(6,218)
Other comprehensive income and expenditure	0	0	0	0	0	(8,857)	(8,857)
Total comprehensive income and expenditure	(6,218)	0	0	0	(6,218)	(8,857)	(15,075)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 7)	6,003	0	(2)	(66)	5,935	(5,935)	0
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to earmarked reserves	(215)	0	(2)	(66)	(283)	(14,792)	(15,075)
Transfers to/from earmarked reserves (Note 8)	(753)	753	0	0	0	0	0
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	(968)	753	(2)	(66)	(283)	(14,792)	(15,075)
BALANCE AT 31 MARCH 2012 C/F	12,914	5,233	0	528	18,675	2,808	21,483

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2011/12				2012/13		
Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000		Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000
12,462	(8,040)	4,422	Cultural and Recreational Services	11,391	(6,637)	4,754
6,007	(1,595)	4,412	Environmental Services	5,626	(1,541)	4,085
3,215	(173)	3,042	Refuse Collection	3,297	(57)	3,240
5,266	(2,274)	2,992	Planning Services	4,844	(2,068)	2,776
40,352	(36,199)	4,153	Housing Services	42,537	(39,099)	3,438
3,514	(2,434)	1,080	Highways and Transport Services	2,497	(2,116)	381
8,579	(8,351)	228	Council Tax Benefits	9,078	(8,746)	332
1,471	(576)	895	Local Taxation Collection	1,314	(612)	702
498	(258)	240	Other Central Services	1,067	(668)	399
3,307	(483)	2,824	Corporate and Democratic Core	2,812	(5)	2,807
923	(1)	922	Non-Distributed Costs	1,166	0	1,166
85,594	(60,384)	25,210	Cost of Services (note 27)	85,629	(61,549)	24,080
			Other Operating Expenditure (Note 9)	5,110	0	5,110
5,094	(582)	4,512	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Note 10)	3,638	(3,178)	460
2,833	(1,753)	1,080	Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income (Note 11)	0	(24,016)	(24,016)
0	(24,584)	(24,584)	(Surplus)/Deficit on provision of services	94,377	(88,743)	5,634
93,521	(87,303)	6,218	(Surplus) or deficit in the revaluation of non-current assets (Note 23)			113
		(206)	Actuarial losses/(gains) on pension assets and liabilities			
		9,063	(Note 39)			5,985
		8,857	Other comprehensive income and expenditure			6,098
		15,075	TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE			11,732

Balance Sheet

31 March 2012		Notes	31 March 2013
£000			£000
55,165	Property, Plant and Equipment	12	56,733
65	Heritage Assets	13	65
18,504	Investment Property	14	18,424
1,616	Intangible Assets	15	1,554
5,795	Long Term Investments	16	0
961	Long Term Debtors	16	962
82,106	Long Term Assets		77,738
5,771	Short Term Investments	16	6,144
185	Inventories	17	147
4,804	Short Term Debtors	18	5,940
0	Cash and Cash Equivalents	19	902
805	Assets held for sale	20	300
11,565	Current Assets		13,433
(320)	Cash and Cash Equivalents	19	0
(4,611)	Short Term Borrowing	16	(6,111)
(5,100)	Short Term Creditors	21	(5,943)
0	Provisions	40	(137)
(10,031)	Current Liabilities		(12,191)
(10,000)	Long Term Borrowing	16	(10,000)
(816)	Other Long Term Liabilities	16	(795)
(51,341)	Net Pensions Liability	39	(58,434)
(62,157)	Long Term Liabilities		(69,229)
21,483	Net Assets		9,751
18,675	Useable Reserves	22	18,189
2,808	Unusable Reserves	23	(8,438)
21,483	Total Reserves		9,751

Steve Couper CPFA
Assistant Director (Finance & Resources)

26th September 2013

These financial statements replace the unaudited financial statements certified by Steve Couper Assistant Director (Finance & Resources) on the 25th June 2013.

Cash Flow Statement

2011/12		2012/13
£000		£000
(6,218)	Net surplus/(deficit) on the provision of services	(5,634)
5,399	Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non cash movements	6,166
(1,375)	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities	(1,980)
(2,194)	Net cash flows from Operating Activities (Note 24)	(1,448)
(246)	Investing Activities (Note 25)	1,273
2,323	Financing Activities (Note 26)	1,397
(117)	Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	1,222
(203)	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	(320)
(320)	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period (Note 19)	902

Note 1. Accounting Policies

Accounting Policies in respect of Concepts and Principles

➤ General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2012/13 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2013. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2012/13, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The underlying concepts of the accounts include the:

- Council being a 'going concern' – all operations continuing.
- Accrual of income and expenditure – placing items in the year they relate to rather than the year they take place.
- Primacy of legislative requirements – legislation overrides standard accounting practice.

The accounting statements are prepared with the objective of presenting a true and fair view of the financial position and transactions of the Council.

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.

The accounting policies are reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that they are appropriate, compliant with accepted accounting practice and relevant to the Council's ongoing business activity. Further, the accounting policies are applied on a consistent basis.

➤ Government Grants and Contributions (IAS 20)

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 credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement if the conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been met. However if the conditions require that the grant or contribution is returned where these conditions are not met, it cannot be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital

Grants Unapplied Account. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied Account are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied.

The Council receives monies from developers, S106 monies, which are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and transferred to an earmarked fund. The condition for these contributions is that they are returnable 10 years after receipt if they are not used. It is considered that 10 years is too far into the future to be treated as receipts in advance.

➤ **Accruals of Income and Expenditure**

Income and expenditure are accounted for in the year to which they relate, not simply when cash payments are made or received, by the creation of debtors and creditors which are recorded in the balance sheet. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- 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 written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.
- Where the Council is acting as an agent for another party (e.g. in the collection of NNDR and council tax), income and expenditure are recognised only to the extent that commission is receivable by the Council for the agency services provided or the Council incurs expenses directly on its own behalf in providing the services.

➤ **Overheads and Support Services**

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to services on the basis of use in accordance with the costing principles of the CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice 2012/13. The basis of the charge varies according to the nature of the support service provided (e.g. administrative buildings are apportioned on the basis of area occupied.) The total absorption costing principle is used – the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received, with the exception of:

- Corporate and Democratic Core – costs relating to the Council's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation.
- Non-Distributed Costs – for example the cost of lump sum employer contributions to the pension scheme.

These two cost categories are defined in the Service Reporting Code of Practice and accounted for as separate headings in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The cost of overheads relating to staff time spent on capital projects is treated as a revenue charge to the service rather than a charge to the capital project.

➤ **Changes in Accounting Policies, Prior Period Adjustments and Estimates and Errors**

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, or other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively, if material, by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied. For 2012/13, there are no new accounting policies in respect of statutory requirements or to ensure local circumstances are better reflected within the Annual Financial Report.

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.

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

➤ **Exceptional Items**

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

➤ **Interest Receipts**

Interest receipts credited to the General Fund include all amounts received in respect of balances held and invested externally, except for interest earned on the S106 reserve (one of the earmarked reserves) which is credited to that reserve. Interest receipts are included in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

➤ **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 Movement in Reserves Statement; they are included in the balance sheet as the General Fund Balance, Capital Reserve, Earmarked Reserves and Capital Grants Unapplied.

When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to count against the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

However, there are other reserves that cannot be used to finance expenditure:

- Capital Adjustment Account – these are capital resources set aside to meet past expenditure.
- Revaluation Reserve – the gains of valuation of assets not yet realised by sales.
- Financial Instruments Adjustment Account – balancing account to allow for differences in statutory requirements and accounting requirements for borrowings and investments.
- Collection Fund Adjustment Account – holds the difference between the income included in the Income and Expenditure Account and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund.
- Pensions Reserve – balancing account to allow the pensions liability to be included in the balance sheet.
- Accumulated Compensated Absences Adjustment Account – the value of untaken leave and other employee benefits.

➤ **Value Added Tax**

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

➤ **Events after the Balance Sheet Date**

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 is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

➤ **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 investment date and that are readily convertible to cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

Accounting Policies in respect of Non-Current Assets

➤ **Property, Plant and Equipment (IAS 16)**

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the provision 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 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. There is a de minimis level of £10,000, however where the cumulative value of individual assets is greater than £10,000 and they meet the criteria for recognition they will 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; and
- the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

- Fair Value: Land and Buildings, Investment Properties
- Depreciated Historic Cost: Vehicles, Plant and Equipment; Infrastructure, Intangibles
- Historic Cost: Community Assets, Assets Under Construction, Assets Held for Sale

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

Assets included in the balance sheet at fair value are revalued regularly to ensure that their carrying value is not materially different from their fair value at the year end, but as a minimum every three years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of an impairment loss previously charged to a service revenue account. Thus there is no impact on the council tax.

Where decreases in value are identified, the revaluation loss is accounted for:

- 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); and
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

- Components

The Council will separately account for components where the cost of the component is significant in relation to the overall total cost of the asset, and the useful economic life of the component is significantly different from the useful economic life of the asset. Individual components with similar useful lives and depreciation methods will be grouped.

For this purpose a significant component cost would be 10% of the overall total cost of the asset but with a de-minimis component threshold of £100,000.

This policy has been applied prospectively when non-current assets have been revalued and will be considered only for new revaluations carried out after 1st April 2012 and when enhancement and/or acquisition expenditure is incurred after that date. The only assets that have been split into components in the 2012/13 accounts are offices and leisure centres. This is consistent with the prior year.

The impact is that some components have a useful life of between 15 and 35 years, which in some instances is different to the useful life of the main building and therefore the depreciation charge varies from that based on the same useful life for the whole asset.

- Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where there 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:

- 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); and
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

- 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 posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of

any previously recognised losses. 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 back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as Held for Sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision 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 to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off 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 Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of property, plant and equipment 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 Movement in Reserves Statement.

- Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by allocating the value of the asset over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets where the finite useful life cannot be determined, (i.e. land and Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated as follows:

Asset Type	Depreciation basis	Useful Economic Life
Operational Buildings	Straight-line allocation over the estimated life of the building or component where identified separately	5 years to 45 years
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Straight line allocation over the estimated life of the asset	1 year to 48 years
Infrastructure		3 years to 44 years

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, 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.

The residual value of the assets is reviewed at least every five years and the depreciation adjusted to match any change in the life of the asset.

➤ **Depreciation and other Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets**

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding property, plant and equipment during the year:

- depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off
- amortisation (annual charge) of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual provision from revenue, known as the minimum revenue provision (MRP), to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by MRP in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction within the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement to reflect the difference between the two.

The basis for calculating MRP is restricted by legislation and the policy has to be approved by the Council. The policy for 2012/13 is that MRP is on an annuity basis. This results in the MRP increasing over the life of the asset to match the fall in the interest cost as the debt is “notionally” repaid. The net result is a consistent charge to the Council’s accounts over the assumed life of the asset.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal; receipts from disposals are credited to the same line. Any accumulated revaluation gains in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

➤ **Heritage Assets**

Tangible and Intangible Heritage Assets (described in this summary of significant accounting policies as heritage assets)

Heritage Assets are those that are held and maintained by the council principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture. Such assets can have historical, artistic, scientific, geophysical or environmental qualities.

Heritage Assets are recognised and measured (including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses) in accordance with the Authority’s accounting policies on property, plant and equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to heritage assets as detailed below.

The Authority's Heritage Assets are accounted for as follows:

- Cultural

The Council has identified the Norman Cross and Eagle as a Heritage Asset and this is disclosed in the balance sheet, based on insurance valuation, at £0.065m. It should be noted that there is no phased basis of valuation. This asset is:

- deemed to have an indeterminate life and consequently the Council does not consider it appropriate to charge depreciation.
- static and located at Norman Cross, Cambridgeshire, near to the intersection with the A1.

- Mayoral Regalia and Art Collection

The Council has two mayoral chains of office and two paintings; however the total estimated value of these assets, based on insurance valuations, is £0.033m. As individually these assets are not material, they have not been included in the balance sheet.

