

NOTICE OF MEETING

BUDGET FULL COUNCIL

Monday, 3rd March, 2025, 7.30 pm - Tottenham Town Hall, Town Hall Approach Road London N15 4RY (watch the live meeting, [Here](#) watch the recording [here](#))

Councillors: Anna Abela, Gina Adamou , Peray Ahmet, Ibrahim Ali, Kaushika Amin, Emily Arkell, Dawn Barnes, Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Mark Blake, Zena Brabazon, Cathy Brennan, Lester Buxton, Dana Carlin, Liam Carroll, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Seema Chandwani, Lotte Collett, Pippa Connor, Eldridge Culverwell, Nick da Costa, Lucia das Neves, Isidoros Diakides, Erdal Dogan, George Dunstall, Sarah Elliott, Scott Emery, Ruth Gordon, Mark Grosskopf, Makbule Gunes, Mike Hakata, Holly Harrison-Mullane, Tammy Hymas, Emine Ibrahim, Marsha Isilar-Gosling, Thayahlan Iyngkaran, Sue Jameson(Mayor), Cressida Johnson, Anna Lawton, Ahmed Mahbub, Mary Mason, Khaled Moyeed, Sean O'Donovan, Felicia Opoku, Ajda Ovat, Sheila Peacock, Reg Rice, Alessandra Rossetti, Michelle Simmons-Safo, Adam Small, Anne Stennett, Joy Wallace, Elin Weston, Matt White, Sarah Williams and Alexandra Worrell

Quorum: 15

1. FILMING AT MEETINGS

Please note this meeting may be filmed or recorded by the Council for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's internet site or by anyone attending the meeting using any communication method. Although we ask members of the public recording, filming or reporting on the meeting not to include the public seating areas, members of the public attending the meeting should be aware that we cannot guarantee that they will not be filmed or recorded by others attending the meeting. Members of the public participating in the meeting (e.g. making deputations, asking questions, making oral protests) should be aware that they are likely to be filmed, recorded or reported on. By entering the meeting room and using the public seating area, you are consenting to being filmed and to the possible use of those images and sound recordings.

The Chair of the meeting has the discretion to terminate or suspend filming or recording, if in his or her opinion continuation of the filming, recording or reporting would disrupt or prejudice the proceedings, infringe the rights of any individual, or may lead to the breach of a legal obligation by the Council.

- 2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

A member with a disclosable pecuniary interest or a prejudicial interest in a matter who attends a meeting of the authority at which the matter is considered:

- (i) must disclose the interest at the start of the meeting or when the interest becomes apparent, and
- (ii) may not participate in any discussion or vote on the matter and must withdraw from the meeting room.

A member who discloses at a meeting a disclosable pecuniary interest which is not registered in the Register of Members' Interests or the subject of a pending notification must notify the Monitoring Officer of the interest within 28 days of the disclosure.

Disclosable pecuniary interests, personal interests and prejudicial interests are defined at Paragraphs 5-7 and Appendix A of the Members' Code of Conduct

- 5. TO ASK MEMBERS WHETHER THEY NEED TO MAKE A DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992 IN RELATION TO UNPAID COMMUNITY CHARGE OR COUNCIL TAX LIABILITY WHICH IS TWO MONTHS OR MORE OUTSTANDING**
- 6. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 18 NOVEMBER 2024 (PAGES 1 - 20)**
- 7. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**
- 8. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
- 9. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES**
- 10. APPROVAL OF THE COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2025/26 (PAGES 21 - 254)**
- 11. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES (PAGES 255 - 274)**

- a) The Cabinet
 - Housing Revenue Account 2025/26 - 2029/30
- b) General Purposes Committee
 - Pay Policy Statement 2025/26
- c) Audit Committee
 - Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2025/26

12. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM

In accordance with Council Standing Order 2(vi) to hear deputations and receive petitions related to the budget, accepted under rules 11 &12.

13. 2025/26 BUDGET AND MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2025/30 (PAGES 275 - 628)

Approval of the final budget , MTFS and Council Tax for 2025/26 by Full Council in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

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Friday, 21 February 2025

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING Full Council HELD ON Monday, 18th November, 2024, 7.30pm – 9.50pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Anna Abela, Gina Adamou , Peray Ahmet, Ibrahim Ali, Kaushika Amin, Emily Arkell, Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Zena Brabazon, Cathy Brennan, Lester Buxton, Dana Carlin, Liam Carroll, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Seema Chandwani, Pippa Connor, Nick da Costa, Lucia das Neves, Isidoros Diakides, Erdal Dogan, George Dunstall, Scott Emery, Mark Grosskopf, Makbule Gunes, Holly Harrison-Mullane, Emine Ibrahim, Thayahlan Iyngkaran, Sue Jameson(Mayor), Cressida Johnson, Anna Lawton, Ahmed Mahbub, Mary Mason, Khaled Moyeed, Sean O'Donovan, Felicia Opoku, Ajda Ovat, Sheila Peacock, Reg Rice, Michelle Simmons-Safo, Adam Small, Anne Stennett, Elin Weston, Matt White, Sarah Williams and Alexandra Worrell

31. FILMING AT MEETINGS

The Mayor referred to the filming at meetings notice and attendees noted this information.

32. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies for absence from:

Cllr Isilar – Gosling

Cllr Mark Blake

Cllr Gordon

Cllr Rossetti

Cllr Barnes

Cllr Collett

Cllr Hakata

Cllr Hymas

Cllr Elliott

Cllr Wallace

33. TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

The Mayor agreed the following items of late business for the reasons outlined below.

- Item 9 reports from Committees, the Standards Committee report was late as the meeting took place close to the publication of the Council papers and there is a need to consider these recommendations prior to the March Council meeting.
- In relation to item 11, Questions and Written Answers, the reason for lateness was that notice of questions was not requested until 8 clear days before the meeting, following which the matters raised have to be researched and replies prepared to be given at the meeting.
- Item 12, Motions , the amendments to motions were not requested until 10am on the day of the Council meeting and an amendment to Motion E had been published and distributed on the day of the meeting and appended in the tabled pack.

34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mason declared a personal interest on agenda item 10 community food banks in need of premises, by virtue of being a member of Bounds Green Food Bank. There was a deputation on this matter and Cllr Mason confirmed that she was not a decision maker at the Food Bank, and ran the advice and support service there as well as having an interim role on the co -ordinating group.

35. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 22ND OF JULY 2024 AND 10 OCTOBER 2024

RESOLVED

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Full Council meetings held on the 22nd of July 2024 and 10 October 2024.

36. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL

The Mayor had emailed a list of the events that she had attended and highlighted the following events/ engagements:

- Black History Month
- Bright Stars Autistic Club.
- Markfield Park Community Gardens event
- Armed forces day event
- Remembrance Sunday

The Mayor expressed that she was saddened to hear of the recent passing of former Mayor Erline Prescott, who served as a councillor for West Green Ward between 1990

– 98 and 2002- 2006. It was noted that Erline was Deputy Mayor in 1993- 94 and became the first black female Mayor of Haringey in 1994. She then further served as Mayor between 2003 and 2004.

The Mayor continued to offer the Council's condolences to Erline's family and her son Quincy Prescott, a former Hornsey councillor.

Cllr Peacock spoke in tribute to Erline Prescott, outlining that she was a strong advocate for diversity and supported her with the relaunch of the Tottenham Carnival. It was noted that Erline further supported many community initiatives aimed at: improving community safety, access to health services and promoting community cohesion. Cllr Peacock remembered that when Erline was Mayor she wanted to ensure every voice was heard in the borough.

Erline was a strong advocate for youth projects and would be missed by both the community and her family.

The Full Council continued to stand in a one-minute silence in memory of former councillor and Mayor, Erline Prescott.

37. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Director for Culture, Strategy and Engagement introduced a report on Appointment of the Honorary Recorder of Haringey.

The Director was very pleased to put this report forward to Full Council following the nomination of His Honour Judge Dodd KC from the Royal Courts of Justice to be appointed as the Honorary Recorder for Haringey.

The Director for Culture, Strategy and Engagement outlined that an Honorary Recorder was an unpaid ceremonial office created by the Local Government Act 1972. It aimed to facilitate close links between Councils and the judiciary and to enhance understanding of the judicial system among the community.

The functions of Honorary Recorder included attending ceremonial and civic functions and inviting Members of the Council to attend judicial events.

The Director, on behalf of the Council, expressed thanks to Judge Lucas, the outgoing Honorary Recorder who was also present at the meeting and further welcomed Judges David Aaronberg, Tim Godfrey and Barbara Mensah to the meeting.

Judge Dodd stated it was a great honour for him to be nominated as the Honorary Recorder for Haringey. He welcomed his wife and Judge colleagues' attendance. He referred to his colleague Judge Noel Lucas and expressed that he had fulfilled his Honorary Recorder duties with great distinction and hoped to live up to his example.

The role of the recorder was vital in linking the court's work with the community, represented by everyone present. He emphasised the invitation for people to visit and see what they do in the still-impressive building on Lordship Lane and encouraged Councillors and members of the public to come by and see the work first hand, noting

it was an important aspect of their duties. Sometimes, in the face of challenges in court, it could feel difficult, but the court was still a key part of the community. Jurors were often the only public duty people performed.

He had grown up locally and owed a great deal to the borough. His parents had come from Ireland in the 1950s seeking work and were passionate about education. They had sent him and his brother to South Haringey Primary School and from there, they both went to Saint Aloysius College. His brother had become a doctor and retired recently. He had studied law at Leicester University. Judge Dodd expressed that he and his brother were the first in his family to attend university, and this had been made possible thanks to the London Borough of Haringey funding their grants. He commented how such support had become much harder to obtain in recent years for young people in the borough. Being appointed the second honorary recorder was his way of giving back to the borough and he was truly grateful for the opportunity

The Leader of the Council spoke in support of the recommendations in the report, expressing the importance of a strong relationship between the judiciary and local partners for supporting community safety and how relationship was recognised through the appointment of an honorary recorder for the borough. It was noted that Judge Dodd was the second person to hold this role. Judge Dodd had been appointed as the resident judge at Wood Green Crown Court in 2016 and served as a senior judge there. His parents had come from Ireland, and both he and his brother had attended South Haringey Primary School and Saint Aloysius College. Judge Dodd had studied law at Leicester University, was called to the bar in 1979, and began practicing criminal law in London. He had taken silk in 2007 and become a part-time judge in 1999 before becoming a full-time judge in 2012. The Council was proud to have someone who had grown up in Haringey serving in this important community role.

Cllr Cawley – Harrison, Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group, expressed thanks to Judge Lucas and the work he had done during his time as the first honorary recorder for Haringey. The Council's role in the community was acknowledged as being far-reaching, particularly in terms of leadership. As part of this responsibility, the Council sought to develop an understanding of the justice system across all sections of the community and to foster a relationship between the Council, the justice system, and the community. He noted that the Lord Chief Justice emphasised the importance of Councils using their powers to make such appointments, as proposed that evening.

With Judge Dodd's appointment, the Council was proud to welcome an experienced judge from Wood Green Crown Court, who had handled several high-profile cases and many local cases, delivering justice both in London and beyond. Moreover, Judge Dodd's local roots in Haringey made the appointment even more significant.

The Chief Whip MOVED the recommendations in the report, and it was,

RESOLVED

To agree, that pursuant to Section 54 of the Courts Act 1971, His Honour, Judge John Dodd KC, be appointed to the office of Honorary Recorder of Haringey during his tenure as Resident circuit judge.

The Mayor led the meeting in a round of applause.

38. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

The Assistant Director for Legal and Governance had no matters to report on.

39. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES

The Mayor advised that there were four reports to consider as part of this item. These were reports from the Cabinet, Audit Committee and the Standards Committee.

REPORT OF THE CABINET No. 1, 2024/25 – Borough Vision

The Leader of the Council MOVED her report and recommendations, concerning approval of the Borough Vision. This was supported by speeches from community partners, Colin Bowen, Director, Haringey Giving, and Clare Henderson, Director of Place, NHS North Central London.

RESOLVED

To approve the attached Borough Vision.

REPORT OF THE CABINET No. 2, 2024/25 - London Borough of Haringey Gambling Act Policy

The Cabinet Member for Communities MOVED her report and recommendations concerning adoption of the Statement of Gambling Policy 2025 – 2028 and it was,

RESOLVED

1. To adopt The Statement of Gambling Policy 2025 – 2028 at Appendix 2 and to take effect from 31st January 2025, taking into consideration:
 - i) the outcome of the consultation set out in paragraph 8.3 of the report and
 - ii) the equality impact assessment in Appendix 3.
2. To agree that, in respect of new casinos, no premises licences shall be granted after the date that this resolution comes into effect and that this resolution shall come into effect on 31st January 2025.
3. To note the supplementary guidance containing the local area profile information at Appendix 2.

The Chair of Audit introduced his report which provided a quarterly update on Treasury Management activities and it was,

RESOLVED

1. To note the treasury management activity undertaken during the financial year to 30 June 2024 and the performance achieved which is attached as Appendix 2 to the report.
2. To note that all treasury activities were undertaken in line with the approved Treasury Management Strategy

Cllr Ali, Chair of Standards Committee, introduced his report on minor changes to the Councillor Complaints Handling Protocol and Council Standing Orders and MOVED the recommendations and it was,

RESOLVED

1. To approve the amendments to the Member Complaints Handling Protocol as set out in Appendix 2 and also approves publication of the updated version as set out Appendix 3.
2. To approve changes outlined at Appendix 6 outlining track changes to the Council Procedure Rules and increasing the working days for notice of Council questions from 8 to 10 days.

40. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM

The Mayor invited deputation from Carmel Cadden on Haringey providing community food banks in need of premises, access to empty council premises for a minimum of twelve months. Carmel was joined by Rose Dakuo, Charlotte Gray, Nandita Lal, Jane Leggett.

The deputation expressed their views and considered as a group that there had been a closure, abandonment, and repurposing of some community provision in Haringey which had negatively impacted essential community projects, many of which were food related.

The deputation urged the Council to provide food banks and community food projects with access to empty Council properties for at least 12 months and help find suitable spaces close to the people who rely on these services. They felt that there were many vacant Council-owned properties and these community projects often struggled to operate due to a lack of premises. With minimal resources, these projects could not afford commercial rents and therefore required rent-free community spaces.

The deputation emphasised the significant social, financial, and environmental value of these projects, which support vulnerable residents, help the Council meet its duty of

care, and reduce food waste, thereby cutting waste management costs and lowering carbon emissions. Despite challenges, such as operating outdoors in all weather, food banks continued to serve the community. However, the lack of secure premises meant they could not accept all food donations or store perishable items due to insufficient space for fridges or freezers. Volunteers, particularly in Northumberland Park, expressed a sense of personal sadness in not being able to support their community, having operated outside for 21 months since being evicted from the Eric Allen Community Centre.

The deputation highlighted that, in April 2024, a building was renovated and deemed safe for use, yet it had remained vacant for seven months despite being available for food banks and other community groups. This left the project unable to secure access, and each week, vulnerable individuals, including elderly residents and women with babies, waited at food banks. The lack of suitable premises had severely hindered the food projects, and since losing their secure base, they had turned away thousands of pounds worth of donated food that could have supported the growing number of residents in need. The deputation acknowledged, a meeting had taken place with the Council, arranged by the Cabinet Member for Communities, on September 18th, and had concluded with the need for the Council to identify suitable unused properties and make practical arrangements.

The Mayor inquired about further correspondence with the Council. The speaker confirmed a positive meeting on September 18th, followed by further communication. On September 27th, the group had further submitted their list of emergency accommodation needs to the Assistant Director responsible for Property.

A deputation member, representing one of the food banks, explained that an Officer had suggested monitoring Haringey's commercial properties website for potential spaces. After several weeks, a property appeared that seemed suitable, and the deputation member reached out to the Council. Initially, the agent denied a viewing, but a viewing was later arranged. The deputation member found the property suitable and expressed interest, but was told she would need to apply and compete with profit-making businesses, some of which had made offers above market value. Additionally, she was informed that a £500 deposit and £3,660 in legal fees would be required if the lease was awarded.

Councillors inquired about the impact of the project, asking how many people the group was currently able to help and how many more could be supported if they had access to the right premises. The volunteer explained that before losing their premises four months ago, the project was feeding about 780 households across five church-based food banks and supplying two charities. They also provided hampers for elderly, disabled, and vulnerable individuals. Since losing their premises, they could only manage one delivery per week, feeding a maximum of 140 people, significantly reducing their impact. With a dedicated space, the volunteer's plan was to expand the project by increasing deliveries, pickups, and the amount of food distributed. Their goal was to feed more people, support more vulnerable individuals, and reduce food waste.

Rose Dakuo, a member of the deputation group, who ran the Homegrown Tottenham project, shared that two years ago, they had a meeting with Councillors, during which they were promised help in securing a space. However, despite two years passing, they had still not been provided with premises. The Homegrown Tottenham project,

which had provided food and educational services to local families and young people, had been feeding around 500 people weekly. Since being evicted from their space, Rose Dakuo explained that they were no longer able to carry out their work effectively. Despite multiple meetings with councillors, they were still without a permanent base.

In response, the Cabinet Member for Communities acknowledged the concerns and emphasised the Council's continued efforts to address them. The Councillor noted that they had been in contact with Rose Dakuo and her team and were working to find suitable spaces for community groups like Homegrown Tottenham. The Cabinet Member highlighted ongoing efforts to improve access to safe spaces for voluntary organisations and assured that the Council was committed to transparency and fairness in managing its assets. The Cabinet Member also mentioned a new policy being developed in collaboration with the voluntary sector, aimed at ensuring better access to premises for community organisations. The Council remained committed to supporting food banks and other community initiatives and was actively working on solutions to meet their needs.

41. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10

The Mayor advised the meeting that, as part of this item on questions, there was also public questions to consider.

There had been 7 public questions in total received and there were 3 questioners not present, and they had all asked questions on the matters concerning the visitor permit scheme and the responses would be given in writing.

It was noted that three questions from Sue Lewis, Laura Forrest Hay, and Niall O'Connor were on this same matter. In the interests of time and efficiency of the meeting all three questioners were invited to come forward and ask their questions together. The Mayor further advised that, given the matters concerned one specific Cabinet portfolio, she would ask the Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services to respond.

Sue Lewis, Laura Forrest Hay, and Niall O'Connor were invited to come forward to the table. It was noted, at this point that Niall O'Connor, was not able to attend the meeting.

Sue Lewis and Laura Forrest Hay asked their questions as follows:

1. At the most recent Scrutiny Committee Cllr Seema Chandwani said she did not think the Council should be limiting the numbers of visitors a resident can have. This was in response to the suggestion that the current permit allowance could be reduced. Do you agree that charging constituents up to £16.80 a day to have a visitor does that to those on modest or low incomes and further highlights the huge disparity between the east and west of the borough?

2. How will the added financial cost of the removal of daily parking permits affect well-being(including health of residents and the state of their properties) of families and residents that rely on regular carers, or repairs and improvements to their homes.

Response:

The Cabinet Member for Tackling Inequality and Resident Services thanked the questioners for coming to Full Council and engaging with the democratic processes of the Council and responded as follows:

- The Council co - designed the Parking Strategy with residents and were currently exploring a range of potential changes. The proposals that made up the statutory consultation included daily visitor parking permits, and no decision has been made on this particular matter.
- As with all proposed changes, the Council wanted residents to have their say. The Council's aim was to always get a wider range of views so able to make an informed decision.
- The Council was in the process of gathering feedback from residents and stakeholders through the statutory consultation period, open until 20th November 2024.
- The Council encouraged everyone to share their views on these proposed changes through the process outlined on the Council's website.
- The Council would consider residents' feedback before deciding on the proposals.

There was a supplementary question about the petition against the removal of daily parking permits which would not be debated until March 2025 by the Council. The query concerned the time frame for the decision making given the petition would not be debated until March 25.

In response, the Cabinet Member explained that there were several parking related proposals in the current consultation and the Parking team would analyse these in the next 5 weeks leading to a final decision on visitor permits and other parking related proposals in January/ February 2025.

The Council continued to RECEIVE the response to written questions.

Oral questions one to nine were then asked and responded to.

42. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NO. 13

Motion E – Winter Fuel Allowance,

Cllr Emery proposed the motion, outlining that thousands of people, many of them elderly, struggled to keep their homes warm in the winter. The winter fuel payment was

first introduced by the Labour government in 1997 and Age UK had stated that without this the health of many elderly people would be jeopardised.

He outlined that the cut would disproportionately affect three groups of vulnerable pensioners. There were those who narrowly missed out on pension credits because their incomes were slightly above the eligibility threshold, often due to a small occupational pension; pensioners with high energy needs due to disability, illness and those living in poorly insulated homes and thirdly, it had been estimated that almost a million eligible pensioners were not claiming their pension credit. This persistent problem left a third of those entitled without crucial support. Some people on far less missed out on this money and this policy would significantly impact those pensioners with low savings, lower pension incomes and disabilities.

Cllr Emery urged the Council to raise concerns on behalf of the thousands of pensioners in Haringey who would lose out. Members desperately needed to review the process and ensure more pensioners accessed pensions credit. The government needed to act now to prevent the vulnerable from facing further challenges.

Cllr da Costa seconded this motion and welcomed Haringey's decision which allocated part of the limited budget to support pensioners in winter. He outlined that government's own analysis showed that nearly 800,000 pensioners who earned less than £11,400 annually would no longer receive this lifeline. These were people already struggling to keep warm as energy prices rose and 37% of those eligible for pension credit did not claim it, meaning the government's policy knowingly excluded some of the most vulnerable.

He called for an immediate review of the eligibility criteria for winter fuel allowance, in consultation with the pensioner representative groups. It was essential that low- and middle-income pensioners were protected, and he endorsed efforts to boost pension credit uptake.

The Mayor had received an amendment to the motion and invited Cllr Chandwani to move the amendment

Cllr Chandwani explained that members suggestion of usage of the Household Support Fund to support pensioners who were not in receipt of pension credit was already taking place and included pensioners in CTRS Scheme. Members had worked alongside the Mayor of London to support pension credit take up. This year, the Council had identified 835 eligible residents and sent letters to notify them. Up until September, there was approximately 44,000 extra claimants across the UK have started to claim pension credit, a 152% increase compared to last year. Since April, the Haringey support fund had supported 1065 residents with vital financial assistance. Through the council tax reduction scheme, support was given to 25,480 residents with discounted rates, 7,876 were of pension age. This amendment supported plans already in place to support the vulnerable and called for a continuation of a fairer funding settlement so the Council could continue with a range of support for the older generation.