➤ **Intangible Assets**

Expenditure, on an accruals basis, for assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council (e.g. software licences) are capitalised where they will bring benefit for more than one year. The balance is amortised (charged) to the relevant service revenue account over the economic life of the investment to reflect the pattern of consumption of benefits.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life and debited to the relevant service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are debited to the relevant service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is debited or credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

➤ **Investment Properties**

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if they are used in any way for the delivery of services.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's-length. Properties are not depreciated and are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are debited/credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

Rental income received in relation to investment properties is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line and results in a gain for the General Fund Balance. However revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance and are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and, for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000, the Capital Receipts Reserve.

➤ **Leases**

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental 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.

- 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. 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 and equipment, applied to write down the lease liability, and
- a finance charge which is debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

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

In practice the Council has two categories of finance leases in primary rental for industrial units and secondary leases for certain items of equipment.

- Operating leases.

Rentals paid under operating leases are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from the use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

- The Council as Lessor

- Finance Leases

Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal, matched by a lease (long-term) debtor in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor, and
- finance income which is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. 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 posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When the future rentals are received, the element for this 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 values of disposals are 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 Movement in Reserves Statement.

- Operating Leases.

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease.

➤ **Revenue Expenditure funded from Capital under Statute**

Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute represents expenditure that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but does not result in the creation of property, plant and equipment. Items incurred during the year have been written off as expenditure to the relevant service revenue account in the year. Where it has been determined to meet the cost of the item from existing capital resources or by borrowing, amounts charged are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Accounting Policies in respect of Current Assets

➤ **Inventories**

The Council has a number of inventories but none either individually or in aggregate are material to the accounts. However, the valuation approach in respect of the main inventory types (Fuel and Stock for Sale) is First In First Out.

➤ **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.

➤ **Provisions and Contingent Liabilities**

• Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires a financial settlement and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made. Provisions are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and are measured at the best estimate of the expenditure that is likely to be required. When payments are made they are charged to the provision.

• Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises from an event which is too uncertain or the amount of the obligation cannot be reliably estimated. The liability is disclosed as a contingent liability as a note to the accounts. 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.

Accounting Policies in respect of Employee Benefits

➤ **Benefits Payable during Employment**

Short-term employee benefits (those that fall due wholly within 12 months of the year-end), such as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees, are recognised as an expense in the year in which employees provide services to the Council.

An accrual is made against services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the cost of holiday entitlements and other forms of leave earned by employees

but not taken before the year-end and 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. Any accrual made is required under statute to be reversed out of the General Fund Balance by a credit to the Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Thus there is no impact on the council tax.

➤ **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.

Termination benefits are charged to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account when the Council can demonstrate that it is committed to either terminating the employment of an officer or has made an offer of voluntary redundancy even if the officer has not left the Council by 31 March.

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

➤ **Post Employment Benefits (Pensions)**

Employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pensions Scheme (LGPS), administered by Cambridgeshire County Council. This scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees work for the Council.

- The liabilities of the LGPS 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, etc, and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using an appropriate discount rate (based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds as identified by the actuary).
- The assets of the Cambridgeshire County Council 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 pensions liability is analysed into seven components:
 - **current service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – debited in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.

- **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 Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs.
- **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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- **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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.
- **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 Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs.
- **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 Cambridgeshire Pension Fund** – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

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, rather than the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, 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 any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The balance (currently negative) that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact on 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.

➤ **Discretionary Benefits**

The Council also 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.

Accounting Policies in respect of Financial Instruments

➤ **Financial Assets**

The main financial assets attributable to the Council are:

- Loans and receivables

Financial assets that are applicable to the Council are loans and receivables which are assets with a fixed or determinable payment but not quoted in an active market (e.g. trade debtors, fixed term investments). 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 and carried at their amortised cost. The Council has the following loans and receivables:

- Debtors

Debtors are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts at the year-end, taking into account the nature, value and age of debts and historic losses for similar groups of assets. Bad debts are written off when they are identified.

Debtors falling due after more than one year are classified as long-term debtors, which includes housing improvement loans and housing advances. The charge for these services is to the Housing Services line in the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

- Cash and equivalents

Cash and equivalents comprise cash in hand and current balances with banks and similar institutions, which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash. Due to their nature and short-term maturity, the fair values for debtors and cash and equivalents are estimated using their carrying values.

- Investments

The Council has both long and short-term investments with various financial institutions. Investments are carried at their amortised cost. The fair value of investments is determined by discounting the future cash flows using a relevant market rate of interest comparable to the rate for the same investment from a comparable institution, available at the balance sheet date.

The Council has made loans for home improvement which are interest-free (soft loans.) When these soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the Housing Services line in the Net Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement 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. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is managed by a transfer to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account. It is included in the 'Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under regulation' line in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

➤ **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 initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised. The Council has the following liabilities:

- Creditors

Creditors are carried at their original invoice amount.

- Bank overdrafts

Bank overdrafts comprise amounts owed to banks and similar institutions and are repayable on demand.

Due to their nature and short-term maturity, the fair values for creditors and bank overdrafts are estimated using their carrying values.

- **Short-term borrowing**

Loans of less than 1 year and carried at amortised cost.

- **Long-term loan**

Loans with the Public Works Loans Board are carried at their amortised cost but with the fair value disclosed as a note.

Note 2. Accounting Standards that have been Issued but have not yet been Adopted

The following are the accounting policies that have been issued but as yet have not been adopted by the Council as at the balance sheet date:

- **IAS 1 – Presentation of Financial Statements**

A possible regrouping of items currently disclosed within “Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure” to “(Surplus)/Deficit in the Provision of Services”; including items where a profit/loss might occur at some future point. The main impact of this change will be on the available for sale financial assets under IFRS 9. It is expected that this will have a marginal impact on the Council.

- **IFRS13 – Fair Value Measurement**

This will introduce a more consistent definition for measurements of assets or liabilities that will be held at fair value:

“the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date”.

This revised definition will apply when other standards require an assessment under fair value and all fair value assessments from 2013/14 onwards will be undertaken on this basis.

- **IAS 19 – Employee Benefits**

The removal of “gain/loss on recognition”, but this is rarely used or permitted within the UK, thus it is expected that this will not apply to the Council. In addition, there will be the introduction of a “recognition point” in respect of Termination Benefits whereby the Council will not be able to withdraw an offer, it is expected that this will apply.

- **IPSAS 32 – Service Concession Arrangements**

This might not be wholly applicable to the Council as this is, in the main, directed at PFI type arrangements (embedded leases); however, there might be a consequential impact in respect of financial instruments but its impact on the Council is expected to be minimal.

- **IFRS 7 – Financial Instruments Disclosures**

There will be a new set of disclosures that will have the aim of assisting readers of the accounts in the netting arrangements for Financial Instruments that occurs within the Balance Sheet. It is expected that this will be introduced by the Council.

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:

- The government has announced a significant reduction in funding for local government over the term of this parliament which has introduced a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of service provision. At the present time, the Council estimates that it will need to cut its net budget by £2.6m by 2017/18. This will be through a process of service rationalisation which will be finalised through the annual budget decisions process. It is probable that there will be an impact on how the Council utilises its asset portfolio; however, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication of which assets might become impaired as a result of a need to close facilities due to a reduction in service provision.
- In line with the Code of Practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2012/13, based on International Financial Reporting Standards, the Council has not charged depreciation on land, investment properties, community assets, assets held for sale and assets under construction. For all these assets, the total value for 2012/13 for land is £11.046m and Buildings (NBV) is £18.020m (2011/12; land is £11.592m and Buildings (NBV) is £14.895m).
- The Council has taken professional advice from the Pension Fund's actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, to determine the overall net liability of the fund which is £58.434m for 2012/13; this has increased by £7.093m since 2011/12. However:
 - This does not adversely affect the financial position of the Council as the actuarial valuation is based on a number of assumptions about the future, as shown in Note 39.
 - The revenue impact of the deficit is formally reviewed by the actuary on a triennial basis who determines revised employer contributions for the forthcoming 3-year period. Further, fluctuations in pension assets and liabilities occur due to movements in market investments.

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

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

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2013 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Property	<p>All Property is reviewed on a 3 year rolling basis. Where an asset has not been specifically reviewed a “table-top” analytical review is undertaken to determine if the principle valuation indexes show a material change in the current assets valuation.</p> <p>In addition, an annual impairment review is undertaken to determine if any of the Council’s assets have been impaired.</p>	<p>72% of the Council’s assets are valued at fair value, so the impact of changes in market value is significant. If there was a 1% fall in market value, it is estimated that the value of the Council’s property assets would reduce by £0.349m.</p> <p>If an asset is impaired then the carrying value will be reduced. However, it is not possible to supply an estimate of the likely impact of impairment as this is determined by non-market valuation events.</p>
Plant and Equipment	<p>Plant and Equipment are valued on an historic cost basis.</p>	<p>There will not be any changes to this valuation due to market conditions because the valuation approach reflects costs at acquisition or similar situations.</p>
Investment Properties	<p>Investment Properties are valued on an annual basis and are valued at fair value.</p>	<p>It is estimated that a 1% fall in market value would reduce the value of the Council’s investment properties by £0.184m.</p>
Pensions Liability	<p>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 actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.</p> <p>The Government is also intending to make changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme.</p>	<p>The effects on the net pensions liability of changes in individual assumptions, as provided by the actuary, can be measured. For instance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 0.5% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in the pension liability of 10% or £15.152m. • A 1 year increase in life expectancy would result in an increase in pension liability of 3% or £4.557m. • A 0.5% increase in the salary increase rate would result in an increase in pension liability of 3% or £4.288m. • A 0.5% increase in the pension increase rate would result in an increase in pension liability of 7% or £10.651m.
Sundry Debt Arrears	<p>During the year a root-and-branch review of the Bad Debt Provision (BDP), also known as Debtor Impairment, calculation has been undertaken. This review established, based on the Council’s current aged debt profile, that the BDP should be</p>	<p>Each debt type now has an independent BDP rate determined by previous debt activity. If only Sundry Debtor debt is considered, if the current BDP was increased by 10%, this would have an additional £40,089 impact on revenue. However, to achieve such an increase in the BDP, the</p>

	<p>reduced by £0.390m compared to the previous year.</p> <p>The new methodology is based on a review of payment behaviour over the past 4 years; thereby taking into account debts paid and those written off.</p> <p>At 31 March 2013, the Council has a net debtors balance of £5.745m.</p>	<p>actual debt itself would have to increase by £0.132m.</p>
<p>Sundry Creditors (Housing Benefits)</p>	<p>During the year the Council pays Housing Benefits to local residents who are entitled to receive it; these payments are reimbursed by Central Government Subsidy. The Subsidy reimbursement is for amounts paid and makes no adjustment to reflect the period that the payment covers.</p> <p>The Housing Benefit payments made by the Council are on one of the two following bases:</p> <p>f</p> <p>i. 4-week in arrears, or</p> <p>ii. 2-weeks in arrears/ 2-weeks in advance.</p> <p>At the year-end no accounting adjustment is made for those payments that were paid in the following year but were applicable to 2012/13. The estimated cost of those payments that have been paid in 2013/14 but were applicable to 2012/13 is £0.883m.</p>	<p>The amount of Housing Benefit in payment at any given time is dependent on the number of claims made at that time, which is itself affected by both local and national economic conditions. Consequently it is difficult to provide a meaningful sensitivity analysis. However, it should be noted that the "net" impact on the Council of any change in accounting for the cost of Housing Benefit payments would be nil because the Council would be reimbursed by the same amount by Central Government.</p>

Note 5. Material Items of Income and Expenditure

The primary purpose of this note is to disclose those material items of income and expenditure that are not part of the ordinary course of business or events of the Council (i.e. extraordinary). During 2012/13 no such items of income or expenditure were incurred (2011/12; nil.)

Note 6. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

The Annual Financial Report, incorporating the Statement of Accounts, was authorised for issue by the Assistant Director: Finance and Resources on 25th June 2013.

With regard to 2012/13:

- **Adjusting Events**

The financial statements and notes have not been adjusted for any such material events which took place after the 31 March 2013.

- **Non-Adjusting Events**

Business Rates – Liability for refunding ratepayers

New arrangements for the retention of business rates come into effect on 1 April 2013. The liability for refunding ratepayers who have successfully appealed against the rateable value of their properties on the rating list will be shared in proportion to the share of NNDR attributable to each preceptor. This will include amounts that were paid over to Central Government in respect of 2012/13 and prior years. Previously, such amounts would not have been recognised as income by the Council as Billing Authority, but would have been transferred to Central Government. Under the new arrangements the Council's share of the appeals refunds will be 40 percent which is estimated to be £0.7m as at 1 April 2013. From 1 April 2013 the Council will need to provide for this amount. As the legislation does not come into force until 1 April 2013 this has been treated in the accounts for the year ending 31 March 2013 as a non adjusting post balance sheet event.

Material Contracts

Shortly after the end of the financial year the Council has entered into a contract with two construction related companies, totalling £4.270m, in respect of the building of the Multi-Storey car park as part of the Huntingdon Town Centre Development.

Note 7. Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis Under Regulations

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

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

General Fund Balance

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

Capital Receipts Reserve

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

Capital Grants Unapplied

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

2012/13

	Useable Reserves			
	General Fund balance £000	Capital receipts reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account:				
<i>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(3,564)	0	0	3,564
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	(491)	0	0	491
Fair value of investment properties	(80)	0	0	80
Net Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(970)	0	0	970
Net carrying amount of non-current assets sold	(1,033)	0	0	1,033
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:	97	0	0	(97)
<i>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Minimum revenue provision for capital funding	835	0	0	(835)
Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to fund capital expenditure	0	1,114	0	(1,114)
Proceeds of sale of non-current assets	1,107	(1,107)	0	0
Repayment of loan	0	(16)	0	16
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool.	(9)	9	0	0
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(10)	0	0	10
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 39)	(4,808)	0	0	4,808
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	3,700	0	0	(3,700)
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	35	0	0	(35)
Adjustments involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account				
Capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	270	0	(270)	0
Adjustment involving the Accumulated Compensated Absences Adjustment Account				
Adjustments in relation to short-term compensated absences	(4)	0	0	4
Total Adjustments	(4,925)	0	(270)	5,195

2011/12 Comparative Figures

	Useable Reserves			
	General Fund balance £000	Capital receipts reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
Adjustments involving the Capital Adjustment Account: <i>Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(3,265)	0	0	3,265
Revaluation Gains/-Losses on Property, Plant & Equipment	(639)	0	0	639
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	(616)	0	0	616
Fair value of investment properties	(723)	0	0	723
Net revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(2,237)	0	0	2,237
Carrying amount of non-current assets sold	(176)	0	0	176
Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	1,378	0	0	(1,378)
<i>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>				
Minimum revenue provision for capital funding	628	0	0	(628)
Lease adjustment	(24)	0	0	24
Adjustments involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Use of the capital receipts reserve to finance capital expenditure	0	1,164	0	(1,164)
Proceeds from sale of non current assets	565	(565)	0	0
Repayment of loan	(18)	(600)	0	618
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool.	(3)	3	0	0
Adjustments involving the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(14)	0	0	14
Adjustments involving the Pensions Reserve:				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 39)	(4,720)	0	0	4,720
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	3,879	0	0	(3,879)
Adjustments involving the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(44)	0	0	44
Adjustments involving the Capital Grants Unapplied Account				
Net capital grants and contributions unapplied credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	0	0	66	(66)
Adjustment involving the Accumulated Compensated Absences Adjustment Account				
Adjustments in relation to short-term compensated absences	26	0	0	(26)
Total Adjustments	(6,003)	2	66	5,935

Note 8. Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund balance in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts transferred back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure (either revenue expenditure or direct revenue financing of capital).

	Balance 31.3.11 £000	Transfers in £000	Transfers out £000	Balance 31.3.12 £000	Transfers in £000	Transfers out £000	Balance 31.3.13 £000	Purpose of Reserve
S106 agreements	(1,386)	(774)	863	(1,297)	(409)	178	(1,528)	A
Commutated S106 payments	(1,024)	(527)	109	(1,442)	(7)	114	(1,335)	B
Repairs and renewals funds	(879)	(344)	239	(984)	(348)	242	(1,090)	C
Delayed projects	(559)	(749)	559	(749)	(237)	0	(986)	D
Special reserve	(360)	0	100	(260)	(1,000)	0	(1,260)	E
Government grants with no conditions	0	(166)	0	(166)	0	166	0	F
Other reserves	(272)	(87)	24	(335)	(295)	25	(605)	G
Total	(4,480)	(2,647)	1,894	(5,233)	(2,296)	725	(6,804)	
Net movement in Earmarked Reserves		(753)			(1,571)			

Purpose of Reserve

A	S106 agreements	Contains payments made by developers to meet their planning approval obligation to contribute to the funding of infrastructure and community requirements. As a relevant project is completed it is funded in all or part from this reserve.
B	Commutated S106 payments	Represents payments made by developers to meet their planning approval obligation to contribute to the funding of the maintenance of specified assets for a set period of years. As relevant maintenance costs are incurred funding is transferred from the reserve.
C	Repairs and renewals funds	The services contribute an annual sum and the funds are used to pay for one-off repair or renewal items; thereby evening out the spending on large maintenance items.
D	Delayed projects	To fund items that were included in the budget for one year but will not be spent until the following year.
E	Special reserve	To support business activity that will achieve future savings.
F	Government grants with no conditions	The government grants reserve is for grants paid in the year of account but relate to the following year.
G	Other reserves	This is a summary of other less significant reserves that support ongoing service activity, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the building control reserve, • the home improvement agency reserve, and • the Housing Association footpaths reserve.

Note 9. Other Operating Expenditure

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
4,533	Parish Council precepts	4,708
379	Drainage board levies	375
3	Payments to the Government housing capital receipts pool	9
(403)	(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non current assets	18
4,512	Total	5,110

Note 10. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
414	Interest payable and similar charges	416
1,211	Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	1,798
(598)	Interest receivable	(445)
110	Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(1,335)
(57)	Trading operations	26
1,080	Total	460

Note 11. Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
(11,977)	Council tax income	(12,533)
(8,038)	Non domestic rates	(9,293)
(3,655)	Non-ringfenced government grants	(2,093)
(914)	Capital grants	(97)
(24,584)	Total	(24,016)

Note 12. Property, Plant and Equipment

Movements in 2012/13	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, furniture & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation						
At 1 April 2012	37,926	14,677	10,573	1,406	586	65,168
Additions in year	118	1,810	68	0	3,654	5,650
Revaluation increases and decreases recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	37	0	0	0	0	37
Revaluation increases and decreases recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(125)	0	0	0	0	(125)
Transfer to other types of assets	(320)	0	0	0	(29)	(349)
Adjustment for disposal	(152)	(392)	(24)	0	0	(568)
At 31 March 2013	37,484	16,095	10,617	1,406	4,211	69,813
Accumulated Depreciation						
At 1 April 2012	(1,320)	(6,476)	(2,207)	0	0	(10,003)
Depreciation charged in year	(1,338)	(1,651)	(490)	0	0	(3,479)
Depreciation written out to revaluation reserve	3	0	0	0	0	3
Adjustment for disposal	28	357	14	0	0	399
At 31 March 2013	(2,627)	(7,770)	(2,683)	0	0	(13,080)
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2013	34,857	8,325	7,934	1,406	4,211	56,733
At 31 March 2012	36,606	8,201	8,366	1,406	586	55,165

Movements in 2011/12	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, furniture & Equipment £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Community Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation						
At 1 April 2011	37,594	13,021	10,484	1,406	661	63,166
Additions in year	1,893	1,773	58	0	307	4,031
Revaluation increases and decreases recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	6	0	0	0	0	6
Revaluation increases and decreases recognised in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(359)	0	0	0	(10)	(369)
Non-enhancing capital expenditure (*)	(656)	0	0	0	0	(656)
Reclassifications of assets	203	2	31	0	(236)	0
Transfer to other types of assets	(600)	0	0	0	(136)	(736)
Adjustment for disposal	(155)	(119)	0	0	0	(274)
At 31 March 2012	37,926	14,677	10,573	1,406	586	65,168
Accumulated Depreciation	(709)	(4,975)	(1,718)	0	0	(7,402)
At 1 April 2011						
Depreciation charged in year	(1,190)	(1,586)	(489)	0	0	(3,265)
Depreciation written out to revaluation reserve	135	0	0	0	0	135
Depreciation written out to Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	386	0	0	0	0	386
Transfer to other types of assets	45	0	0	0	0	45
Adjustment for disposal	13	85	0	0	0	98
At 31 March 2012	(1,320)	(6,476)	(2,207)	0	0	(10,003)
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2012	36,606	8,201	8,366	1,406	586	55,165
At 31 March 2011	36,885	8,046	8,766	1,406	661	55,764
* This expenditure relates to capital works at the St. Ives Leisure Centre that was required as part of its refurbishment and redevelopment. This capital enhancement has not added to the value of the asset but will ensure improvements in Leisure Services to the area.						

Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2013 the Council was contractually committed to capital works valued at approximately £1.6m (31 March 2012; £0.4m;).

The main schemes are:

Leisure Services:	One Leisure St Ives Redevelopment:	£m
Environmental Health:	CAB Office	1.000
Housing Services:	DFGs	0.046
Transportation:	St Neots Railway Station	0.433
		0.116

Revaluations

- Land and buildings

These assets are held at current value (fair value) and were revalued as at 1 April 2009 onwards. The Council is now operating a three year rolling programme of revaluations in place of the previous 5 yearly valuation. In addition where there has been significant capital expenditure on properties in the year a revaluation will take place.

In 2012/13 the valuations were carried out externally and independently by Mr MJ Beardall BLE (Hons) MRICS (Member, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors) of Barker Storey Matthews. Mr Beardall has relevant experience in valuing these types of property and is a member of the Valuer Registration Scheme, and meets the requirements of the Red Book with regard to qualifications of the valuer, knowledge and skills, and independence and objectivity. The valuation date is as at 31st March 2013 and the valuations were undertaken during March and April 2013.

The specific assumptions and valuation approach that has been applied or followed in estimating fair values in respect of Land and Buildings by the Council's valuer were as follows:

- The updated valuations have been prepared in accordance with the publication Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Valuation – Professional Standards (7th edition). With specific reference made to UK Appendix 5 – Valuation of Local Authority Assets.
- The valuations have been made at fair value. For land and buildings fair value is interpreted as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing condition. Existing use is defined by RICS in Valuation Statement 1.3 of the standards as “the estimated amount for which an asset should exchange on the valuation date between a willing buyer and seller in an arm's length transaction, and where the parties had acted knowledgeably, prudently and without compulsion”.
- The fair value has been calculated by reference to comparable market evidence, including market evidence from the local geographical area. Adjustments have been made to factor in any unusual or onerous obligations, such as repairing obligations.
- Where market evidence is unavailable due to the nature of the property; a depreciated replacement cost (DRC) method has been used. The DRC approach requires an estimate of the value of the land in its existing use together with the current gross replacement costs of the building and its external works. Adjustments have been made to reflect the age, condition, economic, functional and environmental obsolescence and other locational factors. The build cost for DRC purposes has been calculated using the Building Cost Information Service quarterly review of building prices and is representative for an instant build approach.
- No allowance or discount has been made for any flooding of the market, which might exist if a number of properties were offered for sale simultaneously.
- No adjustments have taken place for changes in value which may have taken place since the valuation date or for prospects of future growth.
- Useful economic lives are based on how long the asset will deliver economic benefits for any purpose. This is based on the type of construction, the current age, and the condition of the asset.
- No unusual or especially onerous restrictions, encumbrances or outgoings have been considered in the valuation and the valuation assumes good title is shown. Also the valuation is not affected, by any matter that would be revealed by a local search.
- Assets falling outside of specific revaluation in the current financial year, have been considered and it is the valuer's belief that no other assets require an impairment review.