Cllr Brennan seconded the amendment which promised support to older residents where it was most required. Overall, she welcomed the suggestion of a review into the impact of the new means tested criteria. She was particularly concerned about pensioners just above the pension credit threshold, who would still find it hard to meet

heating costs, and she hoped that if there were to be a review, it would look in detail at this group.

The priority of the Council was to ensure that members tried to support those residents facing the greatest difficulties. She stood behind the Labour Mayor and Council's endeavours to ensure that all of those eligible for pension credit applied for it.

There was a debate in accordance with CSO 15.1

Cllr Simmons – Safo highlighted that the Labour government had changed the criteria of eligibility for winter fuel payments to those on mean tested benefits, primarily pension credit which was one of the most underclaimed benefits. Haringey had worked with the Labour Mayor to increase the uptake of this, she was delighted that the constituents of Seven Sisters had benefited from the intervention of the Council and had claimed these benefits and as a result, would receive the winter fuel payment.

Cllr Emery responded to the amendment and felt there was more the Council could do to support pensioners. He urged members to consider what they had campaigned for six months ago and make the right decision.

Following a vote on the amendment to the Motion, the amendment was AGREED.

Following a vote to the Motion as amended, this was AGREED.

Winter Fuel Allowance – Motion E

Proposer: Cllr Seema Chandwani

Seconder: Cllr Cathy Brennan

Council notes:

- 14 years of austerity has left the UK economy, public sector finances and welfare state under severe financial pressure;
- The Labour Government has changed the criterion for eligibility Winter Fuel Payments to those on means-tested benefits (primarily Pension Credit);
- Pension Credit is one of the most underclaimed benefits with 37% of those eligible do not claim pension credit, and 780,000 pensioners earning below £11,400 per year will no longer receive the Winter Fuel Payment;
- Since February 2023, Haringey has worked with the Labour Mayor of London to increase uptake of Pension Credits through the GLA's Pension Credits Programme;
- Together with 23 London boroughs, we have worked to ensure older Londoners do not miss out on receiving all of their Pension Credit. Since then, more than 4,300 Londoners have claimed Pension Credit they are entitled to, resulting in £17.9m in direct additional annual income.

- To receive Pension Credit a single pensioner must have an income of less than £11,343.80 per year, compared with a full-time living wage salary of £20,820.8 per year;
- Data from Policy in Practice shows that almost £17 million of pension credit goes unclaimed in Haringey each year, affecting over 4000 households;

Last year, Haringey identified around 823 pensioners who were eligible for Pension Credits, with 154 pensioners claiming it. This resulted in a take up of £615,062 a year, which will result in £7,439,488 pension credits being taken up over an average lifetime.

This year, Haringey officers have identified 815 eligible residents not claiming pension credit in the borough and has been targeting them to supporting them in uptake

Last week, letters were sent to all eligible residents and we will be in contact with them to help support take up.

- 4 out of 5 pensioners due to lose the Winter Fuel Payment are on or below the poverty line according to Age UK.
- The Energy Price Cap has risen by 10% in October, which, combined with restricted eligibility for Winter Fuel Payments, will push thousands of local pensioners into fuel poverty;
- That it will use the Household Support Fund to provide payments to pensioners who are low income and eligible for Pension Credits and confirmed its plans to provide a payment from the council to 2,804 pension aged households claiming council tax reduction scheme.

Council believes:

- That ensuring that all those entitled to Pension Credits and other benefits are aware of their eligibility and are claiming them is a priority;
- Local government sector urgently needs a fairer funding settlement so it can continue to support all residents and transform Haringey into a fairer, greener borough;

Following this winter, there should be a review into the impact on the new means tested criteria for the Winter Fuel Allowance and will fully support the UK Government in a review or consultation should one take place.

Council resolves:

- To continue with its plan to use the Household Support Fund to provide a payment from the council to pension aged households claiming from the council tax reduction scheme;
- To continue to work with the Mayor of London in helping identify and supporting residents to claim the benefits they are entitled to;
- To examine what support can be provided to these same households in future years;

- To support the Mayor of London's comms campaign, encourage greater uptake of Pension Credits by those who are entitled to them;

To instruct the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive to write to Haringey's Members of Parliament, to set out why a fairer funding settlement is vital for local authorities to continue to support residents and transform Haringey into a fairer and greener borough.

Motion F SEND provision in Haringey

Councillor Zena Brabazon moved the motion and stated that:

- She was pleased to present the motion and as there were no amendments from any of the opposition groups, there appeared to be a cross-party unanimity.
- The Council had shown a great commitment to SEND generally. The program of correcting mistakes and recognising that the system needed to change was important.
- The Council had worked diligently over many years to make changes to the system and progression had been made.
- The Council had increased the support to children and families in the borough. The OFSTED inspection in February 2023 had received a good rating by OFSTED for the first time in the borough's history. Steps had also been taken to improve special needs provision.
- The SEND inspection, which was a joint inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and OFSTED showed that the work being done with special needs was on track. The Council was awarded the highest rating - a "1" - as opposed to an "outstanding". This was cause for celebration of how far the Council had come and of the measures put in place by the Director of Children's Services and her team which was a good program of system change. The Council wished to thank Ann Graham, who had been Director since 2018 and her whole her whole management team who had contributed to the achievement. Further, the teachers in Haringey schools, the sports staff, the Parent Forum and other elements had brought together the achievement.
- Dealing with children with special needs was a lifelong commitment, 24 hours a day and working with parents and young people was critical.
- The Council had developed the Elevated Youth which was the special needs youth council.
- Nationally, 1.6 million young people in the UK were diagnosed with a special need or disability. In Haringey, it was about 8,000 and of those, around 3,000 children had Education, Health and Care plans. Young people with the most

complex needs were going through the school system, needing the special support. This was done with not enough money. Safety Valve had pushed the Council to make changes and the Council was now developing additional capacity for 170 children.

- She invited the Secretary of State for Education to visit the borough.

Councillor Makbule Gunes seconded the motion and stated that:

- As the Chair of the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Panel, it was an honour for her to second the motion.
- She was proud and confident that the Council had come a long way over the last three years, from a SEND service that was struggling to a service that was that was awarded the highest rating in its SEND service provision by a joint OFSTED and CQC inspection. This showed solid progress.
- Additional funding from the Labour Government was a welcome start in putting education back into the pole position to create a fairer society. Good education regardless of one's background would unlock tremendous opportunities that every child rightly deserved. Forty years of underinvestment in the SEND department needed to be reversed and the Government needed to do this as soon as possible. Adequately funding the services for children with special educational needs was important as those children needed to learn, thrive and fulfil their potential regardless of their condition and circumstances.
- In her role as Chair, there had been opportunities to scrutinise many aspects of children and young people's services. Many changes had brought a positive effect to children with SEND support.
- The administration's focus on young people and children over the years was further testament to some of the great work in the area that Councillor Brabazon had highlighted.
- There had been excellent work from officers across the Council, particularly from officers in the children, care and education departments. She wanted to thank Ann Graham and her team for the work done for children with special educational needs, in addition to the Deputy Assistant, Jackie Difolco.
- Work in the special needs area was not an easy job and officers had done very well.

Council then moved to have a debate in accordance with Council Standing Orders 15.1

Councillor Mark Grosskopf stated that:

- It was a privilege to start his maiden speech and as a member of the Orthodox Jewish community.
- He worked with and had a daughter with special educational needs. There were nearly 3,000 children holding Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) in Haringey and 8,000 requiring SEND support and a 22% increase in assessment request from last year. The motion addressed crucial issues affecting all communities. The Government had just announced a focused package of funding measure for young people in education. The Mayor of London would also continue to support those in London.
- Whilst the Council celebrated the measures, including the Mayor of London's extension of universal free school meals, it was important to ensure that every young person who needed support was able to receive it.
- The borough's achievement deserved recognition, particularly the good OFSTED rating marking an outstanding achievement in the SEND Service provision.
- He would ask Council to join him in congratulating the dedicated officers and cabinet members whose tireless work made the success possible. It showed that the Council could achieve when it worked together for children.
- The Safety Valve program which had created 170 additional SEND places had been transformed and allowed children to access support close to home. The success came despite 14 years of chronic underinvestment in SEND services nationally. Whilst Council welcomed the recent £1 billion additional SEND funding announcement, this must be viewed in context of the years of shortfall.
- Families waited anxiously for assessments and children were struggling without adequate support. He supported the Council's call for the Secretary of State for Education to visit the borough and urged the visit to include time with both Orthodox Jewish and Muslim communities across Hackney and Haringey. The Secretary needed to see first-hand how faith schools were managing SEND provisions whilst facing financial pressures.
- The 6.3% rise in young people with special educational needs across England showed a growing scale of the challenge. Every child, regardless of their faith or background and educational setting had to have access to support they needed.
- He urged all members to support the motion as a commitment to every child a diverse borough that recognised and respected the different ways the community chose to educate their children.

Councillor Pippa Conner stated that:

- There was a large cohort of young people who required special educational needs support and a smaller group who also had Education, Health and Care plans in place.
- She fully supported the motion calling on the Government to do more and she also extended her support for Ann Graham and her team for the work that she had been doing across the area.
- It was important to ask if it was possible to do better and she was pleased to see the SEND preparation for adulthood action plan 2022 to 2024 on the Haringey website. In September 2022, the Council carried out an engagement process with parents and carers which highlighted three areas; the need for accountability on the action plan services to be more responsive, to improve communication links across services as well as commissioning across children's and adults and, thirdly, the local offer information to be more accessible and available in various formats. To continue to challenge the Council, it was important to ask if the Council was doing as well as we could do in those areas.
- The action plan also noted in greater detail what areas needed to be improved. Children in Need and Looked After Children reviews needed to be better aligned to the EHCP reviews. There needed to be multi-agency preparation for adulthood training. There needed to be more holistic views of the family in transitional planning and there needed to be better transitions between children and young people and adult health services, particularly CMHS. Advocacy services for young adults needed to be developed and transitions needed to be better planned and planned earlier. Communication needed to be more effective, because this caused anxiety of young people and those who supported them.
- She looked forward to seeing the Council's plans to continually improve those areas.
- The majority of casework she received in the area fell into one or more of those areas for improvement. It often took persistence to ensure that to the young person with special educational needs and their families received the right support. The action plan also noted how the Council would measure success. It noted that performance measures would be reviewed and monitored by the SEND Joint Executive Board and success would also be measured through a communications and engagement plan with young people and their parent carers. She would ask Council look to challenge the SEND Executive Board to ensure the basic areas were done well the first time around. Solving problems at the outset would save families and staff stress. She would ask that the process was monitored and reviewed to ensure the right support at the right time.
- She urged the Council to apply robust performance monitoring and all future action plans keeping the needs of young people with SEND and their families at the centre of the Council's efforts.

In response, Councillor Zena Brabazon stated that:

- The work in the area was never completed. There were thousands of EHCPs and there were going to be issues which would arise.
- The area was bounded by rights, responsibilities, different roles and a legal framework. When there was not enough money, there would always be issues. The Council was working to try and mitigate this and to meet need.
- The Transition service was an important development. This was a £3 million investment to lead the transitions of young people with special educational needs as they moved to adulthood. It was another complex area, but hopefully the Council could move forward at pace.
- She hoped that the new funding from the Government would be invested into Haringey.

Following a vote on Motion F, The Council unanimously AGREED the motion.

Motion F

Title: SEND provision in Haringey

Proposer: Cllr Zena Brabazon

Seconder: Cllr Makbule Gunes

This Council notes:

In England, 1.6 million young people have special educational needs, a rise of 6.3% since 2023;

In Haringey, there are approximately 8,000 children and young people who require SEN support and 2,974 who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP). Compared with the previous year, there has been a 22% increase in the number of requests for an assessment for an EHCP and an overall increase of 6% for children with EHCP's;

In the Autumn budget, the new government announced a package of investment measures to support young people and families across the UK. These included tripling breakfast club funding, £6.1bn in capital investment for rebuilding and maintaining schools and £2.3bn for revenue investment which includes £1bn in additional SEND funding;

The Mayor of London has announced the extension of universal free school meals to primary aged children which has allowed schools to access additional essential pupil premium funding;

This administration is committed to strengthen Children's Services in Haringey and officers have worked collaboratively with partners and community groups such as SEND Power to enhance our support to young people and families in;

Children's Services were awarded a Good by Ofsted for the first time in its history and was awarded the highest rating in its SEND service provision by a joint Ofsted and CQC inspection;

The Safety Valve Programme, implemented by this administration, has enabled the council to create an additional 170 places for young people with SEND in partnership with mainstream and special schools across the borough;

The Safety Value Programme has supported us in extending capacity in mainstream and special schools in-borough, which enables a local and integrated education, care, and support to be close to families and support networks, especially those with the most complex needs.

This Council believes:

That 14 years of underinvestment in SEND has put local authorities and their ability to deliver their statutory obligations and provide the best support under strain;

That future investment, resources and research in how local authorities meet the most complex needs in the SEND high needs block is vital;

Ensuring that funding is available and sufficient for all young people who require additional support to be able to access it.

This Council resolves:

To call on the UK government to enhance routes to accessing support for all that need it such as providing better diagnosis of special needs;

To call on the UK government for further funding for local authorities to improve outcomes for children and young people;

To write to the Secretary of State for Education to highlight our implementation of the Safety Valve programme, invite her to visit and see firsthand the success it and other measures have had on SEND provision in Haringey.

Meeting ended at 9.50pm

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair

Date

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Report for: Full Council 3rd of March 2025

Title: Review of Council Tax Reduction Scheme Administration for 2025/26

Report authorised by : Taryn Eves, Director of Finance & S151 Officer

Lead Officer: James Straw, Benefit Manager

Ward(s) affected: All wards

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Key Decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 This report sets out details of the review of Haringey's current Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) 2024/25 and recommends that it continues unchanged for 2025/26, save for minor updates mandated by legislation made by the Government.
- 1.2 The Council must approve the final scheme by 11th March 2025, even where the scheme remains unchanged, ready for implementation on the 1st April 2025.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Since the decision by the previous Government to abolish Council Tax Benefit in 2013, we recognise that there has been a significant financial burden on many of the lowest income households in Haringey.
- 2.2 Haringey has designed a CTRS (Council Tax Reduction Scheme) which increased the maximum protection to disabled claimants and working age claimants with children to that already given to pensioners.
- 2.3 Continuing the protection of these groups by maintaining the current scheme allows the council to provide essential financial support to some of the most vulnerable residents in the borough and contribute to the stated ambition of making Haringey a fairer borough for all to live in.

3. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 3.1 Agrees to adopt the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2025/26 as contained in Appendix 1 and therefore retains the same Scheme agreed for 2024/25. This means that from 1st April 2025 there is a means-tested scheme which provides:

- i. That pensioners continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- ii. That working-age claimants in receipt of certain disability benefits continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- iii. That working-age claimants with children continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- iv. That all other working-age claimants continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 80.2%.

3.2 Authority to be given to the Director of Finance, the Director of Environment & Resident Experience and Assistant Director with responsibility for the Benefits Service to take all appropriate steps to implement and administer the Scheme.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1 The Council is obliged to consider whether to revise or replace its CTRS each year. However, it is not obliged to revise or replace it. If any revision or replacement is to be made, the Council must follow the consultation process set out in the legislation and the decision must be made by Full Council.

4.2 The CTRS is a way the Council can redistribute the financial burden on Council Taxpayers and provide additional support to those in financial need.

4.3 The recommendation to retain the current scheme, would help to ensure that already protected claimants will not be further disadvantaged and pay due regard to the challenging financial climate, recognising the continuing cost of living pressures on residents. The reduction in Council resources and service pressures have required the Council to implement significant annual expenditure reductions over several years. These are forecast to continue for 2025/26 and future years. The affordability to the Council of the CTRS scheme therefore continues to be an important consideration.

5. Alternative options considered

5.1 Change the administration of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Consideration was given to revising the current scheme but to delay and re-visit this for 2026/27 to maintain support for financially vulnerable residents during 2025/26.

6. Background information

6.1 Haringey Council has a Council Tax Reduction Scheme to provide support to residents who need help to pay their Council Tax.

6.2 As part of the government's welfare reforms, responsibility for setting Council Tax support was devolved to Local Authorities. Council Tax Benefit was abolished and replaced with a locally managed CTRS from 1st April 2013. Nationally, CTRS had 10% less government funding than the previous Council Tax Benefit scheme. There was a mandate to protect pensioners from any changes.

- 6.3 Haringey's Council Tax Reduction Scheme protects pensioners (as prescribed by Central Government), those in receipt of certain disability benefits, and working-age claimants with children, with support available for up to 100% of Council Tax liability. The funding cuts are passed on to all other claimants, who can receive support of up to a maximum 80.2% of Council Tax liability.
- 6.4 The scheme for 2025/26 includes nationally-prescribed changes to allowances, premiums and non-dependant deductions, and the pension-age scheme by the Government. No other changes have been made which affect the administration of the scheme.
- 6.5 The Council must consider whether to revise or replace its CTRS for each financial year but can also choose to make no changes.
- 6.6 Before making any changes to the CTRS, the Council must follow the consultation process set out in the legislation.
- 6.7 The final decision must be made by Full Council before 11th March 2025, to take effect from 1st April 2025.
- 6.8 The CTRS reduces the level of council tax which the Council and the GLA collect from Haringey residents. The current cost to the Council of the CTRS is £34m.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 High level Strategic outcomes

- 7.1 The CTRS contributes to the 'Adults, health and welfare' priority of the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26 and positively impacts on creating secure and resilient lives and supporting vulnerable residents.
- 7.2 Continuing to extend the maximum level of financial support for households with children will ease the financial burden of families in Haringey and promote better outcomes for children and young people. There are clear links between socio-economic and health inequalities, and therefore, reducing the financial burden on recipients of CTRS will contribute to wider positive life outcomes.

8. Carbon and Climate Change

- 8.1 Not relevant to this report.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance

- 9.1 The CTRS is a means tested scheme, which enables the Council to help the residents in need of financial support. The financial burden on vulnerable residents relating to Council Tax is redistributed across the community as the Council Tax is a core form of funding to the Council which helps to finance its statutory and non-statutory expenditure.

- 9.2 The current cost of the CTRS scheme to the Council is £34m and the CTRS scheme reduces the level of Council tax that could be collected based on the GLA and Government guidance. Despite financial challenges, CTRS costs have been built into the 2025/26 budget and the medium-term financial strategy. The Council has requested Exceptional Financial Support from the Government to balance the budget over the medium term financial plan. On the 20th February 2025, the council received confirmation that the government was minded to approve a capitalisation direction for financial years 2024/2025 and 2025/2026.

Procurement

- 9.3 Strategic Procurement have been consulted in the preparation of this report.
- 9.4 The recommendations in section 3 of this report do not contain procurement related implications and therefore Strategic Procurement have no reason under the procurement regulation to object to the recommendations of the report.

Assistant Director of Legal & Governance

- 9.5 The Assistant Director for Legal and Governance has been consulted on this report. Under section 13A(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council as billing authority must make a localised Council Tax Reduction Scheme in accordance with Schedule 1A to the 1992 Act.
- 9.6 Each financial year the Council must consider whether to revise its scheme, or to replace it with another scheme. The Council must make any revision to its scheme, or any replacement scheme, no later than 11 March in the financial year preceding that for which the revision or replacement scheme is to have effect. The decision must be made by Full Council.
- 9.7 This report recommends that Full Council retains essentially the same provisions for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2025-26 as was agreed for 2024-25 so that it continues largely unchanged. Therefore, Full Council is being asked to agree the continuing adoption of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme from 1 April 2025 for the council tax year 2025-26.
- 9.8 Schedule 1A to the 1992 Act makes further provision about Council Tax Reduction Schemes including prescribing the consultation process that must be followed if the scheme is to be revised. However, there is no obligation to consult here as no changes which are not mandated by Government are being recommended for the 2025/26 scheme.
- 9.9 Each year the Government makes secondary legislation which mandates minor updates to the CTRS to reflect other national welfare changes. For example, to terminology or to the amount of allowances, premiums and non-dependent deductions for pension-age claimants. The CTRS must be updated to reflect those, and the Council has no discretion not to do so. Therefore, regardless of the Council's decision whether to revise or replace the scheme for 2025/26,

certain national welfare changes will be reflected in the pension-age scheme by the Government. This year, such changes are contained in the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2025.

Equality

9.10 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.11 The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

9.12 This report sets out details of Haringey's current Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) 2025/26 which provides support to residents who need help to pay their Council Tax.

There are no changes being made to the scheme eligibility criteria or process for 2025/26, thus the positive impact on residents remains unchanged.

9.13 The scheme supports our lowest-income residents as follows:

- i. Low income pensioners, who continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- ii. Low income working-age claimants in receipt of certain disability benefits continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- iii. Low income working-age claimants with children continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 100%.
- iv. That all other low income working-age claimants continue to receive support for the payment of Council Tax up to 80.2%.

9.14 The council is not seeking to change the current scheme, and the continuation of the existing scheme is expected to have a positive impact on a variety of people with protected characteristics who are overrepresented among CTRS claimants. This decision will provide opportunities to advance equality and

foster good relations by reducing the financial burden on groups in particular need.

10. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1: Haringey Council 2025/26 CTR scheme

11. Background papers

- Review of Council Tax Reduction Scheme Administration for 2024/25: [CTRS 2024-25 full council report.pdf](#)
- The Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2025: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2025/39/contents/made>

**London Borough of Haringey Council Tax
Reduction Scheme**

2025

Introduction

This scheme is based on the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2886) and incorporates the statutory obligations detailed in the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2885).

Certain elements of the Default Scheme have been removed or amended within this scheme and apply solely to persons who have not reached the qualifying age for state pension credit.

This scheme will be amended to take into account any circumstances subsequently identified, through government statute. This scheme will be treated as having been amended to accommodate any changes the government may make to The Prescribed Requirements. Where references are made to the Prescribed Requirements or Default Scheme, these will relate to the most recently published edition of those documents. Where either is revoked, the last published version(s) will apply.