- Components have been considered in relation to LAAP 86 Componentisation of Property, Plant and Equipment, and the Council's componentisation policy.
- Building surveys have not been carried out, nor have inaccessible parts of buildings been inspected.
- No investigation has been made to determine whether or not any deleterious or hazardous material has been used in the construction of the properties or has since been incorporated. It has therefore been assumed in valuing the properties that such investigations would not disclose the presence of any such materials.

Vehicles, Plant, Equipment, Infrastructure, and Intangible Assets are valued at historic cost, as at the date of acquisition and subsequent capital enhancement expenditure less depreciation. Community Assets, Assets Under Construction and Assets Held For Sale, are valued at historic cost at the date of acquisition and subsequent capital enhancement. Consequently there is no ongoing revaluation review for these assets.

Revaluation Profile	Other Land and Buildings £000
Valued at Fair Value as at:	
31 March 2013	9,065
31 March 2012	2,246
31 March 2011	16,572
31 March 2010	805
31 March 2009	6,169
Total Valuation	34,857

Note 13. Heritage Assets

Cultural Heritage Assets

The Council has identified the Norman Cross Eagle as a Heritage Asset and this is disclosed in the balance sheet, based on insurance valuation, at £0.065m. It should be noted that there is no phased basis of valuation. This asset is:

- deemed to have an indeterminate life and consequently the Council does not consider it appropriate to charge depreciation.
- static and located at Norman Cross, Cambridgeshire, near to the intersection with the A1.

Changes to the Heritage Asset Portfolio and Valuations

There have not been any additions, disposals, revaluations or reclassifications to the Heritage Assets portfolio during 2012/13.

Reconciliation of the Carrying Value of Heritage Assets held by the Council:

	Cultural £000	Total Heritage Assets £000
Cost or Valuation At 1 April 2012	65	65
At 31 March 2013	65	65
Cost or Valuation At 1 April 2011	65	65
At 31 March 2012	65	65
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2013	65	65
At 31 March 2012	65	65

Note 14. Investment Property

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as financing and investment income and expenditure.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
(1,779)	Rental income from investment property	(1,791)
365	Direct operating expenses arising from investment property	376
(1,414)		(1,415)
723	Revaluation Adjustment	80
(691)	Net (gain)/loss	(1,335)

The movement in investment properties balances during the year are shown below.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
19,227	Balance at start of the year	18,504
(723)	Net gain/(loss) for fair value	(80)
18,504	Balance at end of the year	18,424

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in the investment properties or the Council's right to receive the income and proceeds of disposal.

There are no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or repair, maintain or enhance such property.

Note 15. Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its software as intangible assets, where the software is not an integral part of a particular IT system and accounted for as part of the hardware item of Property, Plant and Equipment. The intangible assets include both purchased licenses and internally generated software.

All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Council. The useful life assigned to software is generally 5 years.

The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis. The amortisation of £0.491m charged to revenue in 2012/13 was either charged to the Information Management Division and then absorbed as an overhead across all the service headings in the Net Expenditure of Services or directly to services.

Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2013 the Council was not contractually committed to capital works. (31 March 2012; £0.001m).

The movement on intangible asset balances during the year is as follows:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
	Balance at start of year:	
4,458	Gross carrying amounts	5,093
(2,861)	Accumulated amortisation	(3,477)
1,597	Net carrying amount at start of year	1,616
541	Additions	582
94	Assets transferred from assets under construction	0
(616)	Amortisation for the period	(491)
0	Disposals or retirements	(2,369)
0	Amortisation on Disposal	2,216
1,616	Net carrying amount at end of year	1,554
5,093	Gross carrying amounts	3,306
(3,477)	Accumulated amortisation	(1,752)
1,616	Net carrying amount at end of year	1,554

Note 16. Financial Instruments

The financial assets and liabilities included on the balance sheet comprise the following categories of financial instruments.

Long-term			Current	
2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000		2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
		Investments and Cash & Cash Equivalents		
5,795	0	Loans and receivables	5,771	7,046
5,795	0	Total investments	5,771	7,046
		Debtors		
961	962	Loans and receivables	4,264	5,057
961	962	Total Debtors	4,264	5,057
		Borrowings		
(10,000)	(10,000)	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(4,611)	(6,111)
(10,000)	(10,000)	Total borrowings	(4,611)	(6,111)
		Other Long-Term Liabilities		
(816)	(795)	Loans and Leasing		
(816)	(795)	Total Other Long-Term Liabilities		
		Creditors		
0	0	Financial liabilities at amortised cost	(4,283)	(4,453)
0	0	Total creditors	(4,283)	(4,453)

Gains and losses on income and expense

Financial Liabilities (Liabilities measured at amortised cost)			Financial Assets (Loans and Receivables)	
2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000		2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
414	416	Interest expenses		
		Interest income	(598)	(445)
414	416	Net gain/(loss) for the year	(598)	(445)

Fair value of assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost

Financial liabilities and financial assets are recorded on the Balance Sheet at their amortised cost. Their fair value has been assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- An estimated interest rate based on 10 year PWLB rates with a range of 3.28% to 5.15%, depending on the relevant year, has been used to calculate the fair value of private sector housing improvements loans.
- No early repayment or impairment is recognised.
- Where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months the carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.
- The fair value of debtors is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

2011/12		2012/13	
Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
£000	£000	£000	£000
Liabilities			
(19,214)	(20,979)	Financial liabilities	(20,564) (22,569)
Assets			
16,791	16,966	Loans and receivables	13,073 13,203

The Financial Liabilities are shown below:

Financial Instrument	2011/12 Carrying amount £000	2012/13 Carrying amount £000	Details
Long Term			
PWLB (3.91%)	(5,000)	(5,000)	3.91%; 19 December 2008 to 19 December 2057
PWLB (3.90%)	(5,000)	(5,000)	3.90%; 19 December 2008 to 19 December 2058
Accrued Interest	(110)	(110)	
	(10,110)	(10,110)	
Short Term			
Worcestershire CC	0	(5,000)	0.31%; 13 March 2013 to 29 April 2013
London Borough of Merton	0	(1,000)	0.40%; 25 March 2013 to 30 April 2013
Coventry City Council	(2,000)	0	0.30%; 19 March 2012 to 18 April 2012
Shropshire Council	(2,500)	0	0.50%; 14 March 2012 to 20 April 2012
Accrued Interest	(1)	(1)	
	(4,501)	(6,001)	
Creditors	(4,283)	(4,453)	
Bank Balance	(320)	0	
	(19,214)	(20,564)	

The fair value of the liabilities is higher than the carrying amount because the portfolio of loans includes fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is lower than the prevailing rates at the balance sheet date. This shows a notional future gain arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders below current market rates.

The fair value of the assets is higher than the carrying amount because the portfolio includes investments where the interest rate receivable is higher than the rates available for similar investments at the balance sheet date. This shows a notional future gain arising from a commitment to receive interest above current market rates. However, the fair value of long-

term debtors is less than the carrying value which reflects that the assets are interest-free and their future value is less than the current value.

The fair value of investments is determined by discounting the future cash flows using a relevant market rate of interest comparable to the rate for the same investment from a comparable institution, available at the balance sheet date.

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

Note 17. Inventories

The main items in 'other inventories' are refuse sacks (£0.023m), printing stock (£0.006m) and uniforms (£0.007m) (2011/12; £0.020m, £0.014m, £0.008m respectively)

	Leisure Centres		Diesel		Other		Total	
	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
Balance outstanding at start of year	79	89	41	33	87	63	207	185
Purchases	0	0	656	651	14	39	670	690
Recognised as an expense in the year	0	0	(658)	(655)	(34)	(35)	(692)	(690)
Stock adjustment	10	(8)	(6)	(4)	(2)	(26)	2	(38)
Written off balances	0	0	0	0	(2)	0	(2)	0
Balance outstanding at year-end	89	81	33	25	63	41	185	147

Note 18. Debtors

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
1,822	Central Government bodies - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and Community and Local Government	2,678
199	Other Local Authorities	161
4,692	Other entities and individuals	4,562
(1,909)	Bad debt provision (Impairment of loans and receivables)	(1,461)
4,804		5,940

Note 19. Cash and Cash Equivalents

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
7	Cash held by the Council	6
1,389	Bank balances	2,617
(1,716)	Bank current accounts (overdraft)	(1,721)
(320)	Net Total Cash and Cash Equivalents (overdrawn)	902

Note 20. Assets Held for Sale

Assets held for sale are expected to be sold within twelve months, (at the balance sheet date). The asset is carried at book value or expected sale proceeds, whichever is lower.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
250	Site of former St Neots fire station and Depot	0
555	Castle Hill House	0
0	Land at St Mary's Street Huntingdon	300
805	Net Assets Held for Sale	300

Note 21. Creditors

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
838	Central Government bodies - Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and Department of Communities and Local Government	912
3,450	Other Local Authorities	3,226
0	National Health Service	299
812	Other entities and individuals	1,506
5,100		5,943

Note 22. Useable Reserves

Movements in the Council's useable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Note 23. Unusable Reserves

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
(48,191)	Capital Adjustment Account	(44,361)
(6,436)	Revaluation Reserve	(6,092)
221	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	231
51,341	Pensions Reserve	58,434
(62)	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(97)
319	Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account	323
(2,808)	Total Unusable Reserves	8,438

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 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement. The Account 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 and Investment Properties before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains and losses. Note 7 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2011/12		Capital Adjustment Account	2012/13	
£000	£000		£000	£000
	(53,002)	Balance at 1 April		(48,191)
		<i>Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:</i>		
3,265		Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	3,564	
639		Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	0	
616		Amortisation of intangible assets	491	
2,237		Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	970	
176		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	1,033	
(251)		Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(231)	
		<i>Capital financing applied in the year:</i>		
(1,164)		Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(1,114)	
(435)		Use of the earmarked S106 reserve	(47)	
(1,009)		Application of grants to finance capital expenditure	(97)	
(628)		Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund	(835)	
618		Repayment of long term debtors	16	
24		Lease Adjustment	0	
723		Movement in the market value of investment properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	80	
	4,811	Total movements		3,830
	(48,191)	Balance at 31 March		(44,361)

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. It is identified at individual asset level. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost. If no surplus remains on a particular asset's account any further impairment must be charged to the surplus/deficit on the provision of services within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement;
- 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.

2011/12 £000	Revaluation Reserve	2012/13 £000
(6,481)	Balance at 1 April	(6,436)
(206)	Upward revaluation of assets	(42)
0	Downward revaluation of assets not charged to the surplus/deficit on the provision of services	60
251	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation - written off to Capital Adjustment Account	231
0	Other adjustments for assets removed or transferred - written off to Capital Adjustments Account	95
(6,436)	Balance at 31 March	(6,092)

Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the differences between accounting for the fair value of loans given to individuals for housing, and the actual income credited to the General Fund.

2011/12 £000	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	2012/13 £000
207	Balance at 1 April	221
14	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	10
221	Balance at 31 March	231

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs.

However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

Further information is found in Note 39 in respect of Defined Benefit Pension Scheme.

2011/12 £000	Pensions Reserve	2012/13 £000
41,437	Balance at 1 April	51,341
9,063	Actuarial (gains) or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	5,985
4,720	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	4,808
(3,879)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(3,700)
51,341	Balance at 31 March	58,434

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account identifies the element of the Collection Fund balance that is due to this Council. It is included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it relates to 2012/13 and previous years although it is only actually transferred from the Collection Fund in line with regulations.

2011/12 £000	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	2012/13 £000
(106)	Balance at 1 April	(62)
44	Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(35)
(62)	Balance at 31 March	(97)

Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account

The Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment 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 i.e. annual leave entitlement and accrued flexitime carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account.