Features of the scheme

Key changes from the Default Scheme (of which apply to persons who have not reached the qualifying age for state pension credit) are as follows:

- Applicants of working-age will have their Council Tax support assessed against 80.2% of their council tax liability
- Applicants of working age will be treated as having applied for Council Tax support if the Council is informed by the DWP that they have made a successful application for Universal Credit.
- Changes of entitlement of less than £3.25 per week will not be effected until such time as they cumulatively exceed £3.25 per week, in order to provide claimants with certainty.
- Applicants in receipt of certain disability benefits and premiums and applicants responsible for a child(ren) or young person(s) in the same household will receive protection from the above measure. These applicants will have their Council Tax support assessed against 100% of their council tax liability
- A minimum weekly Council Tax Support award of £1 has been introduced
- A capital savings limit of £10,000 has been introduced
- Child benefit and war pensions will be fully disregarded when calculating entitlement for all applicants
- The maximum period for backdating claims shall be 12 months for those of a working age or 3 months for pensioners.
- Any change of circumstance which is advantageous to council tax support entitlement and reported by the applicant outside one month, will take effect from the date on which it is reported

Application, appeals, revisions and superseded decisions

Provisions at Part 3 and Schedule 1 of this scheme set out how applications for a Council Tax Reduction must be made and how appeals are to be made to the authority.

General administration of the scheme

Apart from where statutorily required, advice of any award granted, removed or revised will be by an adjustment to the council tax bill and the bill itself will be the formal notification. Haringey Council reserves the right to include additional notifications.

Any excess award of Council Tax Reduction will be rectified by the amount being recovered by an adjustment to the council tax bill.

Up-rating

This scheme proposes that certain figures for working age claimants set out in the scheme may be up-rated in line with changes to social security benefit rates for Housing Benefit, as prescribed in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time to time.

Data sharing, fraud and error

Information provided by applicants will be used by Haringey Council to process applications for Council Tax Reductions. Information may also be shared internally to facilitate the processing of applications.

Information provided by applicants will also be used by Haringey Council for the prevention and detection of fraud and may also be shared with external and internal bodies responsible for auditing or administering public funds for these purposes.

Haringey Council is the data controller for the purposes of the Data Protection Act.

Penalties

Haringey Council has a responsibility to protect taxpayers and the public purse by effectively fighting fraud. The Council takes all forms of fraud seriously and will take action to recover any money that has been claimed based on false information, a failure to provide (disclose) information or a failure to notify a change of circumstances, possession or supply of articles for use in fraud or more generally obtaining services dishonestly. Such action could include a civil penalty and/or prosecution.

Haringey Council is committed to developing a culture of honesty, and zero tolerance to fraud. Individuals can anonymously notify the Council of a potential fraud.

To report all cases of fraud or corruption please call Fraudwatch on Freephone 0500 500 777

Alternatively please contact:

Audit and Risk Management can be contacted at:
Level 7, Alexandra House,
10 Station Road, Wood Green,
London, N22 7TR
Telephone: 020 8489 3768

Email: fraudcall@haringey.gov.uk

**London Borough of Haringey Council Tax
Reduction Scheme**

This Scheme is based upon the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Default Scheme) (England) Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/2886).

Application

The Scheme set out below is the reduction scheme for the London Borough of Haringey pursuant to section 13A(2) Local Government Finance Act 1992.

These rules may be cited as the Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2025 and come into force on 1 April 2025. These rules are decided by and apply to Haringey Council.

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Part 1
Introduction

Introduction

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This scheme relates to the financial year beginning with 1st April 2025 and may be cited as the London Borough of Haringey Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

Part 2
Interpretation

Interpretation

2

(1) In this scheme--

"the 1992 Act" means the Local Government Finance Act 1992;

"Abbeyfield Home" means an establishment run by the Abbeyfield Society including all bodies corporate or unincorporated which are affiliated to that society;

"adoption leave" means a period of absence from work on ordinary or additional adoption leave by virtue of section 75A or 75B of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

"adult disability payment" has the meaning given in regulation 2 of the DAWAP Regulations;

"an AFIP" means an armed forces independence payment payable in accordance with an armed and reserve forces compensation scheme established under section 1(2) of the Armed Forces (Pensions and Compensation) Act 2004;

"alternative maximum council tax reduction" means the amount determined in accordance with paragraph 31 and Schedule 4;

"applicable amount" means--

- (a) in relation to a pensioner, the amount calculated in accordance with paragraph 25 and Schedule 2, and
- (b) in relation to a person who is not a pensioner, the amount calculated in accordance with--
 - (i) paragraph 26 and Schedule 3; or
 - (ii) paragraph 28,

as the case may be;

"applicant" means a person who has made an application;

"application" means an application for a reduction under this scheme;

"approved blood scheme" means a scheme established or approved by the Secretary of State, or trust established with funds provided by the Secretary of State, for the purpose of providing compensation in respect of a person having been infected from contaminated blood products;

"assessment period" means--

- (a) in relation to pensioners--
 - (i) in relation to the earnings of a self-employed earner, the period determined in accordance with paragraph 43 for the purpose of calculating the weekly earnings of the applicant; or
 - (ii) in relation to any other income, the period determined in accordance with paragraph 40 for the purpose of calculating the weekly income of the applicant;
- (b) in relation to persons who are not pensioners, such period as is set out in paragraphs 47 to 49 over which income falls to be calculated;

"attendance allowance" means--

- (a) an attendance allowance under Part 3 of the SSCBA;
- (b) an increase of disablement pension under section 104 or 105 of that Act;
- (c) a payment by virtue of article 14, 15, 16, 43 or 44 of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or any analogous payment; or
- (d) any payment based on need for attendance which is paid as part of a war disablement pension;

"the authority" means the London Borough of Haringey by virtue of paragraph 4(6) of Schedule 1A to the 1992 Act;

"basic rate" has the meaning given by the Income Tax Act 2007;

"the benefit Acts" means the SSCBA, the Jobseekers Act 1995, the State Pension Credit Act 2002 and the Welfare Reform Act 2007 and the Pensions Act 2014;

"board and lodging accommodation" means accommodation provided to a person or, if he is a member of a family, to him or any other member of his family, for a charge which is inclusive of the provision of that accommodation and at least some cooked or prepared meals which both are cooked or prepared (by a person other than the person to whom the accommodation is provided or a member of his family) and are consumed in that accommodation or associated premises;

"care home" in England has the meaning given by section 3 of the Care Standards Act 2000 and in Scotland means a care home service within the meaning given by section 2(3) of the Regulation of Care (Scotland) Act 2001 and in Northern Ireland means a nursing home within the meaning of Article 11 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Quality, Improvement and Regulation) (Northern Ireland) Order 2003 or a residential care home within the meaning of Article 10 of that Order and in Wales means a care home service, within the meaning of Part 1 of the Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 which is provided wholly or mainly to adults;

"carer support payment" means carer's assistance given in accordance with the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, SSI 2023/302;

"the Caxton Foundation" means the charitable trust of that name established on 28th March 2011 out of funds provided by the Secretary of State for the benefit of certain persons suffering from hepatitis C and other persons eligible for payment in accordance with its provisions;

"child" means a person under the age of 16;

"child benefit" has the meaning given by section 141 of the SSCBA;

"child disability payment" has the meaning given by regulation 2 of the DACYP Regulations;

"child tax credit" means a child tax credit under section 8 of the Tax Credits Act 2002;

"close relative" means a parent, parent-in-law, son, son-in-law, daughter, daughter-in-law, step-parent, step-son, step-daughter, brother, sister, or if any of the preceding persons is one member of a couple, the other member of that couple;

"concessionary payment" means a payment made under arrangements made by the Secretary of State with the consent of the Treasury which is charged either to the National Insurance Fund or to a Departmental Expenditure Vote to which payments of benefit or tax credits under the benefit Acts or the Tax Credits Act 2002 are charged;

"contributory employment and support allowance" means a contributory allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012 that remove references to an income related allowance and a contributory allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as that Part has effect apart from those provisions;

"council tax benefit" means council tax benefit under Part 7 of the SSCBA;

"couple" has the meaning given by paragraph 4;

"the DACYP Regulations" means the Disability Assistance for Children and Young People (Scotland) Regulations 2021 (SI 2021/174);

"the DAWAP Regulations" means the Disability Assistance for Working Age People (Scotland) Regulations 2022;

"designated office" means the office of the authority designated by it for the receipt of applications--

- (a) by notice upon or with a form supplied by it for the purpose of making an application; or
- (b) by reference upon or with such a form to some other document available from it and sent by electronic means or otherwise on application and without charge; or
- (c) by any combination of the provisions set out in paragraphs (a) and (b);

"disability living allowance" means a disability living allowance under section 71 of the SSCBA;

"earnings" has the meaning given by paragraph 41, 44, 51 or 53 as the case may be;

"the Eileen Trust" means the charitable trust of that name established on 29th March 1993 out of funds provided by the Secretary of State for the benefit of persons eligible for payment in accordance with its provisions;

"electronic communication" has the same meaning as in section 15(1) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;

"employed earner" is to be construed in accordance with section 2(1)(a) of the SSCBA and also includes a person who is in receipt of a payment which is payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which corresponds to statutory sick pay or statutory maternity pay;

"the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme" means a scheme under section 17A (schemes for assisting persons to obtain employment: "work for your benefit" schemes etc) of the Jobseekers Act 1995 known by that name and provided pursuant to arrangements made by the Secretary of State that is designed to assist claimants for job-seekers allowance to obtain employment, including self-employment, and which may include for any individual work-related activity (including work experience or job search);

"employment zone" means an area within Great Britain designated for the purposes of section 60 of the Welfare Reform and Pensions Act 1999 and an "employment zone programme" means a programme established for such an area or areas designed to assist claimants for a jobseeker's allowance to obtain sustainable employment;

"enactment" includes an enactment comprised in, or in an instrument made under, an Act of the Scottish Parliament or the National Assembly for Wales;

"the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022" means the scheme to provide financial support in respect of energy bills which was announced in Parliament by the Chancellor of the Exchequer on 3rd February 2022

"extended reduction" means a reduction under this scheme for which a person is eligible under Part 12 (extended reductions);

"extended reduction period" means the period for which a person is in receipt of an extended reduction in accordance with paragraph 89, 96 or 101;

"extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits)" means a reduction under this scheme for which a person is eligible in accordance with paragraph 88 or 95;

"family" has the meaning given by paragraph 6;

"the Fund" means moneys made available from time to time by the Secretary of State for the benefit of persons eligible for payment in accordance with the provisions of a scheme established by him on 24th April 1992 or, in Scotland, on 10th April 1992;

"Grenfell Tower support payment" means a payment made for the purpose of providing compensation or support in respect of the fire on 14th June 2017 at Grenfell Tower;

"guarantee credit" is to be construed in accordance with sections 1 and 2 of the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

"a guaranteed income payment" means a payment made under article 15(1)(c) (injury benefits) or 29(1)(a) (death benefits) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2011;

"historical child abuse payment" means a payment made under—

- (a) Part 1 of the Historical Institutional Abuse (Northern Ireland) Act 2019;
- (b) Part 4 of the Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021;

"the Horizon system" means any version of the computer system used by the Post Office known as Horizon, Horizon Legacy, Horizon Online or HNG-X;

"the Homes for Ukraine scheme" means the Homes for Ukraine sponsorship scheme which was announced in Parliament by the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

on 14th March 2022;

"housing benefit" means housing benefit under Part 7 of the SSCBA;

"an income-based jobseeker's allowance" and "a joint-claim jobseeker's allowance" have the meanings given by section 1(4) of the Jobseekers Act 1995;

"income-related employment and support allowance" means an income-related allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007;

"independent hospital"--

(a) in England means a hospital as defined by section 275 of the National Health Service Act 2006 that is not a health service hospital as defined by that section;

(b) in Wales has the meaning given by section 2 of the Care Standards Act 2000; and

(c) in Scotland means an independent health care service as defined by section 10F of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978;

"the Independent Living Fund (2006)" means the Trust of that name established by a deed dated 10th April 2006 and made between the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions of the one part and Margaret Rosemary Cooper, Michael Beresford Boyall and Marie Theresa Martin of the other part;

"invalid carriage or other vehicle" means a vehicle propelled by a petrol engine or by electric power supplied for use on the road and to be controlled by the occupant;

"the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund" means the company limited by guarantee (number 5505072), and registered charity of that name established on 11th July 2005 for the purpose of (amongst other things) relieving sickness, disability or financial need of victims (including families or dependants of victims) of the terrorist attacks carried out in London on 7th July 2005;

"the London Emergencies Trust" means the company of that name (number 09928465) incorporated on 23rd December 2015 and the registered charity of that name (number 1172307) established on 28th March 2017;

"lone parent" means a person who has no partner and who is responsible for and a member of the same household as a child or young person;

"the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust" means the trust of that name, established on 29th January 1990 partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from haemophilia;

"the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust" means the trust of that name, established on 3rd May 1991 partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from haemophilia and other beneficiaries;

"the Macfarlane Trust" means the charitable trust, established partly out of funds provided by the Secretary of State to the Haemophilia Society, for the relief of poverty or distress among those suffering from haemophilia;

"main phase employment and support allowance" means an employment and support allowance where the calculation of the amount payable in respect of the applicant includes a component under section 2(1)(b) or 4(2)(b) of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 or the applicant is a member of the work-related activity group except in Part 1 of Schedule 3;

"maternity leave" means a period during which a woman is absent from work because she is pregnant or has given birth to a child, and at the end of which she has a right to return to work either under the terms of her contract of employment or under Part 8 of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

"maximum council tax reduction amount" means the amount determined in accordance with paragraph 29;

"member of a couple" means a member of a married or unmarried couple;

"member of the work-related activity group" means a person who has or is treated as having limited capability for work under either--

- (a) Part 5 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 other than by virtue of regulation 30 of those Regulations; or
- (b) Part 4 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013 other than by virtue of regulation 26 of those Regulations;

"MFET Limited" means the company limited by guarantee (number 7121661) of that name, established for the purpose in particular of making payments in accordance with arrangements made with the Secretary of State to persons who have acquired HIV as a result of treatment by the NHS with blood or blood products;

"mobility supplement" means--

- (a) in relation to pensioners, a supplement to which paragraph 5(1)(a)(vii) of Schedule 5 refers;
- (b) in relation to persons who are not pensioners, a supplement to which paragraph 13 of Schedule 8 refers;

"mover" means an applicant who changes the dwelling in which the applicant is resident, and in respect of which the applicant is liable to pay council tax, from a dwelling in the area of the authority to a dwelling in the area of a second authority;

"the National Emergencies Trust" means the registered charity of that name (number 1182809) established on 28th March 2019;

"net earnings" means such earnings as are calculated in accordance with paragraph 42 or 52, as the case may be;

"net profit" means such profit as is calculated in accordance with paragraph 61;

"new dwelling" means, for the purposes of the definition of "second authority" and paragraphs 91, 98 and 103, the dwelling to which an applicant has moved, or is about to move, in which the applicant will be resident;

"non-dependant" has the meaning given by paragraph 9;

"occasional assistance" means any payment or provision made by a local authority, the Welsh Ministers or the Scottish Ministers for the purposes of--

- (a) meeting, or helping to meet an immediate short-term need--
 - (i) arising out of an exceptional event or exceptional circumstances, and
 - (ii) that needs to be met to avoid a risk to the well-being of an individual, or
- (b) enabling qualifying individuals to establish or maintain a settled home, and--
 - (i) "local authority" has the meaning given by section 270(1) of the Local Government Act 1972; and
 - (ii) "qualifying individuals" means individuals who have been, or without the assistance might otherwise be--
 - (aa) in prison, hospital, an establishment providing residential care or other institution, or
 - (bb) homeless or otherwise living an unsettled way of life;

and "local authority" means a local authority in England within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1972;

"occupational pension" means any pension or other periodical payment under an occupational pension scheme but does not include any discretionary payment out of a fund established for relieving hardship in particular cases;

"occupational pension scheme" has the same meaning as in section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993;

"parental bereavement leave" means leave under section 80EA of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

"partner", in relation to a person, means--

- (a) where that person is a member of a couple, the other member of that couple;
- (b) subject to paragraph (c), where that person is polygamously married to two or more members of his household, any such member to whom he is married; or
- (c) where that person is polygamously married and has an award of universal credit with the other party to the earliest marriage that still subsists, that other party to the earliest marriage;

"paternity leave" means a period of absence from work on paternity leave by virtue of section 80A or 80B of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

"pension age disability payment" has the meaning given in regulation 2 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024, SSI 2024/166;

"pension fund holder" means with respect to a personal pension scheme or an occupational pension scheme, the trustees, managers or scheme administrators, as the case may be, of the scheme concerned;

"pensionable age" has the meaning given by the rules in paragraph 1 of Schedule 4 to the Pensions Act 1995;

"pensioner" has the meaning given by paragraph 3(2)(a);

"person on income support" means a person in receipt of income support;

"person treated as not being in Great Britain" has the meaning given by paragraph 21;

"person who is not a pensioner" has the meaning given by paragraph 3(2)(b);

"personal independence payment" has the meaning given by Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

"personal pension scheme" means--

- (a) a personal pension scheme as defined by section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993;
- (b) an annuity contract or trust scheme approved under section 620 or 621 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 or a substituted contract within the meaning of section 622(3) of that Act which is treated as having become a registered pension scheme by virtue of paragraph 1(1)(f) of Schedule 36 to the Finance Act 2004;
- (c) a personal pension scheme approved under Chapter 4 of Part 14 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 which is treated as having become a registered pension scheme by virtue of paragraph 1(1)(g) of Schedule 36 to the Finance Act 2004;

"policy of life insurance" means any instrument by which the payment of money is assured on death (except death by accident only) or the happening of any contingency dependent on human life, or any instrument evidencing a contract which is subject to payment of premiums for a term dependent on human life;

"polygamous marriage" means any marriage to which paragraph 5 applies;

"the Post Office" means Post Office Limited (registered number 02154540);

"Post Office compensation payment" means a payment made by the Post Office or the Secretary of State for the purpose of providing compensation or support which is—

- (a) in connection with the failings of the Horizon system; or
- (b) otherwise payable following the judgment in *Bates and Others v Post Office Ltd* ((No. 3)

"Common Issues") [2019] EWHC 606 (QB);

"qualifying age for state pension credit" means (in accordance with section 1(2)(b) and (6) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002)--

- (a) in the case of a woman, pensionable age; or
- (b) in the case of a man, the age which is pensionable age in the case of a woman born on the same day as the man;

"qualifying contributory benefit" means--

- (a) severe disablement allowance;
- (b) incapacity benefit;
- (c) contributory employment and support allowance;

"qualifying income-related benefit" means--

- (a) income support;
- (b) income-based jobseeker's allowance;
- (c) income-related employment and support allowance;

"qualifying person" means—

- (a) a person in respect of whom a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment has been made or payment has been made from the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund

"reduction week" means a period of seven consecutive days beginning with a Monday and ending with a Sunday;

"relative" means a close relative, grandparent, grandchild, uncle, aunt, nephew or niece;

"relevant week", in relation to any particular day, means the week within which the day in question falls;

"remunerative work" has the meaning given by paragraph 10;

"rent" means "eligible rent" to which regulation 12 of the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006 refer, less any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made under paragraph 30 (non-dependant deductions);

"savings credit" is to be construed in accordance with sections 1 and 3 of the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

"Scottish basic rate" means the rate of income tax of that name calculated in accordance with section 6A of the Income Tax Act 2007;

"the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme" means the scheme of that name administered by the Common Services Agency (constituted under section 10 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978);

"Scottish taxpayer" has the same meaning as in Chapter 2 of Part 4A of the Scotland Act 1998;

"second authority" means the authority to which a mover is liable to make payments for the new dwelling;

"self-employed earner" is to be construed in accordance with section 2(1)(b) of the SSCBA;

"shared parental leave" means leave under section 75E or 75G of the Employment Rights Act 1996;

"single applicant" means an applicant who neither has a partner nor is a lone parent;

"the Skipton Fund" means the ex-gratia payment scheme administered by the Skipton Fund Limited, incorporated on 25th March 2004, for the benefit of certain persons suffering from hepatitis C and other persons eligible for payment in accordance with the scheme's provisions;

"sports award" means an award made by one of the Sports Councils named in section 23(2) of the National Lottery etc Act 1993 out of sums allocated to it for distribution under that section;

"the SSCBA" means the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992;

"state pension credit" means state pension credit under the State Pension Credit Act 2002;

"statutory parental bereavement pay" means a payment to which a person is entitled in accordance with section 171ZZ6 of the Social Security Contribution and Benefits Act 1992;

"student" has the meaning given by paragraph 73;

"tax year" means a period beginning with 6th April in one year and ending with 5th April in the next;

"training allowance" means an allowance (whether by way of periodical grants or otherwise) payable--

- (a) out of public funds by a Government department or by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highlands and Islands Enterprise, or the Welsh Ministers;

- (b) to a person for his maintenance or in respect of a member of his family; and

- (c) for the period, or part of the period, during which he is following a course of training or instruction provided by, or in pursuance of arrangements made with, that department or approved by that department in relation to him or so provided or approved by or on behalf of the Secretary of State, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highlands and Islands Enterprise or the Welsh Ministers,

but it does not include an allowance paid by any Government department to or in respect of a person by reason of the fact that he is following a course of full-time education, other than under arrangements made under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973, or is training as a teacher;

"the Trusts" (except where the context otherwise requires) means the Macfarlane Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust and the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust and "Trustees" is to be construed accordingly;

"universal credit" has the meaning given by section 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

"vaccine damage payment" means a payment made under the Vaccine Damage Payments Act 1979;

"the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme" means the scheme of that name established by the Ministry of Justice in 2012 under section 47 of the Crime and Security Act 2010;

"voluntary organisation" means a body, other than a public or local authority, the activities of which are carried on otherwise than for profit;

"war disablement pension" means any retired pay or pension or allowance payable in respect of disablement under an instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003;

"war pension" means a war disablement pension, a war widow's pension or a war widower's pension;

"war widow's pension" means any pension or allowance payable to a woman as a widow under an

instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 in respect of the death or disablement of any person;

"war widower's pension" means any pension or allowance payable to a man as a widower or to a surviving civil partner under an instrument specified in section 639(2) of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 in respect of the death or disablement of any person;

"water charges" means--

- (a) as respects England and Wales, any water and sewerage charges under Chapter 1 of Part 5 of the Water Industry Act 1991,
- (b) as respects Scotland, any water and sewerage charges established by Scottish Water under a charges scheme made under section 29A of the Water Industry (Scotland) Act 2002,

in so far as such charges are in respect of the dwelling which a person occupies as his home;

"the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund" means the registered charity of that name (number 1173260) established on 30th May 2017;

"the Windrush Compensation Scheme" means—

- (a) the scheme of that name operated by the Secretary of State for the purpose of compensating individuals who have suffered loss in connection with being unable to demonstrate their lawful status in the United Kingdom; and
- (b) the policy entitled "Windrush Scheme: Support in urgent and exceptional circumstances" which was operated by the Secretary of State for the purpose of compensating individuals who, for urgent and exceptional reasons, required support in advance of the scheme referred to in paragraph (a) of this definition becoming operational;

"Windrush payment" means a payment made under the Windrush Compensation Scheme (Expenditure) Act 2020;

"working tax credit" means a working tax credit under section 10 of the Tax Credits Act 2002;

"young person" means a person who falls within the definition of qualifying young person in section 142 of the SSCBA.

(2) In this scheme, where an amount is to be rounded to the nearest penny, a fraction of a penny must be disregarded if it is less than half a penny and must otherwise be treated as a whole penny.

(3) For the purpose of this scheme, a person is on an income-based jobseeker's allowance on any day in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable to him and on any day--

- (a) in respect of which he satisfies the conditions for entitlement to an income-based jobseeker's allowance but where the allowance is not paid because of a reduction in accordance with section 19 or 19A or regulations made under section 17A or 19B of the Jobseekers Act 1995 (circumstances in which a jobseeker's allowance is not payable);
- (b) which is a waiting day for the purposes of paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 to that Act and which falls immediately before a day in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable to him or would be payable to him but for section 19 or 19A or regulations made under section 17A or 19B of that Act; or
- (c) in respect of which an income-based jobseeker's allowance would be payable but for a restriction imposed pursuant to section 6B, 7, 8 or 9 of the Social Security Fraud Act 2001 (loss of benefit provisions).

(4) For the purposes of this scheme, a person is on an income-related employment and support allowance on any day in respect of which an income-related employment and support allowance is payable to him and on any day--

- (a) in respect of which he satisfies the conditions for entitlement to an income-related employment and support allowance but where the allowance is not paid in accordance with section 18 of the

Welfare Reform Act 2007 (disqualification); or

(b) which is a waiting day for the purposes of paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to that Act (employment and support allowance: supplementary provisions) and which falls immediately before a day in respect of which an income-related employment and support allowance is payable to him or would be payable to him but for section 18 of that Act.

(5) For the purposes of this scheme, two persons must be taken to be estranged only if their estrangement constitutes a breakdown of the relationship between them.

(6) In this scheme, references to any person in receipt of state pension credit includes a person who would be in receipt of state pension credit but for regulation 13 of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002 (small amounts of state pension credit).

(7) In this scheme, references to a person in class A, B or C (as the case may be) is a reference to class A, B or C described in paragraphs 13-15 of Part 4.

(8) References in this scheme to an applicant participating as a service user are to-

(a) a person who is being consulted by or on behalf of-

(i) a body which has a statutory duty to provide services in the field of health, social care or social housing; or

(ii) a body which conducts research or undertakes monitoring for the purpose of planning or improving such services,

in their capacity as a user, potential user, carer of a user or person otherwise affected by the provision of those services;

(aa) a person who is being consulted by or on behalf of—

(i) the Secretary of State in relation to any of the Secretary of State's functions in the field of social security or child support or under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973; or

(ii) a body which conducts research or undertakes monitoring for the purpose of planning or improving such functions,

in their capacity as a person affected or potentially affected by the exercise of those functions or the carer of such a person; or

(b) the carer of a person consulted as described in sub-paragraph (a) or (aa) where the carer is not being consulted as described in that sub-paragraph.

Application of scheme: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners

3

- (1) This scheme applies to--
- (a) pensioners who fall within any of classes A to C; and
 - (b) persons who are not pensioners who fall within any of classes D to F.
- (2) In this scheme--
- (a) a person is a "pensioner" if--
 - (i) he has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; and
 - (ii) he is not, and, if he has a partner, his partner is not--
 - (aa) a person on income support, on an income-based jobseeker's allowance or on an income-related employment and support allowance, or
 - (bb) a person with an award of universal credit; and
 - (b) a person is a "person who is not a pensioner" if--
 - (i) he has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; or
 - (ii) he has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and he, or if he has a partner, his partner, is--
 - (aa) a person on income support, on an income-based jobseeker's allowance or on an income-related employment and support allowance, or
 - (bb) a person with an award of universal credit.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (a)(ii)(bb) and (b)(ii)(bb) in paragraph (2) an award of universal credit is to be disregarded;
- (a) during the relevant period; or
 - (b) where regulation 60A of the Universal Credit (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2014, SI 2014/1230 (Regulation 60A was inserted by SI 2024/611) applies in respect of the award.
- (4) In this paragraph –
- "assessment period"* has the same meaning as in the Universal Credit Regulations 2013;
- "relevant period"* means the period beginning with the day on which P and each partner of P has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and ending with the day on which the last assessment period for universal credit ends.

Meaning of "couple"

4

In this scheme "couple" means--

- (a) two people who are married to, or civil partners of, each other and are members of the same household; or
- (b) two people who are not married to, or civil partners of, each other but are living together as if they were a married couple or civil partners.

Polygamous marriages

5

- (1) This paragraph applies to any case where--
 - (a) a person is a husband or wife by virtue of a marriage entered into under a law which permits polygamy; and
 - (b) either party to the marriage has for the time being any spouse additional to the other party.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 4 (meaning of "couple") neither party to the marriage is to be taken to be a member of a couple.

Meaning of "family"

6

- (1) In this scheme "family" means--
 - (a) a couple;
 - (b) a couple and a member of the same household for whom one of them is or both are responsible and who is a child or a young person; or
 - (c) a person who is not a member of a couple and a member of the same household for whom that person is responsible and who is a child or a young person.
- (2) The references to a child or young person in sub-paragraph (1)(b) and (c) include a child or young person in respect of whom section 145A of the SSCBA applies for the purposes of entitlement to child benefit, but only for the period prescribed under section 145A(1).
- (3) The references to a young person in sub-paragraph (1)(b) and (c) do not include a young person who is--
 - (a) on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, or has an award of universal credit;
 - (b) a person to whom section 6 of the Children (Leaving Care) Act 2000 (exclusion from benefits) applies; or
 - (c) entitled to an award of universal credit.

Circumstances in which a person is to be treated as responsible or not responsible for another

7

- (1) A person is to be treated as responsible for a child or young person who is normally living with him, including a child or young person to whom paragraph 6(2) applies.
- (2) Where a child or young person spends equal amounts of time in different households, or where there is a question as to which household he is living in, the child or young person must be treated for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) as normally living with--
 - (a) the person who is receiving child benefit in respect of that child or young person, or
 - (b) if there is no such person--
 - (i) where only one claim for child benefit has been made in respect of him, the person who made that claim, or
 - (ii) in any other case the person who has the primary responsibility for him.
- (3) For the purposes of this scheme a child or young person is the responsibility of only one person in any reduction week and any person other than the one treated as responsible for the child or young person under this paragraph is to be treated as not so responsible.

Households

8

(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), an applicant and any partner and, where the applicant or his partner is treated (by virtue of paragraph 7) as responsible for a child or young person, that child or young person and any child of that child or young person, are to be treated as members of the same household notwithstanding that any of them is temporarily absent from that household.

(2) A child or young person is not be treated as a member of the applicant's household where he is--

(a) placed with the applicant or his partner by a local authority under section 22C of the Children Act 1989 or by a voluntary organisation under section 59(1)(a) of that Act, or section 81(2) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (ways in which looked after children are to be accommodated and maintained), or in Scotland boarded out or placed with the applicant or his partner under a relevant enactment or in Wales placed with the applicant or the applicant's partner by a local authority under section 81 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 or by a voluntary organisation under section 59(1)(a) of the Children Act 1989; or

(b) placed, or in Scotland boarded out, with the applicant or his partner prior to adoption; or

(c) placed for adoption with the applicant or his partner in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009 or the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to a child or young person who is not living with the applicant and who--

(a) is being looked after by, or in Scotland is in the care of, a local authority under a relevant enactment; or

(b) has been placed, or in Scotland boarded out, with a person other than the applicant prior to adoption; or

(c) has been placed for adoption in accordance with the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or the Adoption Agencies (Scotland) Regulations 2009.

(4) The authority must treat a child or young person to whom sub-paragraph (3)(a) applies as being a member of the applicant's household in any reduction week where--

(a) that child or young person lives with the applicant for part or all of that reduction week; and

(b) the authority considers that it is reasonable to do so taking into account the nature and frequency of that child's or young person's visits.

(5) In this paragraph "relevant enactment" means--

(a) the Army Act 1955;

(b) the Air Force Act 1955;

(c) the Naval Discipline Act 1957;

(d) the Matrimonial Proceedings (Children) Act 1958;

(e) the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968;

(f) the Family Law Reform Act 1969;

(g) the Children and Young Persons Act 1969;

(h) the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973;

(i) the Children Act 1975;

(j) the Domestic Proceedings and Magistrates' Courts Act 1978;

- (k) the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007;
- (l) the Family Law Act 1986;
- (m) the Children Act 1989;
- (n) the Children (Scotland) Act 1995;
- (na) the Children's Hearings (Scotland) Act 2011; and
- (o) the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012.

Non-dependants

9

- (1) In this scheme, "non-dependant" means any person, except someone to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies, who normally resides with an applicant or with whom an applicant normally resides.
- (2) This paragraph applies to--
 - (a) any member of the applicant's family;
 - (b) if the applicant is polygamously married--
 - (i) where the applicant has (alone or jointly with his partner) an award of universal credit, any--
 - (aa) party to such a marriage other than the applicant's partner; and
 - (bb) any child or young person who is a member of his household and for whom he or his partner or another party to the polygamous marriage is responsible; or
 - (ii) in any other case, any partner of his and any child or young person who is a member of his household and for whom he or one of his partners is responsible;
 - (c) a child or young person who is living with the applicant but who is not a member of his household by virtue of paragraph 8 (households);
 - (d) subject to sub-paragraph (3), any person who, with the applicant, is jointly and severally liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling for any day under section 6 or 7 of the 1992 Act (persons liable to pay council tax);
 - (e) subject to sub-paragraph (3), any person who is liable to make payments on a commercial basis to the applicant or the applicant's partner in respect of the occupation of the dwelling;
 - (f) a person who lives with the applicant in order to care for him or a partner of his and who is engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation which makes a charge to the applicant or his partner for the services provided by that person.
- (3) Excepting persons to whom sub-paragraph (2)(a) to (c) and (f) refer, a person to whom any of the following paragraphs applies is a non-dependant--
 - (a) a person who resides with the person to whom he is liable to make payments in respect of the dwelling and either--
 - (i) that person is a close relative of his or his partner; or
 - (ii) the tenancy or other agreement between them is other than on a commercial basis;
 - (b) a person whose liability to make payments in respect of the dwelling appears to the authority to have been created to take advantage of a council tax reduction scheme except someone who was, for any period within the eight weeks prior to the creation of the agreement giving rise to the liability to make such payments, otherwise liable to make payments of rent in respect of the same

dwelling;

(c) a person who becomes jointly and severally liable with the applicant for council tax in respect of a dwelling and who was, at any time during the period of eight weeks prior to his becoming liable, a non-dependant of one or more of the other residents in that dwelling who are so liable for the tax, unless the change giving rise to the new liability was not made to take advantage of a council tax reduction scheme.

Remunerative work

10

(1) Subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, a person must be treated for the purposes of this scheme as engaged in remunerative work if he is engaged, or, where his hours of work fluctuate, he is engaged on average, for not less than 16 hours a week, in work for which payment is made or which is done in expectation of payment.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), in determining the number of hours for which a person is engaged in work where his hours of work fluctuate, regard must be had to the average of hours worked over--

(a) if there is a recognisable cycle of work, the period of one complete cycle (including, where the cycle involves periods in which the person does no work, those periods but disregarding any other absences);

(b) in any other case, the period of 5 weeks immediately prior to the date of application, or such other length of time as may, in the particular case, enable the person's weekly average hours of work to be determined more accurately.

(3) Where, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a), a person's recognisable cycle of work at a school, other educational establishment or other place of employment is one year and includes periods of school holidays or similar vacations during which he does not work, those periods and any other periods not forming part of such holidays or vacations during which he is not required to work must be disregarded in establishing the average hours for which he is engaged in work.

(4) Where no recognisable cycle has been established in respect of a person's work, regard must be had to the number of hours or, where those hours will fluctuate, the average of the hours, which he is expected to work in a week.

(5) A person must be treated as engaged in remunerative work during any period for which he is absent from work referred to in sub-paragraph (1) if the absence is either without good cause or by reason of a recognised, customary or other holiday.

(6) A person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance for more than 3 days in any reduction week is to be treated as not being in remunerative work in that week.

(7) A person must not be treated as engaged in remunerative work on any day on which the person is on maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave, parental bereavement leave or adoption leave, or is absent from work because he is ill.

(8) A person must not be treated as engaged in remunerative work on any day on which he is engaged in an activity in respect of which--

(a) a sports award has been made, or is to be made, to him; and

(b) no other payment is made or is expected to be made to him.

Part 3 Procedural Matters

Procedure for reduction applications and appeals against reduction decisions

11

Schedule 1 contains provisions about the procedure--

- (a) by which a person may apply for a reduction under this scheme;
- (b) by which a person may make an appeal against certain decisions of the authority;
- (c) by which a person can apply to the authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act.

Part 4 **Classes of Person Entitled to a Reduction Under this Scheme**

Classes of person entitled to a reduction under this scheme

12

- (1) The classes of person described in paragraphs 13 to 18 are entitled to a reduction under this scheme.
- (2) In those paragraphs, references to the applicant's income or capital include, in a case where that income or capital cannot accurately be determined, references to the applicant's estimated income or capital.
- (2A) In determining a person's entitlement to a reduction under the scheme, any payment made under the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022 is to be disregarded.
- (2B) In determining a person's entitlement to a reduction under the scheme, any payment made in connection with the Homes for Ukraine scheme is to be disregarded.

Class A: pensioners whose income is no greater than the applicable amount

13

On any day class A consists of any person who is a pensioner--

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (e) whose income (if any) for the relevant week does not exceed his applicable amount, and
- (f) who has made an application.

Class B: pensioners whose income is greater than the applicable amount

14

On any day class B consists of any person who is a pensioner--

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;

- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (e) whose income for the relevant week is greater than his applicable amount;
- (f) in respect of whom amount A exceeds amount B where--
 - (i) amount A is the maximum council tax reduction in respect of the day in the applicant's case; and
 - (ii) amount B is 2 6/7 per cent of the difference between his income for the relevant week and his applicable amount, and
- (g) who has made an application.

Class C: alternative maximum council tax reduction--pensioners

15

- (1) On any day class C consists of any person who is a pensioner--
 - (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
 - (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
 - (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
 - (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
 - (e) who has made an application; and
 - (f) in relation to whom the condition in sub-paragraph (2) is met.
- (2) The condition referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(f) is that no other resident of the dwelling is liable to pay rent to the applicant in respect of the dwelling and there is an alternative maximum council tax reduction in respect of the day in the case of that person which is derived from the income, or aggregate incomes, of one or more residents to whom this sub-paragraph applies.
- (3) Sub-paragraph (2) applies to any other resident of the dwelling who--
 - (a) is not a person who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, falls to be disregarded for the purposes of discount;
 - (b) is not a person who is liable for council tax solely in consequence of the provisions of section 9 of the 1992 Act (spouse's or civil partner's joint and several liability for tax);
 - (c) is not a person who is residing with a couple or with the members of a polygamous marriage where the applicant is a member of that couple or of that marriage and--
 - (i) in the case of a couple, neither member of that couple is a person who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act (persons disregarded for the purposes of discount), falls to be disregarded for the purposes of discount; or
 - (ii) in the case of a polygamous marriage, two or more members of that marriage are not persons who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, fall to be disregarded for the purposes of discount;
 - (d) is not a person who jointly with the applicant falls within the same paragraph of section 6(2)(a) to (e) of the 1992 Act (persons liable to pay council tax) as applies in the case of the applicant; or
 - (e) is not a person who is residing with two or more persons both or all of whom fall within the same paragraph of section 6(2)(a) to (e) of the 1992 Act where two or more of those persons are not persons who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, fall to be disregarded for the purposes of discount.

Class D: persons who are not pensioners whose income is no greater than the applicable amount

16

On any day class D consists of any person who is not a pensioner--

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (e) whose income (if any) for the relevant week is less than his applicable amount, and
- (f) who has made an application.
- (g) any such person identified in 16(a), 16(b), 16(c), 16 (d), 16 (e) and 16(f) shall not be entitled to a council tax reduction if, once calculated, their award would have been less than £1 per week.

Class E: persons who are not pensioners whose income is greater than the applicable amount

17

On any day class E consists of any person who is not a pensioner--

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the dwelling throughout the day;
- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (e) whose income for the relevant week is greater than his applicable amount;
- (f) in respect of whom amount A exceeds amount B where--
 - (i) amount A is the maximum council tax reduction in his case; and
 - (ii) amount B is $2\frac{6}{7}$ per cent of the difference between his income for the relevant week and his applicable amount, and
- (g) who has made an application.
- (h) any such person identified in 17(a), 17(b), 17(c), 17 (d), 17 (e), 17(f) and 17(g) shall not be entitled to a council tax reduction if, once calculated, their award would have been less than £1 per week

Class F: alternative maximum council tax reduction--persons who are not pensioners

18

(1) On any day class F consists of any person who is not a pensioner--

- (a) who is for that day liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident;
- (b) who, subject to paragraph 19 (periods of absence from a dwelling), is not absent from the

dwelling throughout the day;

- (c) in respect of whom a maximum council tax reduction amount can be calculated;
- (d) who does not fall within a class of person not entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (e) who has made an application; and
- (f) in relation to whom the condition in sub-paragraph (2) is met.

(2) The condition referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(f) is that no other resident of the dwelling is liable to pay rent to the person in question in respect of the dwelling and there is an alternative maximum council tax reduction in respect of the day in the case of that person which is derived from the income, or aggregate incomes, of one or more residents to whom this sub-paragraph applies.

(3) Sub-paragraph (2) applies to any other resident of the dwelling who--

- (a) is not a person who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, falls to be disregarded for the purposes of discount; and
- (b) is not a person who is liable for council tax solely in consequence of the provisions of section 9 of the 1992 Act (spouse's or civil partner's joint and several liability for tax);
- (c) is not a person who is residing with a couple or with the members of a polygamous marriage where the applicant for the reduction is a member of that couple or of that marriage and--
 - (i) in the case of a couple, neither member of that couple is a person who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, falls to be disregarded for the purposes of discount; or
 - (ii) in the case of a polygamous marriage, two or more members of that marriage are not persons who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, fall to be disregarded for the purposes of discount;
- (d) is not a person who jointly with the applicant for reduction falls within the same paragraph of section 6(2)(a) to (e) of the 1992 Act (persons liable to pay council tax) as applies in the case of the applicant; or
- (e) is not a person who is residing with two or more persons both or all of whom fall within the same paragraph of section 6(2)(a) to (e) of the 1992 Act where two or more of those persons are not persons who, in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, fall to be disregarded for the purposes of discount.

Periods of absence from a dwelling: pensioners

19

(1) A person is not absent from a dwelling in relation to any day which falls within a period of temporary absence from that dwelling.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1), a "period of temporary absence" means--

- (a) a period of absence not exceeding 13 weeks, beginning with the first whole day on which a person resides in residential accommodation in Great Britain where and for so long as--
 - (i) the person resides in that accommodation;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let; and
 - (iii) that period of absence does not form part of a longer period of absence from the dwelling of more than 52 weeks,

where he has entered the accommodation for the purpose of ascertaining whether it suits his needs and with the intention of returning to the dwelling if it proves not to suit his needs;

- (b) subject to sub-paragraph (2B), a period of absence within Great Britain not exceeding 13

weeks, beginning with the first whole day of absence from the dwelling, where and for so long as--

- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let; and
 - (iii) that period is unlikely to exceed 13 weeks;
- (c) subject to sub-paragraph (2D), a period of absence within Great Britain not exceeding 52 weeks, beginning with the first whole day of that absence, where and for so long as--
- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let;
 - (iii) the person is a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies; and
 - (iv) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 52 weeks or, in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period; and
- (d) subject to sub-paragraphs (2F), (3C), (3E) and (3G) and where sub-paragraph (2E) applies, a period of absence outside Great Britain not exceeding 4 weeks, beginning with the first day of that absence from Great Britain where and for so long as—
- (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resides is not let or sub-let; and
 - (iii) the period of absence from Great Britain is unlikely to exceed 4 weeks.

(2A) The period of 13 weeks referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(b) shall run or continue to run during any period of absence from Great Britain.

(2B) Where—

- (a) a person returns to Great Britain after a period of absence from Great Britain (period A);
- (b) that person has been absent from the dwelling, including any absence within Great Britain, for less than 13 weeks beginning with the first day of absence from that dwelling; and
- (c) at the outset of, or during, period A, period A ceased to be treated as a period of temporary absence,

then any day that follows period A and precedes the person's return to the dwelling, shall not be treated as a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(b).

(2C) The period of 52 weeks referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(c) shall run or continue to run during any period of absence from Great Britain.

(2D) Where—

- (a) a person returns to Great Britain after a period of absence from Great Britain (period A);
- (b) that person has been absent from the dwelling, including any absence within Great Britain, for less than 52 weeks beginning with the first day of absence from that dwelling; and
- (c) at the outset of, or during, period A, period A ceased to be treated as a period of temporary absence,

then, any day that follows period A and precedes the person's return to the dwelling, shall not be treated as a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(c).

(2E) This sub-paragraph applies where—

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent

from the dwelling.