2011/12 £000	Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account	2012/13 £000
345	Balance at 1 April	319
(345)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(319)
319	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	323
319	Balance at 31 March	323

Note 24. Operating Activities

The interest items of the cash flows for operating activities are as follows:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
(598)	Interest Received	(445)
414	Interest Paid	416

Note 25. Investing Activities

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
(9,275)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(7,500)
(59)	Other payments for investing activities	(29)
1,162	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	1,114
4,440	Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	5,413
3,486	Other receipts from investing activities	2,275
(246)	Net cash flows from investing activities	1,273

Note 26. Financing Activities

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
910	Other receipts from financing activities	(103)
1,413	Movement on short-term borrowing	1,500

2,323

Net cash flows from financing activities

1,397

Note 27. Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions

The analysis of income and expenditure by service on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is that specified by the Service Reporting Code of Practice, however, decisions about resource allocation are taken by the Council's Cabinet on the basis of budget reports analysed across services in a bespoke manner that best fits the Council's needs. These reports are prepared on a different basis from the basis used in the financial statements. In particular:

- No charges are made in relation to capital expenditure (whereas depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses in excess of the balance on the Revaluation Reserve and amortisations are charged to the services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement);
- The cost of retirement benefits is based on cash flows (payment of employer's pension's contributions) rather than current service cost of benefits accrued in the year.

The following statements reconcile the revenue expenditure by service as reported to Members and Chief Officers, with that in the comprehensive income and expenditure account. The analysis by service is reported to Members three times a year – budget (February), forecast outturn (the following February) and actual net expenditure (July).

The income and expenditure of the main services is as follows:

2012/13	Environ- mental Services	Housing Services (Includes Housing Benefits)	Local Taxation (Includes Council Tax Benefits)	Community Services	Direct costs recharged to services	Other expenditure	TOTAL
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Fees, charges and other income	(1,582)	(1,291)	(387)	(6,546)	10	(4,120)	(13,916)
Government grants	(33)	(37,837)	(8,971)	(213)	(25)	(740)	(47,819)
Total income	(1,615)	(39,128)	(9,358)	(6,759)	(15)	(4,860)	(61,735)
Employee expenses	3,003	32	21	4,856	15,118	1,608	24,638
Other service expenses	1,829	37,525	8,315	2,938	4,001	2,690	57,298
Support service recharges	3,425	3,546	2,056	2,468	7,971	7,309	26,775
Total operating expenses	8,257	41,103	10,392	10,262	27,090	11,607	108,711
Recharges to other accounts	(280)	48	0	(2)	(28,334)	62	(28,506)
Net expenditure	6,362	2,023	1,034	3,501	(1,259)	6,809	18,470

2011/12	Environ- mental Services	Housing Services (Includes Housing Benefits)	Corporate Services (including local taxation)	Community Services	Direct costs recharged to services	Other expenditure	TOTAL
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Fees, charges and other income	(1,570)	(1,338)	(688)	(6,483)	(260)	(6,985)	(17,324)
Government grants	(167)	(34,958)	(8,727)	(215)	(25)	(897)	(44,989)
Total income	(1,737)	(36,296)	(9,415)	(6,698)	(285)	(7,882)	(62,313)
Employee expenses	2,695	168	556	4,964	15,609	1,299	25,291
Other service expenses	2,917	36,720	9,123	4,880	3,790	(1,002)	56,428
Support service recharges	3,342	3,617	4,415	2,983	8,813	4,882	28,052
Total operating expenses	8,954	40,505	14,094	12,827	28,212	5,179	109,771
Recharges to other accounts	(130)	48	(58)	(34)	(27,985)	605	(27,554)
Net expenditure	7,087	4,257	4,621	6,095	(58)	(2,098)	19,904

Reconciliation of service income and expenditure to cost of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of service income and expenditure relate to the amounts included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
19,904	Net expenditure in service analysis	18,470
(1,311)	Amounts in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement not included in the service analysis of revenue expenditure for budget monitoring	6,103
6,617	Amounts included in the service analysis of revenue expenditure and reported to management, but not included in net cost of services section of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(493)
25,210	Net cost of services in Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	24,080

Reconciliation to Subjective Analysis

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of service income and expenditure relate to a subjective analysis of the deficit on the Provision of Services included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2012/13	Service Analysis £000	Not reported to management £000	Not included in cost of services £000	Net cost of services £000	Corporate amounts £000	TOTAL £000
Fees, charges and other income	(13,916)	0	186	(13,730)	(948)	(14,678)
Interest and investment income	0	0	0	0	(445)	(445)
Income from council tax	0	0	0	0	(12,533)	(12,533)
Government grants	(47,819)	0	0	(47,819)	(11,483)	(59,302)
Income from Investment properties	0	0	0	0	(1,785)	(1,785)
Total income	(61,735)	0	186	(61,549)	(27,194)	(88,743)
Employee expenses	24,638	0	0	24,638	1,951	26,589
Other service expenses	57,298	0	(27)	57,271	623	57,894
Support service recharges	26,775	0	0	26,775	628	27,403
Recharges to other accounts	(28,506)	0	(652)	(29,158)	19	(29,139)
Depreciation and impairment	0	0	6,103	6,103	1	6,104
Interest payments	0	0	0	0	416	416
Precepts and levies	0	0	0	0	5,083	5,083
Payments to housing capital receipts pool	0	0	0	0	9	9
Gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	0	0	0	0	18	18
Total operating expenses	80,205	0	5,424	85,629	8,748	94,377
(Surplus) or deficit on the provision of services	18,470	0	5,610	24,080	(18,446)	5,634

2011/12	Service Analysis £000	Not reported to management £000	Not included in cost of services £000	Net cost of services £000	Corporate amounts £000	TOTAL £000
Fees, charges and other income	(17,324)	23	769	(16,532)	(1,155)	(17,687)
Interest and investment income	0	0	588	588	(598)	(10)
Income from council tax	0	0	0	0	(11,977)	(11,977)
Government grants and contributions	(44,989)	0	0	(44,989)	(12,607)	(57,596)
Total income	(62,313)	23	1,357	(60,933)	(26,337)	(87,270)
Employee expenses	25,291	(370)	0	24,921	1,211	26,132
Other operating expenses	56,428	(964)	(458)	55,006	1,208	56,214
Support service recharges	28,052	0	0	28,052	0	28,052
Recharges to other accounts	(27,554)	0	0	(27,554)	0	(27,554)
Depreciation and impairment	0	0	6,141	6,141	0	6,141
Interest payments	0	0	(414)	(414)	414	0
Precepts and levies	0	0	(379)	(379)	4,912	4,533
Payments to housing capital receipts pool	0	0	0	0	3	3
Gain or loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	0	0	370	370	(403)	(33)
Total operating expenses	82,217	(1,334)	5,260	86,143	7,345	93,488
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	19,904	(1,311)	6,617	25,210	(18,992)	6,218

Note 28. Acquired and Discontinued Operations

There are no acquired or discontinued operations during 2012/13 (2011/12; nil).

Note 29. Trading Operations

Prior to 2012/13 the only trading operations that were disclosed were Markets and IT software. From a local authority context, a trading operation is one where a Council is trading and taking operational risks and could, if the economic environment so dictated, expose the Council to a financial loss on the service provided. Considering this the following disclosure provides a more complete list of Council operations where the service manager is required to operate in a commercial environment and balance their budget by generating income from other parts of the Council, from other organisations or the general public.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
Trading Operations included in the Net Cost of Service		
Car Parks		
The Council collects car parking income from both its own off-street car parks and from the on-street car parking operations that it operates, as an agent, for the Highways Authority. The income is generated from a mix of parking fees and excess parking charges. The Council operates 22 chargeable off-street car parks across the district and 3 on-street car parking areas in Huntingdon, St.Ives, and St Neots.		
(1,526)	Gross Income	(1,612)
1,259	Gross Expenditure	969
(267)	(Surplus)/Deficit	(643)
Leisure Services		
The Council operates 5 leisure centres across the district; namely Huntingdon, St. Ives, St Neots, Sawtry and Ramsey. The facilities provided vary across the district but include amongst others; Swimming Pools, Sports Halls, Astro-Turf, Athletics Track, Gymnasium, Spar & Treatment facilities and Ten-Pin Bowling.		
(6,017)	Gross Income	(6,188)
8,953	Gross Expenditure	8,547
2,936	(Surplus)/Deficit	2,359
2,669	Net (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Operations included in Net Cost of Service	1,716
Trading Operations included in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		
Information Management Department: IT Software		
The Councils Information Technology Service develops and sells a number of IT software packages (e.g. SharePoint related products, including Resource Booking and a Project Management Toolkit) and IT support (e.g. Business Analysis Consultancy).		
(53)	Gross Income	(49)
45	Gross Expenditure	35
(8)	(Surplus)/Deficit	(14)

Markets		
The Council operates 3 stall markets in the towns of Huntingdon, Ramsey and St. Ives. In addition to the general market days Huntingdon has a separate farmers market and St Ives a bank holiday market.		
(145)	Gross Income	(139)
96	Gross Expenditure	102
(49)	(Surplus)/Deficit	(37)
Building Control		
The Local Authority Building Control Regulations require the disclosure of information regarding the setting of charges for the administration of the building control function. However, certain activities performed by the Building Control Unit cannot be charged for, such as providing general advice and liaising with other statutory authorities. The statement shows the total cost of operating the building control unit for chargeable activities.		
(384)	Gross Income	(370)
406	Gross Expenditure	392
22	(Surplus)/Deficit	22
Printing		
The Council operates a Document Processing Centre that produces a range of documents for both internal and external customers. All external work is undertaken on a marginal cost basis (i.e. excluding recharges) and on this basis external work has made a contribution to the net cost of the service. However, statutory reporting requires full cost.		
(34)	Gross Income	(31)
54	Gross Expenditure	38
20	(Surplus)/Deficit	7
Grounds Maintenance		
The Council's in-house Grounds Maintenance Team provides a wide range of services, primarily in respect of green spaces. However, the service also provides some services for external organisations, namely Luminus Housing Association and Cambridgeshire County Council.		
(222)	Gross Income	(225)
313	Gross Expenditure	266
91	(Surplus)/Deficit	41
Commercial Waste		
The Council operates a waste collection service that is available to all businesses across the district. As this is a non-statutory service it is a chargeable activity.		
(95)	Gross Income	(96)
97	Gross Expenditure	103
2	(Surplus)/Deficit	7
78	Net (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Operations included in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	26
2,747	Net (Surplus)/Deficit on Trading Operations	1,742
The above figures include non-cash adjustments; including IAS19 pensions and depreciation.		

Note 30. Members' Allowances

The Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
370	Allowances	365
29	Expenses	27
399		392

Note 31. Officers' Remuneration

The number of employees whose remuneration in the year was £50,000 or more is shown in the table below. It includes pay, redundancy payments and other employee benefits but not employer's pension contributions. Relevant pay information, including the Council's Pay Policy Statement and pay and reward for Senior Officers can be accessed from the following web address:

<http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/Councils%20and%20Democracy/Council/Council%20Finance/Pages/Chief%20Officer%20Salaries%20and%20Expenses.aspx>

2011/12	£		£	2012/13
18	50,000	but less than	55,000	15
1	55,000	but less than	60,000	1
2	60,000	but less than	65,000	2
3	65,000	but less than	70,000	1
6	70,000	but less than	75,000	2
2	75,000	but less than	80,000	3
1	80,000	but less than	85,000	1
2	120,000	but less than	125,000	1
1	125,000	but less than	130,000	0
0	175,000	but less than	180,000	1
1	220,000	but less than	225,000	0
0	240,000	but less than	245,000	1
37				28

Included in the banding table above are those Senior Officers who are separately disclosed in the following Remuneration of Senior Employees table.

Remuneration of Senior Employees

The remuneration of Senior Employees is shown in the table below.