(2F) If the temporary absence referred to in sub-paragraph (2)(d) is in connection with the death of—

- (a) the person's partner or a child or young person for whom the person or the person's partner is responsible;
- (b) the person's close relative;
- (c) the close relative of the person's partner; or
- (d) the close relative of a child or young person for whom the person or the person's partner is responsible,

then the period of 4 weeks in the opening words of sub-paragraph (2)(d) may be extended by up to 4 further weeks if the relevant authority considers it unreasonable to expect the person to return to Great Britain within the first 4 weeks (and the reference in sub-paragraph (iii) of that paragraph to a period of 4 weeks shall, where the period is extended, be taken as referring to the period as so extended).

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who--

- (a) is a person to whom sub-paragraph (3A) applies;
- (b) is resident in a hospital or similar institution as a patient;
- (c) is undergoing, or whose partner or dependent child is undergoing medical treatment, or medically approved convalescence, in accommodation other than residential accommodation;
- (d) is following a training course;
- (e) is undertaking medically approved care of a person;
- (f) is undertaking the care of a child whose parent or guardian is temporarily absent from the dwelling normally occupied by that parent or guardian for the purpose of receiving medically approved care or medical treatment;
- (g) is receiving medically approved care provided in accommodation other than residential accommodation;
- (h) is a student;
- (i) is receiving care provided in residential accommodation and is not a person to whom sub-paragraph (2)(a) applies; or
- (j) has left the dwelling he resides in through fear of violence, in that dwelling, or by a person who was formerly a member of the family of the person first mentioned.

(3A) This sub-paragraph applies to a person ("P") who is—

- (a) detained in custody on remand pending trial;
- (b) detained pending sentence upon conviction; or
- (c) as a condition of bail required to reside—
 - (i) in a dwelling, other than a dwelling P occupies as P's home; or
 - (ii) in premises approved under section 13 of the Offender Management Act 2007,

and who is not also detained in custody following sentence upon conviction.

(3B) This sub-paragraph applies where—

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;

- (b) the person is a member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas, a mariner or a continental shelf worker;
- (c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(3C) Where sub-paragraph (3B) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 26 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as—

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let;
- (c) the period of absence from Great Britain is unlikely to exceed 26 weeks.

(3D) This sub-paragraph applies where—

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) the person is a person described in any of paragraphs (b), (c), (g) or (j) of sub-paragraph (3);
- (c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(3E) Where sub-paragraph (3D) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 26 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as—

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let;
- (c) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 26 weeks, or in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.

(3F) This sub-paragraph applies where—

- (a) a person is temporarily absent from Great Britain;
- (b) the person is a person described in any of paragraphs (a), (d), (e), (f), (h) or (i) of sub-paragraph (3);
- (c) immediately before that period of absence from Great Britain, the person was not absent from the dwelling.

(3G) Where sub-paragraph (3F) applies, a period of absence from Great Britain not exceeding 4 weeks, beginning with the first day of absence from Great Britain, shall be treated as a period of temporary absence where and for so long as—

- (a) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
- (b) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let;
- (c) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 4 weeks, or in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.

(4) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is--

- (a) detained in custody pending sentence upon conviction or under a sentence imposed by a

court (other than a person who is detained in hospital under the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1983, or, in Scotland, under the provisions of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 or the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 or, in Northern Ireland, under Article 4 or 12 of the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986); and

(b) on temporary release from detention in accordance with Rules made under the provisions of the Prison Act 1952 or the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989.

(5) Where sub-paragraph (4) applies to a person, then, for any day when he is on temporary release--

(a) if such temporary release was immediately preceded by a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(b) or (c), he must be treated, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), as if he continues to be absent from the dwelling, despite any return to the dwelling;

(b) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a), he must be treated as if he remains in detention;

(c) if he does not fall within paragraph (a), he is not to be considered to be a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident.

(6) In this paragraph—

“continental shelf worker” means a person who is employed, whether under a contract of service or not, in a designated area or a prescribed area in connection with any of the activities mentioned in section 11(2) of the Petroleum Act 1998;

“designated area” means any area which may from time to time be designated by Order in Council under the Continental Shelf Act 1964 as an area within which the rights of the United Kingdom with respect to the seabed and subsoil and their natural resources may be exercised;

“mariner” means a person who is employed under a contract of service either as a master or member of the crew of any ship or vessel, or in any other capacity on board any ship or vessel, where—

(a) the employment in that capacity is for the purposes of that ship or vessel or its crew or any passengers or cargo or mails carried by the ship or vessel; and

(b) the contract is entered into in the United Kingdom with a view to its performance (in whole or in part) while the ship or vessel is on its voyage;

“medically approved” means certified by a medical practitioner;

“member of Her Majesty’s forces posted overseas” means a person who is a member of the regular forces or the reserve forces (within the meaning of section 374 of the Armed Forces Act 2006), who is absent from the main dwelling because the person has been posted outside of Great Britain to perform the duties of a member of Her Majesty’s regular forces or reserve forces;

“patient” means a person who is undergoing medical or other treatment as an in-patient in any hospital or similar institution;

“prescribed area” means any area over which Norway or any member State (other than the United Kingdom) exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring the seabed and subsoil and exploiting their natural resources, being an area outside the territorial seas of Norway or such member State, or any other area which is from time to time specified under section 10(8) of the Petroleum Act 1998;

“residential accommodation” means accommodation which is provided in--

(a) a care home;

(b) an independent hospital;

(c) an Abbeyfield Home; or

(d) an establishment managed or provided by a body incorporated by Royal Charter or consti-

tuted by Act of Parliament other than a local social services authority;

"training course" means a course of training or instruction provided wholly or partly by or on behalf of or in pursuance of arrangements made with, or approved by or on behalf of, Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, a government department or the Secretary of State.

Periods of absence from a dwelling: persons who are not pensioners

19A

- (1) A person is not absent from a dwelling in relation to any day which falls within a period of temporary absence from that dwelling.
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1), a "period of temporary absence" means--
 - (a) a period of absence not exceeding 13 weeks, beginning with the first whole day on which a person resides in residential accommodation where and for so long as--
 - (i) the person resides in that accommodation;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let; and
 - (iii) that period of absence does not form part of a longer period of absence from the dwelling of more than 52 weeks,
 - where he has entered the accommodation for the purpose of ascertaining whether it suits his needs and with the intention of returning to the dwelling if it proves not to suit his needs;
 - (b) a period of absence not exceeding 13 weeks, beginning with the first whole day of absence from the dwelling, where and for so long as--
 - (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let; and
 - (iii) that period is unlikely to exceed 13 weeks; and
 - (c) a period of absence not exceeding 52 weeks, beginning with the first whole day of that absence, where and for so long as--
 - (i) the person intends to return to the dwelling;
 - (ii) the part of the dwelling in which he usually resided is not let or sub-let;
 - (iii) the person is a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies; and
 - (iv) the period of absence is unlikely to exceed 52 weeks or, in exceptional circumstances, is unlikely substantially to exceed that period.
- (3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who--
 - (a) is detained in custody on remand pending trial or required, as a condition of bail, to reside--
 - (i) in a dwelling, other than the dwelling referred to in sub-paragraph (1), or
 - (ii) in premises approved under section 13 of the Offender Management Act 2007,

or is detained in custody pending sentence upon conviction;

- (b) is resident in a hospital or similar institution as a patient;
- (c) is undergoing, or whose partner or dependent child is undergoing, in the United Kingdom or

elsewhere, medical treatment, or medically approved convalescence, in accommodation other than residential accommodation;

- (d) is following, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, a training course;
- (e) is undertaking medically approved care of a person residing in the United Kingdom or elsewhere;
- (f) is undertaking the care of a child whose parent or guardian is temporarily absent from the dwelling normally occupied by that parent or guardian for the purpose of receiving medically approved care or medical treatment;
- (g) is, in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, receiving medically approved care provided in accommodation other than residential accommodation;
- (h) is a student;
- (i) is receiving care provided in residential accommodation and is not a person to whom sub-paragraph (2)(a) applies; or
- (j) has left the dwelling he resides in through fear of violence, in that dwelling, or by a person who was formerly a member of the family of the person first mentioned.

(4) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is--

- (a) detained in custody pending sentence upon conviction or under a sentence imposed by a court (other than a person who is detained in hospital under the provisions of the Mental Health Act 1983, or, in Scotland, under the provisions of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003 or the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1995 or, in Northern Ireland, under Article 4 or 12 of the Mental Health (Northern Ireland) Order 1986); and
- (b) on temporary release from detention in accordance with Rules made under the provisions of the Prison Act 1952 or the Prisons (Scotland) Act 1989.

(5) Where sub-paragraph (4) applies to a person, then, for any day when he is on temporary release--

- (a) if such temporary release was immediately preceded by a period of temporary absence under sub-paragraph (2)(b) or (c), he must be treated, for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), as if he continues to be absent from the dwelling, despite any return to the dwelling;
- (b) for the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a), he must be treated as if he remains in detention;
- (c) if he does not fall within paragraph (a), he is not to be considered to be a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident.

(6) In this paragraph--

"medically approved" means certified by a medical practitioner;

"patient" means a person who is undergoing medical or other treatment as an in-patient in any hospital or similar institution;

"residential accommodation" means accommodation which is provided in--

- (a) a care home;
- (b) an independent hospital;
- (c) an Abbeyfield Home; or
- (d) an establishment managed or provided by a body incorporated by Royal Charter or constituted by Act of Parliament other than a local social services authority;

"training course" means a course of training or instruction provided wholly or partly by or on behalf of or in pursuance of arrangements made with, or approved by or on behalf of, Skills Development

Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, a government department or the Secretary of State.

Transitional provision

19 B

- (1) Subject to paragraph (2), paragraph 19 shall not apply in respect of a person who is temporarily absent from Great Britain on 1st April 2017 until the day that person returns to Great Britain.
- (2) Paragraph (1) does not apply to a person who, on 1st April 2017, is temporarily absent from Great Britain and is—
 - (a) a member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas;
 - (b) absent in the capacity of a continental shelf worker; or
 - (c) absent in the capacity of a mariner.

- (3) In this regulation—

“continental shelf worker” means a person who is employed, whether under a contract of service or not, in a designated area or a prescribed area in connection with any of the activities mentioned in section 11(2) of the Petroleum Act 1998;

“designated area” means any area which may from time to time be designated by Order in Council under the Continental Shelf Act 1964 as an area within which the rights of the United Kingdom with respect to the seabed and subsoil and their natural resources may be exercised;

“mariner” means a person who is employed under a contract of service either as a master or member of the crew of any ship or vessel, or in any other capacity on board any ship or vessel, where—

- (a) the employment in that capacity is for the purposes of that ship or vessel or its crew or any passengers or cargo or mails carried by the ship or vessel; and
- (b) the contract is entered into in the United Kingdom with a view to its performance (in whole or in part) while the ship or vessel is on its voyage;

“member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas” means a person who is a member of the regular forces or the reserve forces (within the meaning of section 374 of the Armed Forces Act 2006), who is absent from the dwelling that the person normally occupies as his home because the person has been posted outside of Great Britain to perform the duties of a member of Her Majesty's regular forces or reserve forces; and

“prescribed area” means any area over which Norway or any member State (other than the United Kingdom) exercises sovereign rights for the purpose of exploring the seabed and subsoil and exploiting their natural resources, being an area outside the territorial seas of Norway or such member State, or any other area which is from time to time specified under section 10(8) of the Petroleum Act 1998.

Part 5
Classes of Person Excluded from this Scheme

Classes of person excluded from this scheme

20

The classes of person described in paragraphs 21 to 24 are not entitled to a reduction under this scheme.

Class of person excluded from this scheme: persons treated as not being in Great Britain

21

(1) The class of person described in this paragraph consists of any person treated as not being in Great Britain.

(2) Except where a person falls within sub-paragraph (5) or (6), a person is to be treated as not being in Great Britain if the person is not habitually resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland.

(3) A person must not be treated as habitually resident in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or the Republic of Ireland unless the person has a right to reside in one of those places.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3), a right to reside does not include a right which exists by virtue of, or in accordance with--

(a) regulation 13 of the EEA Regulations;

(aa) regulation 14 of the EEA Regulations, but only in a case where the right exists under that regulation because the person is --

(i) a jobseeker for the purpose of the definition of "qualified person" in regulation 6(1) of those Regulations, or

(ii) a family member (within the meaning of regulation 7 of those Regulations) of such a jobseeker;

(b) regulation 16 of the EEA Regulations, but only in a case where the right exists under that regulation because the applicant satisfies the criteria in paragraph (5) of that regulation.

(4A) For the purposes of paragraph (3), a right to reside does not include a right which exists by virtue of a person having been granted limited leave to enter, or remain in, the United Kingdom under the Immigration Act 1971 by virtue of--

(b) Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act;

(c) being a person with a Zambrano right to reside as defined in Annex 1 of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act; or

(d) having arrived in the United Kingdom with an entry clearance that was granted under Appendix EU (Family Permit) to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of that Act.

"(4B) Paragraph (4A)(b) does not apply to a person who--

(a) has a right to reside granted by virtue of being a family member of a relevant person of Northern Ireland; and

(b) would have a right to reside under the EEA Regulations if the relevant person of Northern Ireland were an EEA national, provided that the right to reside does not fall within paragraph (4)(a) or (b).

(5) A person falls within this sub-paragraph if the person is--

(za) a person granted leave in accordance with the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971, where such leave is granted by virtue of--

(i) the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy; or

- (ii) the previous scheme for locally-employed staff in Afghanistan (sometimes referred to as the ex-gratia scheme);
- (zb) a person in Great Britain not coming within sub-paragraph (za) or (e) who left Afghanistan in connection with the collapse of the Afghan government that took place on 15th August 2021;
- (zc) a person in Great Britain who was residing in Ukraine immediately before 1st January 2022, left Ukraine in connection with the Russian invasion which took place on 24th February 2022 and—
 - (i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;
 - (ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act; or
 - (iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;
- (zd) a person who was residing in Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights or Lebanon immediately before 7th October 2023, left Israel, the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, the Golan Heights or Lebanon in connection with the Hamas terrorist attack in Israel on 7th October 2023 or the violence which rapidly escalated in the region following the attack and—
 - (i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971,
 - (ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act 1, or
 - (iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;
- (ze) a person who was residing in Sudan before 15th April 2023, left Sudan in connection with the violence which rapidly escalated on 15th April 2023 in Khartoum and across Sudan and—
 - (i) has been granted leave in accordance with immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971,
 - (ii) has a right of abode in the United Kingdom within the meaning given in section 2 of that Act, or
 - (iii) does not require leave to enter or remain in the United Kingdom in accordance with section 3ZA of that Act;
- (a) a qualified person for the purposes of regulation 6 of the EEA Regulations as a worker or a self-employed person;
- (b) a family member of a person referred to in paragraph (a);
- (c) a person who has a right to reside permanently in the United Kingdom by virtue of regulation 15(1)(c), (d) or (e) of the EEA Regulations;
- (ca) a family member of a relevant person of Northern Ireland, with a right to reside which falls within paragraph (4A)(b), provided that the relevant person of Northern Ireland falls within paragraph (5)(a), or would do so but for the fact that they are not an EEA national;
- (cb) a frontier worker within the meaning of regulation 3 of the Citizens' Rights (Frontier Workers) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020;
- (cc) a family member of a person referred to in sub-paragraph (cb), who has been granted limited leave to enter, or remain in, the United Kingdom by virtue of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;
- (d) a person recorded by the Secretary of State as a refugee within the definition in Article 1 of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees done at Geneva on 28th July 1951, as extended by Article 1(2) of the Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees done at New York on 31st January

1967;

(e) a person who has been granted, or who is deemed to have been granted, leave outside the rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971;

(f) a person who has humanitarian protection granted under those rules;

(g) a person who is not a person subject to immigration control within the meaning of section 115(9) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 and who is in the United Kingdom as a result of his deportation, expulsion or other removal by compulsion of law from another country to the United Kingdom;

(h) in receipt of income support or on an income-related employment and support allowance; or

(ha) in receipt of an income-based jobseeker's allowance and has a right to reside other than a right to reside falling within paragraph (4).

(6) A person falls within this sub-paragraph if the person is a Crown servant or member of Her Majesty's forces posted overseas.

(7) A person mentioned in sub-paragraph (6) is posted overseas if the person is performing overseas the duties of a Crown servant or member of Her Majesty's forces and was, immediately before the posting or the first of consecutive postings, habitually resident in the United Kingdom.

(8) In this paragraph--

"claim for asylum" has the same meaning as in section 94(1) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999;

"Crown servant" means a person holding an office or employment under the Crown;

"EEA national" has the meaning given in regulation 2(1) of the EEA Regulations;

"EEA Regulations" means the Immigration (European Economic Area) Regulations 2016 and references to the EEA Regulations are to be read with Schedule 4 to the Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination (EU Withdrawal) Act 2020 (Consequential, Saving, Transitional and Transitory Provisions) Regulations 2020;

"family member" has the meaning given in regulation 7(1)(a), (b) or (c) of the EEA Regulations, except that regulation 7(4) of the EEA Regulations does not apply for the purposes of paragraphs (4B) and (5)(ca);

"Her Majesty's forces" has the same meaning as in the Armed Forces Act 2006;

"relevant person of Northern Ireland" has the meaning given in Annex 1 of Appendix EU to the immigration rules made under section 3(2) of the Immigration Act 1971.

Transitional Provision

(1) Paragraph (ha) does not apply to a person who, on 31st March 2015-

(a) is liable to pay council tax at a reduced rate by virtue of a council tax reduction under an authority's scheme established under section 13A(2) of the Act; and

(b) is entitled to an income-based jobseeker's allowance,

until the first of the events in paragraph (2) occurs.

(2) The events are-

(a) the person makes a new application for a reduction under an authority's scheme established under section 13A(2) of the Act; or

(b) the person ceases to be entitled to an income-based jobseeker's allowance.

(3) In this regulation "the Act" means the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Class of person excluded from this scheme: persons subject to immigration control

22

- (1) Subject to paragraph (1A), persons subject to immigration control are not entitled to a reduction under this scheme.
- (2) "Person subject to immigration control" has the meaning given in section 115(9) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Class of person excluded from this scheme: capital limit

23

- (1) The class of person described in this paragraph consists of any pensioner whose capital limit exceeds £16,000 and of any person who is not a pensioner whose capital exceeds £10,000.
- (2) Capital for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) is to be calculated in accordance with Part 10 of this scheme.

Class of person excluded from this scheme: students

24

The class of person described in this paragraph consists of any student to whom paragraph 75(1) applies (except to the extent that a student may be entitled to an alternative maximum council tax reduction by virtue of paragraph 18).

**Part 6
Applicable Amounts**

Applicable amounts: pensioners

25

- (1) The applicable amount for a pensioner for a week is the aggregate of such of the following amounts as apply in his case--
 - (a) an amount in respect of his personal allowance, determined in accordance with paragraph 1 of Schedule 2 (personal allowance);
 - (b) an amount determined in accordance with paragraph 2 of that Schedule in respect of children or young persons who are members of his family;
 - (c) if he is a member of a family of which at least one member is a child or young person, an amount determined in accordance with paragraph 3 of that Schedule (family premium);
 - (d) the amount of any premiums which may be applicable to him, determined in accordance with Parts 3 and 4 of that Schedule (premiums).

- (2) In Schedule 2--

"additional spouse" means a spouse of either party to the marriage who is additional to the other party to the marriage;

"patient" means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of

regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005.

Transitional provision

25A

(1) This paragraph 25A applies where—

(a) on 31st March 2018, a person is liable to pay council tax at a reduced rate by virtue of a council tax reduction under an authority's scheme established under section 13A(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("a section 13A(2) scheme"); and

(b) the person is, or the person and the person's partner are between them, responsible for more than two individuals who are either children or young persons and who are members of the same household (each such individual is referred to as a "protected individual").

(2) Where this paragraph 25A applies, paragraph 25 does not apply to the person entitled to a council tax reduction referred to in paragraph (1) until—

(a) the person makes a new application for a reduction under an authority's section 13A(2) scheme; or

(b) the person or the person's partner (if any) becomes responsible for a new individual,

whichever is the first to occur.

(3) Paragraphs (4) to (8) apply where—

(a) the provisions of paragraph 25 apply by virtue of paragraph (2)(b);

(b) the child tax credit provisions do not apply; and

(c) the person has not made a new application for a reduction under an authority's scheme for a reduction under an authority's section 13A(2) scheme.

(4) Notwithstanding the default provisions, a child amount shall be included in the applicable amount in relation to any protected individual, in relation to any time when the person or the person's partner (if any) is responsible for the individual and the individual is a member of the same household.

(5) Paragraph (6) applies where—

(a) the person or the person's partner (if any) is responsible for one or more protected individuals who are members of the same household; and

(b) either of them is responsible for one or more new individuals who are members of the same household.

(6) Where this paragraph applies, any protected individual for whom the person or the person's partner is responsible is to be counted for the purpose of deciding whether, under the default provisions, an additional child amount is to be included in the applicable amount with respect to the new individual or individuals referred to in paragraph (5)(b).

(7) Paragraph (8) applies where—

(a) the number of protected individuals for whom either the person or the person's partner (if any) is responsible, and who are members of the same household, is one;

(b) the number of new individuals for whom either the person or the person's partner is responsible, and who are

members of the same household, is two or more; and

(c) a different child amount would apply to different individuals.

(8) Where this paragraph applies, the child amounts to be included in the applicable amount shall be—

(a) the child amount in relation to the protected individual; and

(b) a child amount in relation to such one of the new individuals as will result in the greatest possible total amount.

(9) Under paragraph (3), for the purposes of determining whether the child tax credit provisions apply, by virtue of paragraph 6(1B) of Schedule 1 to the 2012 Regulations, where the person or the person's partner is responsible for one or more protected individuals, the total amount that would be included in the applicable amount under the default provisions shall be taken to be the total that would be included under paragraphs (4), (6) and (8).

(10) For the purposes of this part—

(a) “the 2012 Regulations” means the Council Tax Reduction Schemes (Prescribed Requirements) (England) Regulations 2012;

(b) “applicable amount”, “child”, “partner” and “young person” have the same meanings as in the 2012 Regulations;

(c) “child amount” means the amount determined under paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the 2012 Regulations;

(d) “child tax credit provisions” means the provisions of paragraph 6(1)(b) of Schedule 1 to the 2012 Regulations (as substituted by paragraph 6(1C) of that Schedule);

(e) “default provisions” means the provisions of paragraph 6(1)(b) of Schedule 1 to the 2012 Regulations (as substituted by paragraph 6(1C) of that Schedule);

(f) “new individual” means a child or young person who is not a protected individual;

(g) any reference to an individual being part of the same household means being part of the same household with the person who is entitled to a reduction under an authority's section 13A(2) scheme and the person's partner (if any);

(h) a person is to be treated as responsible for a child or young person in the circumstances set out in regulation 7 of the 2012 Regulations.

Applicable amounts: persons who are not pensioners

26

(1) Subject to paragraphs 27 and 28, the applicable amount for a week for a person who is not a pensioner is the aggregate of such of the following amounts as may apply in his case--

(a) an amount in respect of himself or, if he is a member of a couple, an amount in respect of both of them, determined in accordance with paragraph 1 of Schedule 3;

(b) an amount in respect of any child or young person who is a member of his family, determined in accordance with paragraph 3 of that Schedule;

(c) if he is a member of a family of which at least one member is a child or young person, an amount determined in accordance with Part 2 of that Schedule (family premium);

- (d) the amount of any premiums which may be applicable to him, determined in accordance with Parts 3 and 4 of that Schedule (premiums);
- (e) the amount of the support component which may be applicable to him in accordance with Parts 5 and 6 of that Schedule (the components);
- (f) the amount of any transitional addition which may be applicable to him in accordance with Parts 7 and 8 of that Schedule (transitional addition).

(2) In Schedule 3--

"additional spouse" means a spouse of either party to the marriage who is additional to the other party to the marriage;

"converted employment and support allowance" means an employment and support allowance which is not income-related and to which a person is entitled as a result of a conversion decision within the meaning of the Employment and Support Allowance (Existing Awards) Regulations 2008;

"patient" means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005.

Polygamous marriages: persons who are not pensioners

27

(1) This paragraph applies where an applicant who is not a pensioner is a member of a polygamous marriage and does not have (alone or jointly with a party to a marriage), an award of universal credit.

(2) The applicable amount for a week of an applicant where this paragraph applies is the aggregate of such of the following amounts as may apply in his case--

- (a) the amount applicable to him and one of his partners determined in accordance with paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 3 as if he and that partner were a couple;
- (b) an amount equal to the difference between the amounts specified in sub-paragraphs (3) and (1)(b) of paragraph 1 of that Schedule in respect of each of his other partners;
- (c) an amount determined in accordance with paragraph 2 of that Schedule (main phase employment and support allowance) in respect of any child or young person for whom he or a partner of his is responsible and who is a member of the same household;
- (d) if he or another partner of the polygamous marriage is responsible for a child or young person who is a member of the same household, the amount specified in Part 2 of that Schedule (family premium);
- (e) the amount of any premiums which may be applicable to him determined in accordance with Parts 3 and 4 of that Schedule (premiums);
- (f) the amount of the support component which may be applicable to him in accordance with Parts 5 and 6 of that Schedule (the components);
- (g) the amount of any transitional addition which may be applicable to him in accordance with Parts 7 and 8 of that Schedule (transitional addition).

Applicable amount: persons who are not pensioners who have an award of universal credit

28

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), in determining the applicable amount for a week of an applicant who is not a pensioner--

- (a) who has, or
- (b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit, the authority must use the calculation or estimate of the maximum amount of the applicant, or the applicant and his partner jointly (as the case may be), subject to the adjustment described in sub-paragraph (3).

(2) In determining the applicable amount for a week of an applicant who is a member of a polygamous marriage, the fact that two people are husband and wife is to be disregarded if--

- (a) one of them is a party to an earlier marriage that still subsists; and
- (b) the other party to that earlier marriage is living in the same household.

(3) The adjustment referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is to multiply the maximum amount by 12 and divide the product by 52.

(4) In this paragraph "maximum amount" means the maximum amount calculated by the Secretary of State in accordance with section 8(2) of the Welfare Reform Act 2012.

Part 7

Maximum Council Tax Reduction for the Purposes of Calculating Eligibility for a Reduction Under this Scheme and Amount of Reduction

Maximum council tax reduction amount under this scheme: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners

29

(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (4), a person's maximum council tax reduction amount in respect of a day is—

- (a) 100 per cent of the amount A/B if the applicant is a pensioner;
- (b) save as excepted for at (c) to (e) below, 80.2 per cent of the amount A/B if the applicant is a person who is not a pensioner;
- (c) 100 per cent of the amount A/B if the applicant is not a pensioner but is in receipt of any of the following--
 - (i) Attendance Allowance including Constant Attendance Allowance;
 - (ii) Disability Living Allowance including Care and Mobility components;
 - (iii) Severe Disablement Allowance including Exceptionally Severe Disablement Allowance;
 - (iv) Mobility Allowance and Supplement;
 - (v) Long Term Rate Incapacity Benefit;
 - (vi) Working Tax Credits – Disability element;
 - (vii) Personal Independence Payment;
 - (viii) Armed Forces Independence Payment;
 - (ix) Support component of Employment and Support Allowance

(d) 100 per cent of the amount A/B if the applicant is not a pensioner but is responsible for a disabled child or young person of the same household and where the applicant is in receipt of any of the following premiums--

- (i) Disability Premium;
- (ii) Disabled Child Premium;
- (iii) Enhanced Disability Premium;

- (iv) Enhanced Disability Child Premium;
- (v) Carer Premium;
- (vi) Severe Disability Premium

(e) 100 per cent of the amount A/B if the applicant is not a pensioner but is responsible for a child or young person in the same household

where--

(A) A is the amount set by the authority as the council tax for the relevant financial year in respect of the dwelling in which he is a resident and for which he is liable, subject to any discount which may be appropriate to that dwelling under the 1992 Act; and

(B) B is the number of days in that financial year,

less any deductions in respect of non-dependants which fall to be made under paragraph 30 (non-dependant deductions: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners).

(2) In calculating a person's maximum council tax reduction under this scheme any reduction in the amount that person is liable to pay in respect of council tax, which is made in consequence of any enactment in, or made under, the 1992 Act (other than a reduction under this scheme), is to be taken into account.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), where an applicant is jointly and severally liable for council tax in respect of a dwelling in which he is resident with one or more other persons, in determining the maximum council tax reduction in his case in accordance with sub-paragraph (1), the amount A is to be divided by the number of persons who are jointly and severally liable for that tax.

(4) Where an applicant is jointly and severally liable for council tax in respect of a dwelling with only his partner, sub-paragraph (3) does not apply in his case.

(5) The reference in sub-paragraph (3) to a person with whom an applicant is jointly and severally liable for council tax, where the applicant is a person who is not a pensioner, does not include a student to whom paragraph 75(1) (entitlement of students to a reduction under this scheme) applies.

(6) In this paragraph "relevant financial year" means, in relation to any particular day, the financial year within which the day in question falls.

Non-dependant deductions: pensioners

30

(1) Subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, the non-dependant deductions in respect of a day referred to in paragraph 29 are--

- (a) in respect of a non-dependant aged 18 or over in remunerative work, $\pounds 15.35 \times \frac{1}{7}$;
- (b) in respect of a non-dependant aged 18 or over to whom paragraph (a) does not apply, $\pounds 5.00 \times \frac{1}{7}$.

(2) In the case of a non-dependant aged 18 or over to whom sub-paragraph (1)(a) applies, where it is shown to the appropriate authority that his normal gross weekly income is--

- (a) less than $\pounds 266.00$, the deduction to be made under this paragraph is that specified in sub-paragraph (1)(b);
- (b) not less than $\pounds 266.00$ but less than $\pounds 463.00$, the deduction to be made under this paragraph is $\pounds 10.20 \times \frac{1}{7}$;
- (c) not less than $\pounds 463.00$ but less than $\pounds 577.00$, the deduction to be made under this paragraph is $\pounds 12.80 \times \frac{1}{7}$.

(3) Only one deduction is to be made under this paragraph in respect of a couple or, as the case may be, members of a polygamous marriage (other than where there is an award of universal credit) and, where, but for this paragraph, the amount that would fall to be deducted in respect of one member of a couple or polygamous marriage is higher than the amount (if any) that would fall to be deducted in respect of the other, or any other, member, the higher amount is to be deducted.

(4) In applying the provisions of sub-paragraph (2) in the case of a couple or, as the case may be, a polygamous marriage, regard must be had, for the purpose of that sub-paragraph, to the couple's or, as the case may be, all members of the polygamous marriage's joint weekly gross income.

(5) Where in respect of a day--

- (a) a person is a resident in a dwelling but is not himself liable for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day;
- (b) other residents in that dwelling (the liable persons) have joint and several liability for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day otherwise than by virtue of section 9 of the 1992 Act (liability of spouses and civil partners); and
- (c) the person to whom paragraph (a) refers is a non-dependant of two or more of the liable persons,

the deduction in respect of that non-dependant must be apportioned equally between those liable persons.

(6) No deduction is to be made in respect of any non-dependants occupying an applicant's dwelling if the applicant or his partner is--

- (a) severely sight-impaired or blind or treated as such by virtue of by virtue of sub-paragraphs (12) or (13) below; or
- (b) receiving in respect of himself--
 - (i) attendance allowance, or would be receiving that allowance but for--
 - (aa) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or
 - (bb) an abatement as a result of hospitalisation; or
 - (ia) pension age disability payment, or would be receiving that payment but for the application of regulation 20 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Pension Age Disability Payment) of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024; or
 - (ii) the care component of the disability living allowance, or would be receiving that component but for--
 - (aa) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or
 - (bb) an abatement as a result of hospitalisation; or
 - (iii) the daily living component of personal independence payment, or would be receiving that allowance but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients);
 - (iiia) the daily living component of adult disability payment, or would be receiving that component but for the application of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations; or
 - (iv) an AFIP, or would be receiving that payment but for a suspension of it in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allows for a suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution.

(7) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant if--

- (a) although he resides with the applicant, it appears to the authority that his normal home is else-

where; or

(b) he is in receipt of a training allowance paid in connection with youth training established under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990; or

(c) he is a full-time student within the meaning of Part 11 (students); or

(d) he is not residing with the applicant because he has been a patient for a period in excess of 52 weeks, and for these purposes--

(i) "patient" has the meaning given in paragraph 19(6), and

(ii) where a person has been a patient for two or more distinct periods separated by one or more intervals each not exceeding 28 days, he is to be treated as having been a patient continuously for a period equal in duration to the total of those distinct periods; or

(e) he is not residing with the applicant because he is a member of the regular forces or the reserve forces (within the meaning of section 374 of the Armed Forces Act 2006) who is absent, while on operations, from the dwelling usually occupied as their home.

(8) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant--

(a) who is on income support, state pension credit, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance;

(b) to whom Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act applies (persons disregarded for purposes of discount) but this paragraph does not apply to a non-dependant who is a student to whom paragraph 4 of that Schedule refers; or

(c) who is entitled to an award of universal credit where the award is calculated on the basis that the person does not have any earned income.

(9) In the application of sub-paragraph (2) there is to be disregarded from the non-dependant's weekly gross income--

(a) any attendance allowance, pension age disability payment, disability living allowance, child disability payment, personal independence payment, adult disability payment or an AFIP received by him;

(b) any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme; the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme or the Independent Living Fund (2006) which are paid as income in kind (see sub-paragraph (13)); and

(ba) any of the following payments which are paid as income in kind—

- (i) any Grenfell Tower support payment;
- (ii) any historical child abuse payment;
- (iii) any Windrush payment;
- (iv) any Post Office compensation payment;
- (v) any vaccine damage payment;

(c) the payments set out in sub-paragraph (10).

(10) The payments mentioned in sub-paragraph (9) are—

(a) any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester

Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme or the Independent Living Fund (2006);

- (aa) any Grenfell Tower support payment;
- (ab) any historical child abuse payment;
- (ac) any Windrush payment;
- (ad) any Post Office compensation payment;
- (ae) any vaccine damage payment;
- (af) any payment out of the estate of a person to that person's son, daughter, step-son or step-daughter, which derives from a payment to meet the recommendation of the Infected Blood Inquiry in its interim report published on 29th July 2022 made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood scheme;
- (ag) any payment out of the estate of a person, which derives from a payment made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood scheme to the estate of the person as a result of that person having been infected from contaminated blood products;
- (b) any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which paragraph (a) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment and which is made to or for the benefit of—
 - (i) that person's partner or former partner from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death;
 - (ii) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
 - (iii) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family;
- (c) any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person provided that the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced or, where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which paragraph (a) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment and which is made to or for the benefit of—
 - (i) the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person;
 - (ii) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
 - (iii) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family;
- (d) any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which paragraph (a) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, where—

- (i) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who is or had been a member of that person's family; and
 - (ii) the payment is made either—
 - (aa) to that person's parent or step-parent, or
 - (bb) where that person at the date of the payment is a child, a young person or a student who has not completed his full-time education and has no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death;
 - (e) any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which paragraph (a) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, where—
 - (i) that person at the date of his death (the relevant date) had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who was or had been a member of his family; and
 - (ii) the payment is made either—
 - (aa) to that person's parent or step-parent, or
 - (bb) where that person at the relevant date was a child, a young person or a student who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,but only for a period of two years from the relevant date;
 - (f) in the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this sub-paragraph is made, any income which derives from—
 - (i) any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts referred to in paragraph (a); or
 - (ii) a Grenfell Tower support payment;.
 - (g) any payment made under, or by, a trust which is approved by the Secretary of State and which is established for the purpose of giving relief and assistance to a disabled person whose disability was caused by their mother having taken a preparation containing the drug known as Thalidomide during her pregnancy.
- (11) An applicant or his partner is severely sight-impaired or blind or treated as such for the purposes of sub-paragraph (6)(a) if the applicant or his partner—
- (a) is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014]; or
 - (b) is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in England under section 77(1) of the Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults); or
 - (c) in Scotland, has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994.
- (11A) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (8), “earned income” has the meaning given in regulation 52 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013.]

(12) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (11), a person who has ceased to be registered as severely sight-impaired or blind on regaining his eyesight is nevertheless to be treated as such for a period of 28 weeks following the date on which he ceased to be so registered.

(13) The reference in sub-paragraph (9)(b) and (ba) to "income in kind" does not include a payment to a third party made in respect of the applicant which is used by the third party to provide benefits in kind to the applicant.

Non-dependant deductions: persons who are not pensioners

30A

(1) Subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, the non-dependant deductions in respect of a day referred to in paragraph 29 are--

- (a) in respect of a non-dependant aged 18 or over in remunerative work, the figures as provided for at 30 (1) (a) above;
- (b) in respect of a non-dependant aged 18 or over to whom paragraph (a) does not apply, the figures as provided for at 30 (1) (b) above.

(2) In the case of a non-dependant aged 18 or over to whom sub-paragraph (1)(a) applies, where it is shown to the appropriate authority that his normal gross weekly income is--

- (a) less than the figures as provided for at 30 (2) (a) above, the deduction to be made under this paragraph is that specified in sub-paragraph (1)(b);
- (b) in accordance with the figures as provided for at 30 (2) (b) above;
- (c) in accordance with the figures as provided for at 30 (2) (c) above.

(3) Only one deduction is to be made under this paragraph in respect of a couple or, as the case may be, members of a polygamous marriage (other than where there is an award of universal credit) and, where, but for this paragraph, the amount that would fall to be deducted in respect of one member of a couple or polygamous marriage is higher than the amount (if any) that would fall to be deducted in respect of the other, or any other, member, the higher amount is to be deducted.

(4) In applying the provisions of sub-paragraph (2) in the case of a couple or, as the case may be, a polygamous marriage, regard must be had, for the purpose of that sub-paragraph, to the couple's or, as the case may be, all members of the polygamous marriage's joint weekly gross income.

(5) Where in respect of a day--

- (a) a person is a resident in a dwelling but is not himself liable for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day;
- (b) other residents in that dwelling (the liable persons) have joint and several liability for council tax in respect of that dwelling and that day otherwise than by virtue of section 9 of the 1992 Act (liability of spouses and civil partners); and
- (c) the person to whom paragraph (a) refers is a non-dependant of two or more of the liable persons,

the deduction in respect of that non-dependant must be apportioned equally between those liable persons.

(6) No deduction is to be made in respect of any non-dependants occupying an applicant's dwelling if the applicant or his partner is--

- (a) blind or treated as blind by virtue of paragraph 10 of Schedule 3 (additional condition for the

disability premium); or

(b) receiving in respect of himself--

(i) attendance allowance, or would be receiving that allowance but for--

(aa) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or

(bb) an abatement as a result of hospitalisation; or

(ii) the care component of the disability living allowance, or would be receiving that component but for--

(aa) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or

(bb) an abatement as a result of hospitalisation; or

(iii) the daily living component of personal independence payment, or would be receiving that allowance but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients); or

(iiia) the daily living component of adult disability payment; or

(iv) an AFIP, or would be receiving that payment but for a suspension of it in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allows for a suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution;

(v) the daily living component of Adult Disability Payment. Or would be receiving that allowance but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement) of the DAWAP Regulations.

(7) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant if--

(a) although he resides with the applicant, it appears to the authority that his normal home is elsewhere; or

(b) he is in receipt of a training allowance paid in connection with youth training established under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990; or

(c) he is a full-time student within the meaning of Part 11 (students); or

(d) he is not residing with the applicant because he has been a patient for a period in excess of 52 weeks, and for these purposes--

(i) "patient" has the meaning given in paragraph 19(6), and

(ii) where a person has been a patient for two or more distinct periods separated by one or more intervals each not exceeding 28 days, he is to be treated as having been a patient continuously for a period equal in duration to the total of those distinct periods.

(8) No deduction is to be made in respect of a non-dependant--

(a) who is on income support, state pension credit, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance; or

(b) to whom Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act applies (persons disregarded for purposes of discount) but this paragraph does not apply to a non-dependant who is a student to whom paragraph 4 of that Schedule refers.

(9) In the application of sub-paragraph (2) there is to be disregarded from the non-dependant's weekly gross income--

- (a) any attendance allowance, disability living allowance, child disability payment, personal independence payment, adult disability payment, or an AFIP received by him;
- (b) any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, We love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, or the Independent Living Fund (2006) which, had his income fallen to be calculated under paragraph 54 (calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners), would have been disregarded under paragraph 28 of Schedule 8 (income in kind); and
- (ba) any Grenfell Tower support payment which is paid as income in kind.
- (bb) any historical child abuse payment;
- (bc) any Windrush payment;
- (c) any payment which, had his income fallen to be calculated under paragraph 54, would have been disregarded under paragraph 41 of Schedule 8 (payments made under certain trusts and certain other payments).
- (d) Any payment made under, or by, a trust which is approved by the Secretary of State and which is established for the purposes of giving relief and assistance to a disabled person whose disability was caused by their mother having taken a preparation containing the drug known as Thalidomide during her pregnancy.

Part 8

Alternative Maximum Council Tax Reduction for the Purposes of Calculating Eligibility for a Reduction Under this Scheme and Amount of Reduction

Alternative maximum council tax reduction under this scheme: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners

31

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), the alternative maximum council tax reduction in respect of a day where the conditions set out in paragraph 15 (alternative maximum council tax reduction: pensioners) or 18 (alternative maximum council tax reduction: persons who are not pensioners) are fulfilled, is the amount determined in accordance with Schedule 4 (amount of alternative council tax reduction).
- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), where an applicant is jointly and severally liable for council tax in respect of a dwelling in which he is resident with one or more other persons, in determining the alternative maximum council tax reduction in his case, the amount determined in accordance with Schedule 4 must be divided by the number of persons who are jointly and severally liable for that tax.
- (3) Where an applicant is jointly and severally liable for council tax in respect of a dwelling with only his partner, solely by virtue of section 9 of the 1992 Act (liability of spouses and civil partners), sub-paragraph (2) does not apply in his case.

Part 9

Amount of Reduction Under this Scheme

Amount of reduction under this scheme: Classes A to F

32

- (1) Where a person is entitled to a reduction under this scheme in respect of a day, the amount of the reduction to which he is entitled is as follows.
- (2) Where the person is within class A or D, that amount is the amount which is the maximum council tax reduction in respect of the day in the applicant's case.
- (3) Where the person is within class B or E, that amount is the amount found by deducting amount B from amount A, where "amount A" and "amount B" have the meanings given in paragraph 14(f) or 17(f), as the case may be.
- (4) Where the person is within class C or F, that amount is the amount which is the alternative maximum council tax reduction in respect of the day in the applicant's case.
- (5) Sub-paragraph (6) applies where both--
 - (a) sub-paragraph (2) or sub-paragraph (3), and
 - (b) sub-paragraph (4),

apply to a person.

- (6) The amount of the reduction to which the person is entitled is whichever is the greater of--
 - (a) the amount of the reduction given by sub-paragraph (2) or sub-paragraph (3), as the case may be, and
 - (b) the amount of the reduction given by sub-paragraph (4).

(6A) In determining the amount of any reduction to which a person is entitled, any payment made under the Energy Rebate Scheme 2022 is to be disregarded.

(6B) In determining the amount of any reduction to which a person is entitled, any payment made in connection with the Homes for Ukraine scheme is to be disregarded.

Part 10
Income and Capital for the Purposes of Calculating Eligibility for a Reduction Under this Scheme and Amount of Reduction

Chapter 1
Income and Capital: General

Calculation of income and capital: applicant's family and polygamous marriages

33

- (1) The income and capital of--
 - (a) an applicant; and
 - (b) any partner of that applicant,

is to be calculated in accordance with the provisions of this Part.

(2) The income and capital of any partner of the applicant is to be treated as income and capital of the applicant, and in this Part any reference to the applicant applies equally to any partner of that applicant.

(3) Except where paragraph 37 applies, where an applicant or the partner of an applicant is married polygamously to two or more members of his household--

- (a) the applicant must be treated as possessing capital and income belonging to each such member; and
- (b) the income and capital of that member is to be calculated in accordance with the following provisions of this Part in like manner as for the applicant.

Circumstances in which income and capital of non-dependant is to be treated as applicant's

34

(1) Sub-paragraph (2) applies where it appears to the authority that a non-dependant and an applicant have entered into arrangements in order to take advantage of this scheme and the non-dependant has more income and capital than the applicant.

(2) Except where--

- (a) the applicant is a pensioner and is on a guarantee credit, or
- (b) the applicant is not a pensioner and is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance,

the authority must treat the applicant as possessing income and capital belonging to that non-dependant and, in such a case, any income and capital which the applicant does possess is to be disregarded.