2012/13 Post holder	Salary including allowances £	Election Fees (1) £	Termination costs (2) £	Salary including allowances and fees £	Bonus £	Benefits in kind £	Total remuneration £	Employer pension contributions £	Remuneration including pension contributions £
Managing Director, Resources (Terry Parker) (3)	148,298	6,643	90,000	244,941	0	0	244,941	22,303	267,244
Managing Director, Communities, Partnerships and Projects (Malcolm Sharp) (4)	126,138	0	44,666	170,804	0	6,548	177,352	22,303	199,655
Assistant Director (Finance and Resources) (5)	73,708	0	47,000	120,708	0	1,840	122,548	1,216	123,764
Assistant Director (Environment, Growth and Planning) (6)	70,390	0	0	70,390	500	4,877	75,767	1,157	76,924

Key – 2012/13

Note 1 The election fees do not include fees for General, European and County Council elections paid for by third parties.

Note 2 Termination costs include amounts not yet paid but where the decision to terminate was made prior to the financial year-end.

Note 3 The Managing Director, Resources left the Council on 8 April 2013

(annualised salary; excluding employer pension contributions is £125,000)

Note 4 The Managing Director, Communities, Partnerships and Projects left the Council on 31 July 2013.
(annualised salary; excluding employer pension contributions is £125,000)

Note 5 The Assistant Director (Finance and Resources) post was created on 1 March 2013; the post holder will be leaving the Council on the 31 March 2014.
(annualised salary, excluding employer pension contributions: £82,000)

Note 6 The Assistant Director (Environment, Growth and Planning) post was created on 1 March 2013
(annualised salary; excluding employer pension contributions is £78,000)

2011/12 Post holder	Salary including allowances £	Election Fees £	Termination costs £	Salary including allowances and fees £	Bonus £	Benefits in kind £	Total remuneration £	Employer pension contributions £	Remuneration including pension contributions £
Chief Executive (David Monks) (1)	71,371	0	140,417	211,788	7,500	4,762	224,050	11,073	235,123
Director of Central Services (2)	72,738	0	47,223	119,961	0	3,925	123,886	11,013	134,899
Managing Director, Resources (3)	121,739	0	0	121,739	0	1,062	122,801	20,647	143,448
Managing Director, Communities, Partnerships and Projects (3)	120,081	0	0	120,081	0	6,236	126,317	21,274	147,591

Key – 2011/12

Note 1 The Chief Executive left the Council on 31 August 2011.

Note 2 The Director of Central Services left the Council on 6 December 2011.

Note 3 The two Managing Director posts were created on the 1 June 2011.

Note 32. External Audit Related Costs

These figures show the amounts included in the accounts which include any adjustments made for previous years

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
176	External audit	81
30	Grant claim certification	27
0	National Fraud Initiative	2
206		110

Of the £0.176m External Audit costs noted within 2011/12, £0.056m is in respect of 2010/11. The £2,000 paid in 2012/13 was paid to the Audit Commission.

Note 33. Grant Income

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

2011/12 £000 (Reclassified)		2012/13 £000
Credited to taxation and non-specific income		
2,484	Revenue support grant	180
987	New Homes Bonus *	1,913
184	Council Tax Freeze Grant *	0
8,038	Distributed non domestic rate pool	9,293
11,693	Total	11,386
Credited to Services		
Benefits grant		
33,528	Rent allowances	36,522
8,019	Council tax benefits	8,348
1,020	Benefits administration	939
502	Improvement grants	543
663	Other *	736
43,732	Total	47,088

* The 2011/12 comparative has been reclassified to be consistent with the amounts disclosed in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account. It included both New Homes Bonus and Council Tax Freeze Grant as "grants credited to services" whereas they were grants credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income (Note 11). In the note above £1.171m was reclassified from Other (Credited to Services) to New Homes Bonus and Council Tax Freeze Grant (Credited to taxation and non-specific income).

The Council has received some grants that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies to be returned. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

2011/12 £000	Grants Receipts in Advance	2012/13 £000
	Government grants	
71	Mobile Home Park	0
52	Mortgage Rescue Scheme	52
0	Preventing Repossessions	61
14	Housing	0
8	Travellers implementation grant	0
145		113

The Council has received some grants that have no conditions attached; they have been recognised as income but are held in the Capital Grants Unapplied Account pending their use to fund the relevant Medium Term Plan Capital Scheme. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

2011/12 £000	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	2012/13 £000
210	Government grant for housing	210
318	Contribution from Cambridgeshire County Council towards major maintenance projects at leisure centres	318
0	Community Infrastructure Levy	270
528		798

Note 34. Related Parties

The Council must disclose in the accounts any material transactions with related parties. Related parties are bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently.

Central government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties' e.g. council tax bills. Grants received from government departments are set out in the analysis in Note 27 on reporting resources allocation decisions and also in Notes 11 and 33 in respect of government grant.

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2012/13 is shown in Note 30. Some elected members are also members of other bodies, the most common being the County Council, Parish and Town Councils and Drainage Boards. In addition, the Council also nominates members to be its representative on various local and national organisations and also the Council provides some direct funding to local organisations.

The Council has a significant operational relationship with Cambridgeshire County Council. The County Council is the administering authority for the Council's pension fund and many of the Council's services work with County Council services on a day-to-day basis e.g. the Council is the statutory waste collection authority whereas the County Council is the statutory waste disposal authority but each of the Councils has to pay the other in respect of certain types of waste. With regard to transactions between the Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, for 2012/13, the Council has:

- paid £5.432m to Cambridgeshire County Council; £3.550m for pension payments and £1.882m for services (2011/12; £6.008m), and
- received £3.397m from the County Council (2011/12; £1.673m).

In respect of 2012/13:

- No officers have disclosed any significant interests.
- By 30 June 2013, of the 52 members who served during the year, all members had returned a Related Party Transaction disclosure form. Following a comprehensive review of relevant statutory and voluntary disclosures and other "ad-hoc" information sources, only one member, Councillor Banerjee (as either an individual or family interest) has disclosed a related party; this is shown below.

Councillor	Organisation	£000
Banerjee	Luminus Group	163

With regard to this organisation, the Council has either procured goods or services or provided funding that has supported them in providing their core services. The items disclosed are in the normal course of business and are at arm's length.

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. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

A net increase in the CFR reflects the Council's need to borrow to finance capital expenditure. The borrowing will be repaid from an annual revenue charge (MRP) which reflects the use of the assets over their useful lives.

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
18,240	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	21,853
4,031	Property, Plant and Equipment	5,650
541	Intangible Assets	582
3,769	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	2,027
59	Repayable Advances	29
24	Lease Liability Adjustment	10
8,424	Additional Requirement	8,298
	Sources of finance	
(1,164)	Capital receipts	(1,114)
(2,518)	Grants and other contributions in year	(1,183)
(66)	Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve	0
(628)	Minimum revenue provision	(835)
(435)	S106 reserve	(47)
(4,811)		(3,179)
21,853	Closing Capital Finance Requirement	26,972
	Movements in year	
3,613	Increase in underlying need to borrowing (unsupported by government financial assistance)	5,119

Note 36. Leases• Council as Lessee

○ Finance Leases

The Council has acquired some industrial units under finance leases. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as investment property in the Balance Sheet at the following amounts:

2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
1,615	1,595
Investment Properties	

The Council is committed to making minimum payments under these leases comprising settlement of the long-term liability for the interest in the property acquired by the Council and finance costs that will be payable by the Council in future years while the liability remains outstanding. The minimum lease payments are made up of the following amounts:

2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
<i>Finance lease liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments)</i>	
11	0
545	545
3,105	3,066
3,661	3,611
Minimum lease payments	

The minimum lease payments will be payable over the following periods:

	Minimum lease payments		Finance lease payments	
	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
Not later than 1 year	50	39	11	0
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	156	156	0	0
Later than 5 years	3,455	3,416	545	545
	3,661	3,611	556	545

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2012/13 £0.101m contingent rents were payable by the Council (2011/12; £0.094m).

○ Operating Leases

The Council has a number of operating leases for land, pool cars and cars for individual members of staff. The leases for cars are typically 3 or 4 years, whilst

those for land vary from 3 years to 50 years. The operating lease payments made in the year, are as follows:

The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000	
100	Not later than 1 year	61	
90	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	70	
51	Later than 5 years	41	
241		172	

The expenditure charged to the appropriate service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement during the year in relation to these leases was:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000	
93	Minimum lease payments	100	

- Service Concessions

The Council does not have any contracts that include service concessions

- Council as Lessor

- Finance leases

The Council has no finance leases as lessor.

- Operating Leases

The Council leases out property under operating leases for economic development purposes to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses.

The future lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are noted below. The 2011/12 comparative has been restated to reflect leases identified that were not previously disclosed; including the Oak Tree Health Centre.

2011/12 £000 (Restated)		2012/13 £000	
1,681	Not later than 1 year	1,784	
5,245	Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	5,870	
20,945	Later than 5 years	20,921	
27,871		28,575	

The lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the balance sheet date, such as adjustments following rent reviews.

Note 37. Impairment Losses

During 2012/13 the Council has recognised impairments to Property, Plant and Equipment of £85,000 (2011/12; Nil).

Note 38. Termination Benefits and Exit Packages**Voluntary Redundancy:**

In respect of both 2012/13 and 2011/12 no voluntary redundancies were approved.

Compulsory Redundancy:

In respect of:

- 2012/13, the Council approved the compulsory redundancy of 8 employees; 5 employees leaving the Council during 2012/13 and a further 3 leaving during 2013/14.
- 2011/12, the Council approved the compulsory redundancy of 12 employees; 10 employees leaving the Council during 2011/12 and a further 2 leaving during 2012/13.

For both Voluntary and Compulsory Redundancy, the associated costs have been charged to the year in which the decision was made. The following table shows the banding of employee terminations and the total cost to the Council per band.

	Number of compulsory redundancies		Total number of exit packages agreed		Total cost of packages	
	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12	2012/13	2011/12 £000	2012/13 £000
£0 to less than £20,000	8	5	8	5	97	28
£20,000 to less than £40,000	2	0	2	0	49	0
£40,000 to less than £60,000	2	2	2	2	88	97 *
£80,000 to less than £100,000	0	1	0	1	0	99
	12	8	12	8	234	224

* This includes a provision of £47,000 that will be paid in 2013/14, see Note 40.

Note 39. Defined Benefit Pension SchemeParticipation 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 and this needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

Employees of Huntingdonshire District Council may participate in the Cambridgeshire Pension Fund, part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The fund is administered as a defined benefit final salary scheme by Cambridgeshire County Council in accordance with LGPS Regulations 1997, as amended.

Valuation of Pension Fund

The contribution rate is determined by the Fund's actuary based on triennial valuations. To avoid the impact of potential reductions in the workforce the actuary proposed that a fixed percentage of 17.8% be applied for 2012/13 (2011/12; 17.8%) should be used to provide for future service liabilities together with a lump sum contribution to reduce the existing deficit relating to past service. The lump sums proposed were £0.451m for 2011/12, £0.456m for 2012/13, and £0.470m for 2013/14. The Council has chosen to make additional lump sum payments pending the results of any changes to the pension scheme that are determined by the Government. The additional payments are £0.209m for 2011/12, £0.450m for 2012/13 and £0.669m is planned for 2013/14.

As a consequence of the triennial valuation, the asset value in the intervening period is an estimate calculated by the actuary using a model. Any differences between the estimate and actual figures are adjusted at the next full valuation.

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. The Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, at a level calculated to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets. 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 benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year:

2011/12 £000		2012/13 £000
	Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement	
	Cost of Services:	
3,163	Current Service Cost	3,010
346	Curtailments	0
	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:	
6,748	Interest Cost	6,345
(5,537)	Expected Return on Scheme Assets	(4,547)
4,720	Total post employment benefit charged to the deficit on the provision of services	4,808
	Other post employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	
(9,063)	Actuarial gains and (losses)	(5,985)
(4,343)	Total post employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(1,177)
	Movement in Reserves Statement	
(4,720)	Reversal of net charges made to the deficit for the provision of services from post employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(4,808)
3,879	Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year: Employer's contributions payable to the scheme	3,700
(841)	Total Movement in Reserves Statement	(1,108)

The post employment benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is based on the current version of IAS19 Employee Benefits. Changes to IAS19 come into effect for 2013/14 and these are adopted retrospectively for 2012/13 in accordance with IAS8 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors. Had the IAS19 revision been applied in 2012/13 this would have reduced the reported deficit in the 2012/13 income statement noted above by £0.650m (from £4.808m to £5.458m). This will arise from a decrease in the 2012/13 Expected Return on Employer Assets by £0.650 (from £4.547m to £3.897m) based on a valuation at 31 March 2013.