(3) Where an applicant is treated as possessing income and capital belonging to a non-dependant under sub-paragraph (2) the income and capital of that non-dependant must be calculated in accordance with the following provisions of this Part in like manner as for the applicant and, except where the

context otherwise requires, any reference to the "applicant" is to be construed for the purposes of this Part as if it were a reference to that non-dependant.

Chapter 2

Income and Capital: Pensioners in Receipt of Guarantee Credit or Savings Credit

Applicant in receipt of guarantee credit: pensioners

35

In the case of an applicant who is a pensioner and who is in receipt, or whose partner is in receipt, of a guarantee credit, the whole of his capital and income must be disregarded.

Calculation of applicant's income and capital in savings credit only cases: pensioners

36

(1) In determining the income and capital of an applicant who is a pensioner and who has, or whose partner has, an award of state pension credit comprising only the savings credit, subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, the authority must use the calculation or estimate of the applicant's or as the case may be, the applicant's partner's income and capital made by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining the award of state pension credit.

(2) Where the calculation or estimate provided by the Secretary of State includes the amount taken into account in that determination in respect of net income, the authority may only adjust that amount so far as necessary to take into account--

- (a) the amount of any savings credit payable;
- (b) in respect of any dependent children of the applicant, child care charges taken into account under paragraph 57(1)(c) (calculation of income on a weekly basis);
- (c) the higher amount disregarded under this scheme in respect of--
 - (i) lone parent's earnings; or

- (ii) payments of maintenance, whether under a court order or not, which is made or due to be made by--
 - (aa) the applicant's former partner, or the applicant's partner's former partner; or
 - (bb) the parent of a child or young person where that child or young person is a member of the applicant's family except where that parent is the applicant or the applicant's partner;
- (d) any amount to be disregarded by virtue of paragraph 10(1) of Schedule 5 (sums disregarded from applicant's earnings: pensioners);
- (e) the income and capital of any partner of the applicant who is treated as a member of the applicant's household under paragraph 8, to the extent that it is not taken into account in determining the net income of the person claiming state pension credit;
- (f) paragraph 34 (circumstances in which capital and income of a non-dependant is to be treated as applicant's), if the authority determines that that provision applies in the applicant's case;
- (g) such further reduction (if any) as the authority thinks fit under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act (power of billing authority to reduce amount of council tax payable);
- (h) any amount to be disregarded by virtue of paragraph 6 of Schedule 5 (exempt work).
- (3) Paragraphs 39 to 46 (calculation of income: pensioners) and 57 to 61 (calculation of income: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners) do not apply to the amount of the net income to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1), but do apply (so far as relevant) for the purpose of determining any adjustments to that amount which the authority makes under sub-paragraph (2).
- (4) If sub-paragraph (5) applies, the authority must calculate the applicant's capital in accordance with paragraphs 63, 65 to 68 and 70 (calculation of capital: pensioners).
- (5) This sub-paragraph applies if--
 - (a) the Secretary of State notifies the authority that the applicant's capital has been determined as being £16,000 or less or the authority determines his capital as being £16,000 or less;
 - (b) subsequent to that determination the applicant's capital rises to more than £16,000; and
 - (c) the increase occurs whilst there is in force an assessed income period within the meaning of sections 6 and 9 of the State Pension Credit Act 2002.

Chapter 3

Income and Capital Where there is an Award of Universal Credit

Calculation of income and capital: persons who are not pensioners who have an award of universal credit

37

- (1) In determining the income of an applicant—
 - (a) who has, or
 - (b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit the authority must, subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, use the calculation or estimate of the amount of the income of the applicant, or the applicant and his partner jointly (as the case may be), made by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining the award of universal credit.

- (2) The authority must adjust the amount of the income referred to in sub-paragraph (1) by multiplying the amount by 12 and dividing the product by 52.

- (3) The authority may only adjust the amount of the income as adjusted in accordance with sub-paragraph (2) so far as necessary to take into account--
- (a) the amount of the award of universal credit, determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (3);
 - (b) paragraph 34 (circumstances in which income and capital of non-dependant is to be treated as applicant's), if the authority determines that the provision applies in the applicant's case;
 - (c) such further reduction (if any) as the authority thinks fit under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act (power of billing authority to reduce amount of council tax payable).
- (4) The amount for the award of universal credit to be taken into account for the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(a) is to be determined by multiplying the amount of the award of universal credit by 12 and dividing the product by 52.
- (5) Paragraph 34 (income and capital of non-dependant to be treated as applicant's) applies for the purpose of determining any adjustments which fall to be made to the figure for income under sub-paragraph (3).
- (6) In determining the capital of an applicant--
- (a) who has, or
 - (b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit, the authority must use the calculation or estimate of the capital of the applicant, or the applicant and his partner jointly (as the case may be), made by the Secretary of State for the purpose of determining the award of universal credit.

Chapter 4

Income: Other Pensioners

Calculation of income and capital where state pension credit is not payable: pensioners

38

Where neither paragraph 35 (applicant in receipt of guarantee credit: pensioners) nor 36 (applicant in receipt of savings credit only: pensioners) applies in the applicant's case, his income and capital is to be calculated or estimated in accordance with paragraphs 39 to 46 and 57 to 62 (calculation of income) and Chapter 7 of this Part (calculation of capital).

Meaning of "income": pensioners

39

- (1) For the purposes of classes A to C in this scheme, "income" means income of any of the following descriptions--
- (a) earnings;
 - (b) working tax credit;
 - (c) retirement pension income within the meaning of the State Pension Credit Act 2002;
 - (d) income from annuity contracts (other than retirement pension income);
 - (e) a war disablement pension or war widow's or widower's pension;

- (f) a foreign war disablement pension or war widow's or widower's pension;
- (g) a guaranteed income payment;
- (h) a payment made under article 29(1)(c) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2011, in any case where article 31(2)(c) applies;
- (i) income from capital other than capital disregarded under Part 1 of Schedule 9;
- (j) social security benefits, other than retirement pension income or any of the following benefits--
 - (zi) universal credit;
 - (i) disability living allowance;
 - (ii) personal independence payment;
 - (iia) adult disability payment;
 - (iii) an AFIP;
 - (iv) attendance allowance payable under section 64 of the SSCBA (entitlement to attendance allowance);
 - (v) an increase of disablement pension under section 104 (increase for constant attendance) or 105 of that Act (increase for exceptionally severe disablement);
 - (vi) child benefit;
 - (vii) any guardian's allowance payable under section 77 of the SSCBA (guardian's allowance);
 - (viii) any increase for a dependant, other than the applicant's partner, payable in accordance with Part 4 of that Act (increases for dependants);
 - (ix) any--
 - (aa) social fund payment made under Part 8 of the SSCBA (the social fund), or
 - (bb) occasional assistance;
 - (x) Christmas bonus payable under Part 10 of that Act (Christmas bonus for pensioners);
 - (xi) housing benefit;
 - (xii) council tax benefit;
 - (xiii) bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014;
 - (xiv) statutory sick pay;
 - (xv) statutory maternity pay;
 - (xvi) statutory paternity pay payable under Part 12ZA of the SSCBA;
 - (xvia) statutory shared parental pay payable under Part 12ZC of the SSCBA;
 - (xvib) statutory parental bereavement pay under Part 12ZD of that Act
 - (xviii) statutory adoption pay payable under Part 12ZB of that Act (statutory adoption pay);
 - (xix) [omitted]
 - (xx) carer's allowance supplement payable under section 81 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
 - (xxi) early years assistance given in accordance with section 32 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
 - (xxii) funeral expense assistance given in accordance with section 34 of that Act;
 - (xxiii) any Scottish child payment assistance given in accordance with section 79 of that Act;
 - (xxiv) any assistance given in accordance with the Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2019;

- (xxv) short-term assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 36 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
- (xxvi) winter heating assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 30 of that Act;
- (xxvii) any benefit similar to those mentioned in the preceding provisions of this paragraph payable under legislation having effect in Northern Ireland;
- (k) all foreign social security benefits which are similar to the social security benefits mentioned above;
- (l) a payment made--
 - (i) under article 30 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (award for children who have reached the child's age limit), in any case where article 30(1)(b) applies; or
 - (ii) under article 12(8) of that Order (unemployability allowances: children who have reached the child's age limit), in any case where sub-paragraph (b) of that article applies;
- (m) a pension paid by a government to victims of National Socialist;
- (n) payments under a scheme made under the Pneumoconiosis etc (Worker's Compensation) Act 1979;
- (o) payments made towards the maintenance of the applicant by his spouse, civil partner, former spouse or former civil partner or towards the maintenance of the applicant's partner by his spouse, civil partner, former spouse or former civil partner, including payments made--
 - (i) under a court order;
 - (ii) under an agreement for maintenance; or
 - (iii) voluntarily;
- (p) payments due from any person in respect of board and lodging accommodation provided by the applicant;
- (q) royalties or other sums paid as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copy-right, design, patent or trade mark;
- (r) any payment in respect of any--
 - (i) book registered under the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982; or
 - (ii) work made under any international public lending right scheme that is analogous to the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982;
- (s) any payment, other than a payment ordered by a court or made in settlement of a claim, made by or on behalf of a former employer of a person on account of the early retirement of that person on grounds of ill-health or disability;
- (t) any sum payable by way of pension out of money provided under--
 - (i) the Civil List Act 1837,
 - (ii) the Civil List Act 1937,
 - (iii) the Civil List Act 1952,
 - (iv) the Civil List Act 1972, or
 - (v) the Civil List Act 1975;
- (u) any income in lieu of that specified in paragraphs (a) to (r);
- (v) any payment of rent made to an applicant who--

- (i) owns the freehold or leasehold interest in any property or is a tenant of any property;
- (ii) occupies part of the property; and
- (iii) has an agreement with another person allowing that person to occupy that property on payment of rent;

- (w) any payment made at regular intervals under an equity release scheme;
 - (x) PPF periodic payments within the meaning of section 17(1) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002.
- (2) Where the payment of any social security benefit referred to in sub-paragraph (1), or retirement pension income to which section 16(1)(za) to (e) of the State Pension Credit Act 2002 applies, is subject to any deduction (other than an adjustment specified in sub-paragraph (4)) the amount to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1) is to be the amount before the deduction is made.
- (3) Where an award of any working tax credit or child tax credit is subject to a deduction by way of recovery of an overpayment of working tax credit or child tax credit which arose in a previous tax year the amount to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1) is to be the amount of working tax credit or child tax credit awarded less the amount of that deduction.
- (4) The adjustments specified in this sub-paragraph are those made in accordance with--
- (a) the Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Regulations 1979;
 - (b) the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 1975;
 - (c) section 30DD or section 30E of the SSCBA (reductions in incapacity benefit in respect of pensions and councillor's allowances);
 - (d) section 3 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 (deductions from contributory employment and support allowance in respect of pensions and councillor's allowances) and regulations made under it;
 - (e) section 14 of the Pensions Act 2014 (pension sharing: reduction in sharer's section 4 pension);
 - (f) section 45B or 55B of the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (reduction in additional pension in Category A retirement pension and shared additional pension: pension sharing).
 - (g) regulation 16(2) of the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023.
- (5) In sub-paragraph (1)(w), "equity release scheme" means a loan--
- (a) made between a person ("the lender") and the applicant;
 - (b) by means of which a sum of money is advanced by the lender to the applicant by way of payments at regular intervals; and
 - (c) which is secured on a dwelling in which the applicant owns an estate or interest and which he occupies as his home.

Calculation of weekly income: pensioners

40

- (1) Except in a case within sub-paragraph (2), (3A), or (4A) or (5), for the purposes of calculating the weekly income of an applicant who is a pensioner, where the period in respect of which a payment is made--
- (a) does not exceed a week, the whole of that payment is to be included in the applicant's weekly income;
 - (b) exceeds a week, the amount to be included in the applicant's weekly income is to be determined--
 - (i) in a case where that period is a month, by multiplying the amount of the payment by 12 and dividing the product by 52;

- (ii) in a case where that period is three months, by multiplying the amount of the payment by 4 and dividing the product by 52;
 - (iii) in a case where that period is a year, by dividing the amount of the payment by 52;
 - (iv) in any other case, by multiplying the amount of the payment by 7 and dividing the product by the number of days in the period in respect of which it is made.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (3) applies where--
- (a) the applicant's regular pattern of work is such that he does not work the same hours every week; or
 - (b) the amount of the applicant's income fluctuates and has changed more than once.
- (3) The weekly amount of that applicant's income is to be determined--
- (a) if, in a case to which sub-paragraph (2)(a) applies, there is a recognised cycle of work, by reference to his average weekly income over the period of the complete cycle (including, where the cycle involves periods in which the applicant does no work, those periods but disregarding any other absences); or
 - (b) in any other case, on the basis of--
 - (i) the last two payments if those payments are one month or more apart;
 - (ii) the last four payments if the last two payments are less than one month apart; or
 - (iii) calculating or estimating such other payments as may, in the particular circumstances of the case, enable the applicant's average weekly income to be determined more accurately.
- (3A) Income calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—
- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter;
 - (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter; or
 - (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant's earnings from employment change so as to require recalculation under this paragraph, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter,
- regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(b) the last payments are the last payments before the date the application was made or treated as made.
- (4A) An applicant's earnings from employment as an employed earner not calculated pursuant to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) must be taken into account—
- (a) in the case of an application, on the date on which the application was made or treated as made, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter;
 - (b) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant commences employment, the first day of the reduction week following the date the applicant commences that employment, and the first day of each reduction week thereafter; or
 - (c) in the case of an application or a reduction under a scheme where the applicant's average weekly earnings from employment change, the first day of the reduction week following the date of the change, and the beginning of each reduction week thereafter,

regardless of whether those earnings were actually received in that reduction week.

(5) If the applicant is entitled to receive a payment to which sub-paragraph (6) applies, the amount of that payment is to be treated as if made in respect of a period of a year.

(6) This sub-paragraph applies to--

(a) royalties or other sums paid as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copy-right, design, patent or trade mark;

(b) any payment in respect of any--

(i) book registered under the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982; or

(ii) work made under any international public lending right scheme that is analogous to the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982; and

(c) any payment which is made on an occasional basis.

(7) The period under which any benefit under the benefit Acts is to be taken into account is to be the period in respect of which that benefit is payable.

(8) Where payments are made in a currency other than Sterling, the value of the payment is to be determined by taking the Sterling equivalent on the date the payment is made.

(9) The sums specified in Schedule 5 are to be disregarded in calculating--

(a) the applicant's earnings; and

(b) any amount to which sub-paragraph (6) applies where the applicant is the first owner of the copyright, design, patent or trademark, or an original contributor to the book or work referred to in sub-paragraph (6)(b).

(10) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (9)(b), and for that purpose only, the amounts specified in sub-paragraph (6) is to be treated as though they were earnings.

(11) Income specified in Schedule 6 is to be disregarded in the calculation of the applicant's income.

(12) Schedule 9 (capital disregards: pensioners) has effect so that--

(a) the capital specified in Part 1 is disregarded for the purpose of determining an applicant's income; and

(b) the capital specified in Part 2 is disregarded for the purpose of determining an applicant's income under paragraph 71 (calculation of tariff income from capital: pensioners).

(13) In the case of any income taken into account for the purpose of calculating a person's income any amount payable by way of tax is disregarded.

Earnings of employed earners: pensioners

41

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), "earnings", in the case of employment as an employed earner who is a pensioner, means any remuneration or profit derived from that employment and includes--

(a) any bonus or commission;

(b) any payment in lieu of remuneration except any periodic sum paid to an applicant on account of the termination of his employment by reason of redundancy;

(c) any payment in lieu of notice;

(d) any holiday pay;

- (e) any payment by way of a retainer;
 - (f) any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of expenses not wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment, including any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of--
 - (i) travelling expenses incurred by the applicant between his home and place of employment;
 - (ii) expenses incurred by the applicant under arrangements made for the care of a member of his family owing to the applicant's absence from home;
 - (g) the amount of any payment by way of a non-cash voucher which has been taken into account in the computation of a person's earnings in accordance with Part 5 of Schedule 3 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001;
 - (h) statutory sick pay and statutory maternity pay payable by the employer under the SSCBA;
 - (i) statutory paternity pay payable under Part 12ZA of that Act;
 - (ia) statutory shared parental pay payable under Part 12ZC of the SSCBA;
 - (j) statutory adoption pay payable under Part 12ZB of that Act;
 - (ja) statutory shared parental pay under Part 12ZC of that Act;
 - (jb) statutory parental bereavement pay under Part 12ZD of that Act;
 - (l) statutory adoption pay payable under Part 12ZB of that Act;
 - (m) any sums payable under a contract of service—
 - (i) for incapacity for work due to sickness or injury; or
 - (ii) by reason of pregnancy or confinement.
- (2) Earnings does not include--
- (a) subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment in kind;
 - (b) any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment;
 - (c) any occupational pension;
 - (d) any lump sum payment made under the Iron and Steel Re-adaptation Benefits Scheme;
 - (e) any payment of compensation made pursuant to an award by an employment tribunal established under the Employment Tribunals Act 1996 in respect of unfair dismissal or unlawful discrimination;
 - (f) any payment in respect of expenses arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.
- (3) Sub-paragraph (2)(a) does not apply in respect of any non-cash voucher referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(g).

Calculation of net earnings of employed earners: pensioners

42

- (1) For the purposes of paragraph 57 (calculation of income on a weekly basis), the earnings of an applicant who is a pensioner derived or likely to be derived from employment as an employed earner to be taken into account must, subject to paragraph 40(5) and Schedule 5 (sums to be disregarded from earnings: pensioners), be his net earnings.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) net earnings must, except where sub-paragraph (5) applies, be calculated by taking into account the gross earnings of the applicant from that employment over the assessment period, less--

- (a) any amount deducted from those earnings by way of--
 - (i) income tax;
 - (ii) primary Class 1 contributions under the SSCBA;
 - (b) one-half of any sum paid by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational pension scheme;
 - (c) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (4) in respect of any qualifying contribution payable by the applicant; and
 - (d) where those earnings include a payment which is payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which corresponds to statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay, statutory parental bereavement pay; or statutory adoption pay, any amount deducted from those earnings by way of any contributions which are payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which correspond to primary Class 1 contributions under the SSCBA.
- (3) In this paragraph "qualifying contribution" means any sum which is payable periodically as a contribution towards a personal pension scheme.
- (4) The amount in respect of any qualifying contribution is to be calculated by multiplying the daily amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the assessment period; and for the purposes of this paragraph the daily amount of the qualifying contribution is to be determined--
- (a) where the qualifying contribution is payable monthly, by multiplying the amount of the qualifying contribution by 12 and dividing the product by 365;
 - (b) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which the qualifying contribution relates.
- (5) Where the earnings of an applicant are determined under paragraph 40(2)(b) (calculation of weekly income: pensioners) his net earnings is to be calculated by taking into account those earnings over the assessment period, less--
- (a) an amount in respect of income tax equivalent to an amount calculated by applying to those earnings the basic rate, or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate, of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007 as are appropriate to his circumstances but, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate, or the Scottish basic rate, of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal reliefs deductible under this sub-paragraph is to be calculated on a pro rata basis;
 - (b) an amount equivalent to the amount of the primary Class 1 contributions that would be payable by him under the SSCBA in respect of those earnings if such contributions were payable; and
 - (c) one-half of any sum which would be payable by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational or personal pension scheme, if the earnings so estimated were actual earnings.

Calculation of earnings of self-employed earners: pensioners

43

- (1) Where the earnings of an applicant who is a pensioner consist of earnings from employment as a self-employed earner, the weekly amount of his earnings is to be determined by reference to his average weekly earnings from that employment--
- (a) over a period of one year; or
 - (b) where the applicant has recently become engaged in that employment or there has been a

change which is likely to affect the normal pattern of business, over such other period ("computation period") as may, in the particular case, enable the weekly amount of his earnings to be determined more accurately.

- (2) For the purposes of determining the weekly amount of earnings of an applicant to whom sub-paragraph (1)(b) applies, his earnings over the computation period are to be divided by the number equal to the number of days in that period and the product multiplied by 7.
- (3) The period over which the weekly amount of an applicant's earnings is calculated in accordance with this paragraph is to be his assessment period.

Earnings of self-employers earners: pensioners

44

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), "earnings", in the case of employment as a self-employed earner who is a pensioner, means the gross income of the employment.
- (2) "Earnings" in the case of employment as a self-employed earner does not include--
 - (a) where an applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and he provides in that dwelling board and lodging accommodation for which payment is made, those payments;
 - (b) any payment made by a local authority to an applicant--
 - (i) with whom a person is accommodated by virtue of arrangements made under section 22C of the Children Act 1989 or, as the case may be, section 26 or 26A of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 or in Wales placed with the applicant or the applicant's partner by a local authority under section 81 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or
 - (ii) with whom a local authority fosters a child under the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 or who is a kinship carer under those Regulations;
 - (c) any payment made by a voluntary organisation in accordance with section 59(1)(a) of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation by voluntary organisations);
 - (d) any payment made to the applicant or his partner for a person ("the person concerned") who is not normally a member of the applicant's household but is temporarily in his care, by--
 - (i) a local authority but excluding payments of housing benefit made in respect of the person concerned;
 - (ii) a voluntary organisation;
 - (iii) the person concerned where the payment is for the provision of accommodation in respect of the meeting of that person's needs under section 18 or 19 of the Care Act 2014 (duty and power to meet needs for care and support);
 - (iv) NHS England or an integrated care board established under Chapter A3 of Part 2 of the National Health Service Act 2006;
 - (v) a Local Health Board established under section 11 of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006; or
 - (vi) the persons concerned where the payment is for the provision of accommodation to meet that person's needs for care and support under section 35 or 36 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (respectively, duty and power to meet care and support needs of an adult);
 - (da) any payment or part of a payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 26A of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (duty to provide continuing care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant where A—

- (i) was formerly in the applicant's care;
- (ii) is aged 16 or over; and
- (iii) continues to live with the applicant;
- (db) any payments made to an applicant under section 73(1)(b) of the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014 (kinship care assistance: further provisions);
- (e) any sports award.