The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the 31 March 2013 is a loss of £52.886m (2011/12; loss of £46.901m).

Assets and Liabilities in relation to Post-employment Benefits

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities in respect of Huntingdonshire District Council:

31 March 2012		31 March 2013
£000		£000
123,552	Opening balance as at 1 April	132,435
3,163	Current service cost	3,010
6,748	Interest Cost	6,345
1,041	Contributions by scheme participants	951
3,883	Actuarial losses / (gains)	13,608
(6,099)	Benefits paid	(4,251)
(199)	Estimated unfunded benefits paid *	(189)
346	Curtailments	0
132,435	Closing balance at 31 March	151,909
* The unfunded benefits are those relating to the early retirement of scheme members where the Council makes an additional contribution to the Pension Fund		

Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme assets in respect of Huntingdonshire District Council:

31 March 2012		31 March 2013
£000		£000
82,115	Opening balance 1 April	81,094
5,537	Expected rate of return	4,547
(5,180)	Actuarial gains / (losses)	7,623
3,680	Contributions by the employer	3,511
1,041	Contributions by scheme participants	951
199	Contributions for unfunded benefits *	189
(6,099)	Benefits paid	(4,251)
(199)	Unfunded Benefits paid *	(189)
81,094	Closing balance at 31 March	93,475
* The unfunded benefits are those relating to the early retirement of scheme members where the Council makes an additional contribution to the Pension Fund.		

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets.

The actual return on scheme assets in the year was £12.170m (2011/12; £0.379m).

During the year, the Council transferred its Payroll and Human Resources Team to an external provider; "Local Government Shared Services" which is a partnership between Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire County Councils. The transfer entailed 10 staff, however as a consequence of the IAS 19 actuarial valuation methodology and it not being material; the consequential change in the Councils net pension deficit will not be reflected until the next triennial valuation (scheduled for 2013/14).

Scheme History

2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		2012/13
£000	£000	£000	£000		£000
(87,593)	(146,133)	(123,552)	(132,435)	Present value of liabilities	(151,909)
57,877	78,086	82,115	81,094	Fair value of assets	93,475
(29,716)	(68,047)	(41,437)	(51,341)	Deficit in the scheme	(58,434)

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long run to pay post employment benefits. The total liability of £151.909m has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the Balance Sheet, resulting in a negative overall balance of £58.434m. However the statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy:

- The deficit on the local government scheme will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the scheme actuary.
- Finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when the pensions are actually paid.

The Council expects to contribute £3.048m into Cambridgeshire County Council's Local Government Pension Fund in the year to 31 March 2014. With regard to discretionary benefits, there were no such awards in 2012/13 (2011/12; Nil).

Basis for estimating Liabilities and Assets

Liabilities, for the purposes of IAS19, 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, longevity etc. The liabilities have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP, the independent firm of actuaries to the County Council Pension Fund being based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2010. The results of this valuation were projected forward using approximate methods.

The main assumptions used by the actuary are as shown below.

2011/12	County Fund – Main Assumptions		2012/13
2.5%	Rate of inflation of pensions		2.8%
4.8%	Rate of increase in salaries		5.1%
2.5%	Rate of increase in pensions		2.8%
4.8%	Rate of discounting scheme liabilities		4.5%
5.6%	Expected return on assets		4.5%
	<i>Mortality</i>		
	Longevity at 65 for current pensioners		
21.0 years	Men		21.0 years
23.8 years	Women		23.8 years
	Longevity at 65 for future pensioners		
22.9 years	Men		22.9 years
25.7 years	Women		25.7 years
	<i>Expected long-term rate of return on assets</i>		
6.3%	Equity Investments		4.5% *
3.3%	Bonds		4.5% *
4.4%	Property		4.5% *
3.5%	Cash		4.5% *
25%	Take-up option to convert	For pre-April 2008 service	25%
63%	pension into tax free lump sum up to HMRC limits	For post-April 2008 service	63%
* This represents the expected return of scheme assets which is equivalent to the discount rate which is consistent with the treatment that is to be adopted under the revisions to IAS 19 as set out at the top of page 82.			

Pension fund assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

Proportion of Total assets held by the Fund			
31 March 2012		31 March 2013	
72%	Equity Investments	76%	
14%	Bonds	14%	
9%	Property	7%	
5%	Cash	3%	
100%	Total Fund Assets	100%	

History of Experience Gains and Losses

The actuarial gains identified as movements on the Pensions Reserve in 2012/13 can be analysed into the following categories, measured as a percentage of assets or liabilities at 31 March 2013.

2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12		2012/13
(31.85%)	19.57%	(2.17%)	(6.39%)	Differences between expected and actual return on assets	8.16%
(0.26%)	0.36%	(1.54%)	(1.10%)	Experience gains/ losses (-) on liabilities	0.06%

Further information

Further information may be found in the Cambridgeshire County Pension Fund Annual Report, available from the Director of Resources, Cambridgeshire County Council, Shire Hall, Castle Hill, Cambridge, CB3 0AP.

Note 40. Provisions, Contingent Assets and Liabilities**Provision**

	Short Term Provision		Total
	MMI Insurance Clawback (1) £000	Termination Benefits (2) £000	£000
Balance at 1 April 2011	0	0	0
Balance at 31 March 2012	0	0	0
Amounts charged to services 2012/13	90	47	137
Balance at 31 March 2013	90	47	137

Short Term Provision

Where an obligating event is expected to occur within the next 12 months.

1. MMI Insurance Clawback

The Council was, some years ago, insured by Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI); unfortunately whilst the Council was insured by MMI they went into liquidation. Following the collapse of MMI, a Scheme of Arrangement was made that allowed MMI to 'run-off' the business and deal with outstanding claims. Due to increasing numbers of liability claims that MMI continued to receive, MMI pursued the matter of their continuing liability through the Courts. The Supreme Court gave judgement in March 2012. This clarified MMI's position in respect of future claims and led ultimately to increasing liabilities for MMI. The Council's Insurance Brokers have informed the Council that following a February 2013 creditors meeting, the Scheme of Arrangement is likely to be enforced. This will impose a levy upon the Council of 15% of the total claims paid by MMI on behalf of the Council since 1993 (15% of £0.601m). It is expected that this amount will be payable within the next 12 months. The balance of the total possible liability faced by the Council is noted as a Contingent Liability.

2. Termination Benefits

Provision has been made to meet the costs of known staff rationalisation associated with change management within the Council over the medium term.

Contingent Assets

Claims have been made for the refund of VAT relating to off-street parking since 1998, but whilst legal cases have not totally removed the possibility of a refund the position is now much less hopeful. The claim is for £2.431m (2011/12; £2.144m).

Contingent Liabilities

The Councils' Contingent Liabilities cover various on-going litigations and these are detailed below. The total expected value of these liabilities is £5.811m (2011/12; £6.045m).

2011/12 Estimated value of contingent liability £000	Details of Contingent Liability	2012/13 Estimated value of contingent liability £000
150	<p>Environmental Related:</p> <p>Local Land Charges Huntingdonshire District Council is a joint defendant in proceedings brought by a group of Property Search Companies against all Councils responsible for providing Local land charges information, for refunds of fees paid to the Council to access land charges data. In the current litigation the Council faces a claim of £14,140 plus interest and costs. Negotiations are ongoing with the claimants' solicitor.</p> <p>A second group of Property Search Companies are also seeking to claim refunds although no proceedings have yet been issued. The Council has been informed that the value of those claims at present is £157,600 plus interest and costs, although this claim has neither been verified nor accepted by the Council. The second group of Property Search Companies have also intimated that they may bring a claim against all local authorities for alleged anti-competitive behaviour. It is not clear what the value of any such claim would be against the Council. It is possible that additional claimants may come forward to submit claims for refunds, but none have been intimated at present.</p>	172
4,500	<p>Contaminated Land The Environmental Protection Act 1990 Part IIA makes the Council liable for the costs of remediation of contaminated land where no other responsible person can be identified. The Council is in discussion with Cambridgeshire County Council over the planning position of a site owned by a company which is currently treating the leachate from a possible orphan site. If the planning application made to the County Council is approved, this will reduce the probability of abandonment and the likelihood of the Council becoming liable will reduce considerably.</p>	4,500

	However, at this time there is a possibility that the Council could be liable if the site is abandoned. Current estimates are that the cost of leachate treatment would cost £150,000 per annum for a maximum of 30 years; therefore the maximum liability is £4.5m.	
4,650	Total for Environmental Related	4,672
	Planning Related:	
200	Planning Appeal The previously disclosed RAF Upwood planning appeal was withdrawn during 2012/13 and therefore is no longer a Contingent Liability.	0
200	Total for Planning Related	0
	Housing Related:	
312	Disabled Facilities Grants The Council has agreed to paying disabled facilities grants; however, as yet the schemes have not yet started. The expense will only be incurred if the householders carry out the home alterations.	372
82	VAT on Administration Charge for Disabled Facilities Grants The Council has challenged HMRC in respect of the VAT liability on administration charges for disabled facilities grants. HMRC consider the fee should attract VAT at the standard rate whereas the Council, along with other Councils, consider that there is no supply and therefore VAT is not chargeable.	96
394	Total for Housing Related	468
	Corporate Related	
601	Municipal Mutual Insurance Liquidation A detailed description is shown in the Provision explanation in respect of the MMI Insurance Clawback. The Contingent Liability shown for 2012/13 is the balance of the total claims paid by MMI on behalf of the Council less the amount shown as a short-term Provision.	511

0	Assets of Community Value In 2012/13, the Council has listed 2 sites owned by private individuals or companies as Assets of Community Value, as required by the Localism Act 2011. The Assets of Community Value scheme includes provisions for owners to claim compensation for loss and expense incurred through the asset being listed or previously listed. All claims must be considered and decisions may be subject to a review and an independent appeal. The Council is liable for all compensation payments awarded up to a maximum of £20,000 in each financial year.	20
200	Employee Litigation The Council has some pending employment tribunals, the amount shown is the estimated total liability.	140
801	Total for Corporate Related	671
6,045	Total for Contingent Liabilities	5,811

The above litigations are prudent estimates of the potential cost to the council. It is not possible, due to considerations of legal privilege to either provide further information or to give an assessment of the likelihood of success of any of the litigations.

Note 41. 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 as a result of changes in measures such 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 treasury management team with due regard to the Annual Treasury Management Strategy approved by the Council.

Credit risk

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

In relation to investments the Council has adopted CIPFA's *Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services*, has an agreed Treasury Management Strategy which addresses risk, and has set treasury management indicators to control key financial instrument risks in accordance with CIPFA's Prudential Code.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks and building societies of £25.770m (2011/12; £31.0m) cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. The risk of not being able to recover the principal sums applies to all of the Council's deposits but there was no evidence as at 31 March 2013 that this was likely to occur and there are no investments that as at 31 March 2013 were with institutions that had failed.

In relation to the sums owed by the Council's customers and contractual debtors, the Council makes prudent financial provision for bad debts based on an assessment of the risks for each type of debt and the age of those debts whilst maintaining a robust approach to the collection of debts. The older the debt, the greater is the provision for bad debts. The bad debt provision has taken into account the current economic climate and the increased likelihood of debtors not being able to settle their debts.

The following analysis summarises the Council's potential maximum exposure to credit risk on receivables, based on historical experience of default and uncollectability. It relates to the sundry debtors element of the total debtors, including debts of individuals, entities and housing benefit claimants.

	Amount at 31 March 2013	Historical experience of default	Historical experience of default adjusted for market conditions	Impairment allowance 31 March 2013	Impairment allowance 31 March 2012
	£000	%	%	£000	£000
Sundry debtors	2,943	4.72%	4.72%	1,439	1,688

The Council does not generally allow credit for customers. The past due debtors, but not impaired amount can be analysed by age as follows:

31/03/12 £000		31/03/13 £000
737	Less than three months	753
177	Three to six months	227
332	Six months to one year	272
1,316	More than one year	1,691
2,562		2,943

Liquidity risk

The Council maintains a cash flow projection that assists in ensuring that cash is available as needed. If unexpected movements happen the Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets, and if necessary from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLB), although the Council does not generally use the PWLB for short-term cash-flow deficits. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is shown below. The financial liabilities of more than one year are loans with the PWLB which do not mature until December 2057 at the earliest and therefore there is no immediate concern about funding the repayment.

31/03/12 £000		31/03/13 £000
4,611	Less than one year	6,111
10,000	More than one year	10,000
14,611		16,111

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

Market risk – 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 would have the following effects:

- Borrowing 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 liabilities borrowings will fall.
- Investment 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.

However the impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services is reduced because the Council does not generally borrow or invest at variable 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.

The Council manages interest rate risk by not having any borrowings in variable rate loans. At times of falling interest rates and where economic circumstances make it favourable, consideration would be given to repaying fixed rate loans early to limit exposure to losses.

The treasury management team assesses the interest rate exposure that feeds into the setting of the annual budget and it is used to update the budget at least quarterly during the year.

If in 2012/13 interest rates on all of its investments and borrowings had been 1% higher with all other variables held constant, the financial effect would be:

	£000
Increase in interest receivable on investments of less than 1 year	112cr
Impact on the surplus on the Provision of Services	112cr
Increase in the fair value of fixed rate investments	44cr
Impact on Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	44cr
Decrease in fair value of fixed rate borrowings (No impact on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement)	2,335

The impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be as above but with the movements being reversed.

Price risk and foreign exchange risk

The Council does not hold equity shares and does not hold foreign currency, consequently these risks are not applicable.

Notes to the Collection Fund

1. Billing Council and Major Preceptors

Huntingdonshire District Council is a billing authority responsible for collecting Council Tax and NNDR in its area for itself and for:

- major preceptors (including Cambridgeshire County Council, Police & Crime Commissioner and Fire & Rescue Authority),
- Town and Parish Councils,

and NNDR for Central Government. The Council acts as agent when collecting tax for major preceptors and Central Government.

2. Collection Fund Accounting

Until it is distributed, the tax collected is held in a statutory Collection Fund which is separate from the General Fund of the Council. The accounts are however, consolidated into the Council's accounts. They have been prepared on an accruals basis.

Parish and Town Council precepts are transferred to the General Fund before being paid to the Parish or Town Council. Interest is not payable/chargeable to the Collection Fund on cash flow variations between it and the General Fund.

3. Collection Fund Assets and Liabilities

There is no requirement for a separate Collection Fund Balance Sheet. The assets and liabilities of the Collection Fund at the end of the year are apportioned between Huntingdonshire District Council and the major preceptors in proportion to their demand on the fund for the year. The major preceptors share of the assets and liabilities of the Collection Fund are shown as a debtor in Huntingdonshire District Council's accounts. Huntingdonshire District Council's share of the assets and liabilities are held in the Collection Fund Adjustment Account reserve.

4. Council Tax

Tax band	Taxbase at 31 March 2013			Band D multiplier	Band D equivalent
	Properties	Exemptions & discounts			
A	11,392	(3,606)		6/9	5,189
B	19,230	(4,191)		7/9	11,697
C	17,421	(2,952)		8/9	12,861
D	11,479	(1,516)		9/9	9,963
E	8,559	(1,018)		11/9	9,217
F	3,536	(377)		13/9	4,563
G	1,681	(174)		15/9	2,512
H	155	(27)		18/9	256
Total	73,453				56,258

Council tax charge per band D property for 2011/12 £1,475.62

Council tax charge per band D property for 2012/13 £1,519.28

5. National non domestic rates (NNDR)

The uniform business rate set by the Government for 2012/13 was 45.8p (2011/12 43.3p).

Total rateable value at 31 March 2012 £142.9m

Total rateable value at 31 March 2013 £141.4m

6. Retention of business rates

It is noted in "Note 6: Events after the Balance Sheet Date" regarding a non-adjusting event in respect of the new arrangements for the retention of business rates that is applicable from 1st April 2013. Under these new arrangements, the total for appeal refunds is £1,775m and the split between Central Government, the other Cambridgeshire precepting authorities and the Council is as follows:

	%	£'000
• Central Government	50	887
• Huntingdonshire District Council	40	710
• Cambridgeshire County Council	9	160
• Fire	1	18
Total	100	1,775

There is no allocation to the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner because they are not included in this new arrangement.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

Accrual – The recognition of income and expenditure as it is earned or incurred, rather than as cash is received or paid.

Actuarial Assumptions – these are predictions made for factors that will affect the financial condition of the pension scheme.

Amortisation – the gradual write off of initial costs of assets.

Asset – an item having value to the Council in monetary terms.

Balance – Unallocated reserves held to resource unpredictable expenditure demands.

Business Improvement District – A levy on local business to provide funding to develop the immediate area covered by the levy. The levy is agreed majority vote.

Capital Charges – Charges made to service department revenue accounts, comprising depreciation (where appropriate) based on the value of the asset employed.

Capital Expenditure – expenditure on the acquisition of non-current assets which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure on non-current assets.

Capital Financing Charges – The annual cost of depreciation, leasing charges and other costs of funding capital expenditure.

Capital Adjustment Account – the account which reflects the extent to which the District Council's resources have been applied to finance capital expenditure and to meet future debt redemption or other credit liabilities.

Capital Receipts – income received from selling non-current assets.

Carrying amount – the value of an asset or liability in the balance sheet.

CIPFA – this is the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy which is an institute that represents accounting in the Public Sector.

Collection Fund – a separate fund that records the income and expenditure relating to council tax and non-domestic rates.

Community Infrastructure Levy – an amount payable by developers (commercial and domestic) in respect of new buildings created within the District. The Levy must be used to provide infrastructure; decisions on which are taken by District and Parish Councils.

Contingent Liabilities – these are amounts that the Council may be, but is not definitely, liable for.

Council Tax – a tax paid by residents of the District that is based on the value of the property lived in and is paid to the Council and spent on local services.

Creditors – these are people or organisations which the Council owes money to for goods or services which have not been paid for by the end of the financial year.

Current Assets – these are assets that are held for a short period of time, for example cash in the bank, inventories and debtors.

Debtors – sums of money owed to the District Council but not received at the year end.

Deferred Charges – expenditure which is capital in nature but does not result in an item of property, plant and equipment e.g. grants.

Depreciation – the amount an asset has dropped in value is the amount it has been judged to have depreciated. Accountants use depreciation to demonstrate how much of the property, plant and equipment value has been used and therefore lowered during a financial year, for example because of wear and tear.

Earmarked Reserves – money set aside for a specific purpose.

Exceptional Item – a material item in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that falls within the ordinary activities of the Council but which needs to be disclosed separately by virtue of their size to give a fair presentation of the accounts.

Fair value – the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in arms length transaction.

Finance Lease – a lease is a financial agreement to pay for an asset, for example a vehicle, in regular instalments. A finance lease transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of an item of property, plant and equipment to a lessee.

Impairment – a reduction in the value of property, plant and equipment to below its carrying amount on the balance sheet.

Impairment of debts – this recognises that the real value of debt is less than the book value.

Intangible Assets – a non-physical item which provides future economic benefits. This Council's intangible assets comprise computer software licences.

Liabilities – amounts due to individuals or organisations which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Current liabilities are usually payable within one year of the balance sheet date.

Liquid Resources – current asset investments held as readily disposable stores of value, either readily convertible into cash, or traded in an active market.

Minimum revenue provision – the minimum amount that must be charged to the revenue account each year to provide for the repayment of monies borrowed by the Council.

National Non Domestic Rates – rates which are levied on business properties. The District Council collects these rates and pays them into a national pool, which is then re-distributed on the basis of population.

Operating Leases – a lease is a financial agreement to pay for an asset, for example a vehicle, in regular instalments. An operating lease is where the ownership of the non-current asset remains with the lessor.

Precept – a payment to the Council's General fund, or another local council, from the Council's Collection Fund.

Prior Year Adjustments – these are material adjustments applicable to previous years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

Property, Plant and Equipment – non-current assets that give benefit to the District Council and the services it provides for more than one year.

Provisions – Monies set aside for liabilities or losses which are likely to be incurred but where the exact amounts or dates on which they will arrive are uncertain.

Reclassification – where comparative (prior year) figures are reclassified into new categories of income or expenditure, and the change has not been the result of a material error or accounting policy but the amount is "material" then this is a reclassification.

Responsible Financial Officer – the designated post with the Council, as determined by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011, that holds the statutory S.151 responsibility (Local Government Act 1972). This responsibility is in respect of ensuring the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs.

Restated – where there has been a material error in the accounts or a new accounting policy has been applied, then the comparative (prior year) figures have to be "restated" as if the correction or policy had been in place as at the end of the previous financial year.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute – Spending on items normally classed as revenue but which are defined by statute as capital e.g. improvement grants.

Revaluation Reserve – the account that reflects the amount by which the value of the Council's assets has been revised following revaluation or disposal.

Revenue Expenditure – Spending on day-to-day items, including salaries and wages, premises costs and supplies and services.

Revenue Support Grant – a grant from Central Government towards the cost of providing services.

Section 106 – under Planning regulations developers can be requested to make contributions to on and off-site facilities required as a result of their development.

True and Fair View Override - As required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011, paragraph 8.2, the Responsible Financial Officer is required to certify that the statement of accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the council. However, as a consequence of IFRS, this has introduced the principle of the “true and fair view override”. This means, where the Responsible Financial Officer considers that to give a true and fair view would actually require the council to provide misleading information i.e. to provide an actual outturn figure would actually show to the reader an unexpected financial position, the Responsible Financial Officer is permitted to provide alternative figures providing such divergence from the “true and fair view” is appropriately acknowledged in the notes to the accounts.

ABBREVIATIONS

AVC	Additional Voluntary Contributions
BID	Business Improvement District
CFR	Capital Financing Requirement
CIES	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
CIL	Community Infrastructure Levy
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy
CPFA	Chartered Public Finance Accountant
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DHC	Depreciated historical cost
DMO	Debt Management Office
DRC	Depreciated replacement cost
EUV	Existing Use Value
FMV	Fair Market Value
FTE	Full Time Equivalent

HMRC	HM Revenue & Customs
IAS	International Accounting Standards
IFRIC	International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee
IFRS	International Financial Reporting Standards
IPSAS	International Public Sector Accounting Standards
LGPS	Local Government Pension Scheme
MMI	Municipal Mutual Insurance
MRP	Minimum Revenue Provision
NBV	Net Book Value
NNDR	National Non Domestic Rates (Business Rates)
NPV	Net Present Value
PPE	Property, Plant and Equipment
PWLB	Public Works Loans Board
RCCO	Revenue Contribution to Capital Outlay (also known as Direct Revenue Financing)
REFCUS	Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute
RICS	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
RPI	Retail Price Index
RSG	Revenue Support Grant
RSL	Registered Social Landlord
S106	Section 106
SIC	Standing Interpretations Committee
SOLACE	Society of Local Authority Chief Executives

SORP Statement of Recommended Practice

SSAP Statement of Standard Accounting Practice

UK GAAP UK General Accepted Accounting Practice

Key to Photographs

Front Cover

(top to bottom)

Bridge over River Ouse linking Huntingdon to Godmanchester

Bridge over River Ouse in St Ives

Ramsey War Memorial

Riverside Park, St Neots

Back Cover

(top to bottom)

Boat on the River Ouse from the bridge in St Ives

Left: Clock Tower in Warboys

Right: Statue of Oliver Cromwell in St Ives

Ruins of Ramsey Abbey Gatehouse

Sunset at Grafham Water