Notional income: pensioners

45

- (1) An applicant who is a pensioner is to be treated as possessing--
 - (a) subject to sub-paragraph (2), the amount of any retirement pension income--
 - (i) for which no claim has been made; and
 - (ii) to which he might expect to be entitled if a claim for it were made;
 - (b) income from an occupational pension scheme which the applicant elected to defer.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1)(a) does not apply to the following where entitlement has been deferred--
 - (a) a Category A or Category B retirement pension payable under sections 43 to 55 of the SSCBA;
 - (b) a shared additional pension payable under section 55A or 55AA of the SSCBA;
 - (c) graduated retirement benefit payable under sections 36 and 37 of the National Insurance Act 1965;
 - (d) a state pension under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014.
- (3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2), entitlement has been deferred--
 - (a) in the case of a Category A or Category B pension, in the circumstances specified in section 55(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (b) in the case of a shared additional pension, in the circumstances specified in section 55C(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (c) in the case of graduated retirement benefit, in the circumstances specified in section 36(4) and (4A) of the National Insurance Act 1965;
 - (d) in the case of a state pension under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014, in the circumstances specified in section 17(7) and (8) of that Act.
- (4) This sub-paragraph applies where a person who has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit--
 - (a) is entitled to money purchase benefits under an occupational pension scheme or a personal pension scheme;
 - (b) fails to purchase an annuity with the funds available in that scheme; and
 - (c) either--

- (i) defers in whole or in part the payment of any income which would have been payable to him by his pension fund holder, or
 - (ii) fails to take any necessary action to secure that the whole of any income which would be payable to him by his pension fund holder upon his applying for it, is so paid, or
 - (iii) income withdrawal is not available to him under that scheme.
- (5) Where sub-paragraph (4) applies, the amount of any income foregone is to be treated as possessed by that person, but only from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired were an application for it to be made.
- (6) The amount of any income foregone in a case where sub-paragraph (4)(c)(i) or (ii) applies is to be the rate of the annuity which may have been purchased with the fund and must be determined by the authority, taking account of information provided by the pension fund holder.
- (7) The amount of any income foregone in a case where sub-paragraph (4)(c)(iii) applies is to be the income that the applicant could have received without purchasing an annuity had the funds held under the relevant scheme been held under a personal pension scheme or occupational pension scheme where income withdrawal was available and is to be determined in the manner specified in sub-paragraph (6).
- (8) In sub-paragraph (4), "money purchase benefits" has the same meaning as in the Pension Schemes Act 1993.
- (9) Subject to sub-paragraphs (10), (11A), (11B) and (12), a person is to be treated as possessing income of which he has deprived himself for the purpose of securing entitlement to a reduction under this scheme or increasing the amount of the reduction.
- (10) Sub-paragraph (9) does not apply in respect of the amount of an increase of pension or benefit where a person, having made an election in favour of that increase of pension or benefit under Schedule 5 or 5A to the SSCBA or under Schedule 1 to the Social Security (Graduated Retirement Benefit) Regulations 2005, changes that election in accordance with regulations made under Schedule 5 or 5A to that Act in favour of a lump sum.
- (11) In sub-paragraph (10), "lump sum" means a lump sum under Schedule 5 or 5A to the SSCBA or under Schedule 1 to the Social Security (Graduated Retirement Benefit) Regulations 2005.
- (11A) Sub-paragraph (9) does not apply in respect of the amount of an increase of pension where a person, having made a choice in favour of that increase of pension under section 8(2) of the Pensions Act 2014, alters that choice in accordance with Regulations made under section 8(7) of that Act in favour of a lump sum.
- (11B) Sub-paragraph (9) does not apply in respect of the amount of an increase of pension where a person, having made a choice in favour of that increase of pension in accordance with Regulations made under section 10 of the Pensions Act 2014, which include provision corresponding or similar to section 8(2) of that Act, alters that choice in favour of a lump sum, in accordance with Regulations made under section 10 of that Act, which include provision corresponding or similar to Regulations made under section 8(7) of that Act.
- (11C) In sub-paragraph (11A), "lump sum" means a lump sum under section 8 of the Pensions Act 2014.
- (11D) In sub-paragraph (11B), "lump sum" means a lump sum under Regulations made under section 10 of the Pensions Act 2014 which include provision corresponding or similar to section 8 of that Act.
- (12) Sub-paragraph (9) does not apply in respect of any amount of income other than earnings, or earnings of an employed earner, arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.
- (13) Where an applicant is in receipt of any benefit under the benefit Acts and the rate of that benefit is altered with effect from a date on or after 1st April in any year but not more than 14 days thereafter, the authority must treat the applicant as possessing such benefit at the altered rate from either 1st April or the first Monday in April in that year, whichever date the authority selects to apply, to the date on which the altered rate is to take effect.
- (14) In the case of an applicant who has, or whose partner has, an award of state pension credit

comprising only the savings credit, where the authority treats the applicant as possessing any benefit at the altered rate in accordance with sub-paragraph (13), the authority must--

- (a) determine the income and capital of that applicant in accordance with paragraph 36(1) (calculation of applicant's income in savings credit only cases: pensioners) where the calculation or estimate of that income and capital is altered with effect from a date on or after 1st April in any year but not more than 14 days thereafter; and
- (b) treat that applicant as possessing such income and capital at the altered rate by reference to the date selected by the relevant authority to apply in its area, for the purposes of establishing the period referred to in sub-paragraph (13).

(15) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (9), a person is not to be regarded as depriving himself of income where--

- (a) his rights to benefits under a registered pension scheme are extinguished and in consequence of this he receives a payment from the scheme, and
- (b) that payment is a trivial commutation lump sum within the meaning given by paragraph 7 of Schedule 29 to the Finance Act 2004.

(16) In sub-paragraph (15), "registered pension scheme" has the meaning given in section 150(2) of the Finance Act 2004.

Income paid to third parties: pensioners

46

(1) Any payment of income, other than a payment specified in sub-paragraph (2) or (3), to a third party in respect of an applicant who is a pensioner is to be treated as possessed by the applicant.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply in respect of a payment of income made under an occupational pension scheme, in respect of a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where--

- (a) a bankruptcy order has been made in respect of the person in respect of whom the payment has been made or, in Scotland, the estate of that person is subject to sequestration or a judicial factor has been appointed on that person's estate under section 41 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980;
- (b) the payment is made to the trustee in bankruptcy or any other person acting on behalf of the creditors; and
- (c) the person referred to in paragraph (a) and his partner does not possess, or is not treated as possessing, any other income apart from that payment.

(3) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply in respect of any payment of income other than earnings, or earnings derived from employment as an employed earner, arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.

Chapter 5

Income: Persons Who are Not Pensioners

Average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

47

(1) Where the income of an applicant who is not a pensioner consists of earnings from employment as an employed earner his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to his earnings from that employment--

(a) over a period immediately preceding the reduction week in which the application is made or treated as made and being a period of--

- (i) 5 weeks, if he is paid weekly; or
- (ii) 2 months, if he is paid monthly; or

(b) whether or not paragraph (a)(i) or (ii) applies, where an applicant's earnings fluctuate, over such other period preceding the reduction week in which the application is made or treated as made as may, in any particular case, enable his average weekly earnings to be estimated more accurately.

(2) Where the applicant has been in his employment for less than the period specified in sub-paragraph (1)(a)(i) or (ii)--

- (a) if he has received any earnings for the period that he has been in that employment and those earnings are likely to represent his average weekly earnings from that employment his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to those earnings;
- (b) in any other case, the authority must estimate the applicant's average weekly earnings.

(3) Where the amount of an applicant's earnings changes the authority must estimate his average weekly earnings by reference to his likely earnings from the employment over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly earnings may be estimated accurately but the length of the period must not in any case exceed 52 weeks.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph the applicant's earnings are to be calculated in accordance with paragraphs 51 and 52 (earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners).

Average weekly earnings of self-employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

48

(1) Where the income of an applicant who is not a pensioner consists of earnings from employment as a self-employed earner his average weekly earnings must be estimated by reference to his earnings from that employment over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly earnings may be estimated accurately but the length of the period must not in any case exceed a year.

(2) For the purposes of this paragraph the applicant's earnings must be calculated in accordance with paragraphs 53, 61 and 62 (earnings, and net profit, of self-employed earners).

Average weekly income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners

49

(1) The income of an applicant who is not a pensioner which does not consist of earnings must, except where sub-paragraph (2) applies, be estimated over such period as is appropriate in order that his average weekly income may be estimated accurately but the length of the period must not in any case exceed 52 weeks; and nothing in this paragraph authorises an authority to disregard any such income other than that specified in Schedule 8 (sums disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners).

(2) The period over which any benefit under the benefit Acts is to be taken into account is to be the period in respect of which that benefit is payable.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph income other than earnings is to be calculated in accordance with paragraph 54 (calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners).

Calculation of weekly income of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

50

- (1) For the purposes of paragraphs 47 (average weekly earnings of employed earners), 49 (average weekly income other than earnings) and 59 (calculation of average weekly income from tax credits), where the period in respect of which a payment is made--
 - (a) does not exceed a week, the weekly amount is to be the amount of that payment;
 - (b) exceeds a week, the weekly amount is to be determined--
 - (i) in a case where that period is a month, by multiplying the amount of the payment by 12 and dividing the product by 52;
 - (ii) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the payment by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which it relates and multiplying the product by 7.
- (2) For the purposes of paragraph 48 (average weekly earnings of self-employed earners) the weekly amount of earnings of an applicant is to be determined by dividing his earnings over the assessment period by the number equal to the number of days in that period and multiplying the product by 7.

Earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

51

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), "earnings", in the case of employment as an employed earner of a person who is not a pensioner, means any remuneration or profit derived from that employment and includes--
 - (a) any bonus or commission;
 - (b) any payment in lieu of remuneration except any periodic sum paid to an applicant on account of the termination of his employment by reason of redundancy;
 - (c) any payment in lieu of notice or any lump sum payment intended as compensation for the loss of employment but only in so far as it represents loss of income;
 - (d) any holiday pay except any payable more than 4 weeks after termination or interruption of the employment;
 - (e) any payment by way of a retainer;
 - (f) any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of expenses not wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment, including any payment made by the applicant's employer in respect of--
 - (i) travelling expenses incurred by the applicant between his home and place of employment;
 - (ii) expenses incurred by the applicant under arrangements made for the care of a member of his family owing to the applicant's absence from home;
 - (g) any award of compensation made under section 112(4) or 117(3)(a) of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (remedies and compensation for unfair dismissal);
 - (h) any payment or remuneration made under section 28, 34, 64, 68 or 70 of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (right to guarantee payments, remuneration on suspension on medical or maternity grounds, complaints to employment tribunals);
 - (i) any such sum as is referred to in section 112 of the SSCBA (certain sums to be earnings for social security purposes);
 - (j) any statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay, statutory parental bereavement pay under Part 12ZD of the SSCBA or statutory adoption pay, or a corresponding payment under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland;
 - (k) any remuneration paid by or on behalf of an employer to the applicant who for the time being is on maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave or adoption leave or is absent from

work because he is ill;

(l) the amount of any payment by way of a non-cash voucher which has been taken into account in the computation of a person's earnings in accordance with Part 5 of Schedule 3 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001.

(2) Earnings does not include--

- (a) subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment in kind;
- (b) any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment;
- (c) any occupational pension;
- (d) any payment in respect of expenses arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.

(3) Sub-paragraph (2)(a) does not apply in respect of any non-cash voucher referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(l).

Calculation of net earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

52

(1) For the purposes of paragraph 47 (average weekly earnings of employed earners: persons who are not pensioners), the earnings of an applicant who is not a pensioner derived or likely to be derived from employment as an employed earner to be taken into account must, subject to sub-paragraph (2), be his net earnings.

(2) There is to be disregarded from an applicant's net earnings, any sum, where applicable, specified in paragraphs 1 to 16 of Schedule 7 (sums disregarded in the calculation of earnings: persons who are not pensioners).

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) net earnings must, except where sub-paragraph (6) applies, be calculated by taking into account the gross earnings of the applicant from that employment over the assessment period, less--

- (a) any amount deducted from those earnings by way of--
 - (i) income tax;
 - (ii) primary Class 1 contributions under the SSCBA;
- (b) one-half of any sum paid by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational pension scheme;
- (c) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (5) in respect of any qualifying contribution payable by the applicant; and
- (d) where those earnings include a payment which is payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which corresponds to statutory sick pay, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay, or statutory adoption pay, any amount deducted from those earnings by way of any contributions which are payable under any enactment having effect in Northern Ireland and which correspond to primary Class 1 contributions under the SSCBA.

(4) In this paragraph "qualifying contribution" means any sum which is payable periodically as a contribution towards a personal pension scheme.

(5) The amount in respect of any qualifying contribution is to be calculated by multiplying the daily amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the assessment

period; and for the purposes of this paragraph the daily amount of the qualifying contribution is to be determined--

- (a) where the qualifying contribution is payable monthly, by multiplying the amount of the qualifying contribution by 12 and dividing the product by 365;
- (b) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the qualifying contribution by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which the qualifying contribution relates.

(6) Where the earnings of an applicant are estimated under paragraph 47(2)(b) (average weekly earnings of employed earners: classes D to F), his net earnings is to be calculated by taking into account those earnings over the assessment period, less--

- (a) an amount in respect of income tax equivalent to an amount calculated by applying to those earnings the basic rate, or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007 as are appropriate to his circumstances but, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rates or the Scottish base rate, of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal reliefs deductible under this sub-paragraph is to be calculated on a pro rata basis;
- (b) an amount equivalent to the amount of the primary Class 1 contributions that would be payable by him under the SSCBA in respect of those earnings if such contributions were payable; and
- (c) one-half of any sum which would be payable by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational or personal pension scheme, if the earnings so estimated were actual earnings.

Earnings of self-employed earners: persons who are not pensioners

53

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), "earnings", in the case of employment as a self-employed earner of a person who is not a pensioner, means the gross income of the employment.

(2) "Earnings" does not include any payment to which paragraph 31 or 32 of Schedule 8 refers (payments in respect of a person accommodated with the applicant under arrangements made by a local authority or voluntary organisation and payments made to the applicant by a health authority, local authority or voluntary organisation in respect of persons temporarily in the applicant's care) nor does it include any sports award.

(3) This paragraph applies to--

- (a) royalties or other sums paid as a consideration for the use of, or the right to use, any copy-right, design, patent or trade mark; or
- (b) any payment in respect of any--
 - (i) book registered under the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982; or
 - (ii) work made under any international public lending right scheme that is analogous to the Public Lending Right Scheme 1982,

where the applicant is the first owner of the copyright, design, patent or trade mark, or an original contributor to the book or work concerned.

(4) Where the applicant's earnings consist of any items to which sub-paragraph (3) applies, those earnings must be taken into account over a period equal to such number of weeks as is equal to the number obtained (and any fraction is to be treated as a corresponding fraction of a week) by dividing the earnings by--

- (a) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant would have been entitled had the payment not been made, plus
- (b) an amount equal to the total of the sums which would fall to be disregarded from the payment

under Schedule 7 (sums disregarded in the calculation of earnings: persons who are not pensioners) as appropriate in the applicant's case.

Calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners

54

(1) For the purposes of paragraph 49 (average weekly income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners), the income of an applicant who is not a pensioner which does not consist of earnings to be taken into account must, subject to sub-paragraphs (2) to (8), be his gross income and any capital treated as income under paragraph 55 (capital treated as income: persons who are not pensioners).

(2) There is to be disregarded from the calculation of an applicant's gross income under sub-paragraph (1), any sum, where applicable, specified in Schedule 8.

(3) Where the payment of any benefit under the benefit Acts is subject to any deduction by way of recovery the amount to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1) must be the gross amount payable.

(4) Where the applicant or, where he is a member of a couple, his partner is receiving a contributory employment and support allowance and that benefit has been reduced under regulation 63 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008, the amount of that benefit to be taken into account is the amount as if it had not been reduced.

(5) Where an award of any working tax credit or child tax credit under the Tax Credits Act 2002 is subject to a deduction by way of recovery of an overpayment of working tax credit or child tax credit which arose in a previous tax year the amount to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1) is to be the amount of working tax credit or child tax credit awarded less the amount of that deduction.

(6) Sub-paragraphs (7) and (8) apply where--

- (a) a relevant payment has been made to a person in an academic year; and
- (b) that person abandons, or is dismissed from, his course of study before the payment to him of the final instalment of the relevant payment.

(7) Where a relevant payment is made quarterly, the amount of a relevant payment to be taken into account for the assessment period for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) in respect of a person to whom sub-paragraph (7) applies, is to be calculated by applying the formula--

$$(A - (B \times C)) / D$$

Where

- (a) A = the total amount of the relevant payment which that person would have received had he remained a student until the last day of the academic term in which he abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course, less any deduction under paragraph 81(5) (costs of travel, books and equipment);
- (b) B = the number of reduction weeks from the reduction week immediately following that which includes the first day of that academic year to the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course;
- (c) C = the weekly amount of the relevant payment, before the application of the £10 disregard, which would have been taken into account as income under paragraph 81(2) (treatment of student loans) had the person not abandoned or been dismissed from, his course and, in the case of a person who was not entitled to a reduction under this scheme immediately before he abandoned or was dismissed from his course, had that person, at that time, been entitled to housing benefit;
- (d) D = the number of reduction weeks in the assessment period.

(8) Where a relevant payment is made by two or more instalments in a quarter, the amount of a

relevant payment to be taken into account for the assessment period for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) in respect of a person to whom sub-paragraph (7) applies, is to be calculated by applying the formula in sub-paragraph (8) but as if--

A = the total amount of relevant payments which that person received, or would have received, from the first day of the academic year to the day the person abandoned the course, or was dismissed from it, less any deduction under paragraph 81(5).

(9) In this paragraph--

"academic year" and "student loan" have the same meanings as in Part 11 (students);

"assessment period" means--

(a) in a case where a relevant payment is made quarterly, the period beginning with the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course and ending with the reduction week which includes the last day of the last quarter for which an instalment of the relevant payment was payable to that person; 72

(b) in a case where the relevant payment is made by two or more instalments in a quarter, the period beginning with the reduction week which includes the day on which the person abandoned, or was dismissed from, his course and ending with the reduction week which includes--

(i) the day immediately before the day on which the next instalment of the relevant payment would have been due had the payments continued; or

(ii) the last day of the last quarter for which an instalment of the relevant payment was payable to that person, whichever of those dates is earlier;

"quarter" in relation to an assessment period means a period in that year beginning on--

- (c) 1st January and ending on 31st March;
- (d) 1st April and ending on 30th June;
- (e) 1st July and ending on 31st August; or
- (f) 1st September and ending on 31st December;

"relevant payment" means either a student loan or an amount intended for the maintenance of dependants referred to in paragraph 76(7) or both.

(10) For the avoidance of doubt there must be included as income to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1)--

(a) any payment to which paragraph 41(2) or 51(2) (payments not earnings) applies; or

(b) in the case of an applicant who is receiving support under section 95 or 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 including support provided by virtue of regulations made under Schedule 9 to that Act, the amount of such support provided in respect of essential living needs of the applicant and his dependants (if any) as is specified in regulations made under paragraph 3 of Schedule 8 to the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

Capital treated as income: persons who are not pensioners

55

(1) Any capital payable by instalments which are outstanding at the date on which the application is made or treated as made, or, at the date of any subsequent revision or supersession, must, if the aggregate of the instalments outstanding and the amount of the applicant's capital otherwise calculated in accordance with Chapter 7 of this Part exceeds £10,000, be treated as income.

(2) Any payment received under an annuity is to be treated as income.

(3) Any earnings to the extent that they are not a payment of income is to be treated as income.

(4) Any Career Development Loan paid pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 is to be treated as income.

(5) Where an agreement or court order provides that payments must be made to the applicant in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant and that such payments are to be made, wholly or partly, by way of periodic payments, any such periodic payments received by the applicant (but not a payment which is treated as capital by virtue of this Part), is to be treated as income.

Notional income: persons who are not pensioners

56

(1) An applicant who is not a pensioner is to be treated as possessing income of which he has deprived himself for the purpose of securing entitlement to a reduction under a council tax reduction scheme or increasing the amount of the reduction.

(2) Except in the case of--

- (a) a discretionary trust;
- (b) a trust derived from a payment made in consequence of a personal injury;
- (c) a personal pension scheme, occupational pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where the applicant has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit;
- (d) any sum to which paragraph 50(2)(a) of Schedule 10 (capital disregards: persons who are not pensioners) applies which is administered in the way referred to in paragraph 50(1)(a);
- (e) any sum to which paragraph 51(a) of Schedule 10 refers;
- (f) rehabilitation allowance made under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973;
- (g) child tax credit;
- (h) working tax credit, or
- (i) any sum to which sub-paragraph (11) applies,

any income which would become available to the applicant upon application being made, but which has not been acquired by him, is to be treated as possessed by the applicant but only from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired were an application made.

(3) Any payment of income, other than a payment of income specified in sub-paragraph (4), made--

- (a) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where that payment is a payment of an occupational pension, a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund, be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, by that member;
- (b) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or in respect of a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where it is not a payment referred to in paragraph (a), be treated as possessed by that single applicant or by that member to the extent that it is used for the food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of that single applicant or, as the case may be, of any member of that family or is used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable;
- (c) to a single applicant or a member of the family in respect of a third party (but not in respect of another member of that family) must be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, that member of the family to the extent that it is kept or used by him or used by or on behalf of any member of the family.

(4) Sub-paragraph (3) does not apply in respect of a payment of income made--

- (a) under or by the Macfarlane Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the

Caxton Foundation or the Independent Living Fund (2006);

- (b) pursuant to section 19(1)(a) of the Coal Industry Act 1994 (concessionary coal);
- (c) pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 in respect of a person's participation--
 - (i) in an employment programme specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(ii) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;
 - (ii) in a training scheme specified in regulation 75(1)(b)(ii) of those Regulations;
 - (iii) in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations;
 - (iv) in a qualifying course within the meaning specified in regulation 17A(7) of those Regulations; or
 - (v) in the Flexible New Deal specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(v) of those Regulations;
- (d) in respect of a person's participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme;
- (e) in respect of a person's participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme;
- (f) in respect of an applicant's participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme;
- (g) under an occupational pension scheme, in respect of a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where--
 - (i) a bankruptcy order has been made in respect of the person in respect of whom the payment has been made or, in Scotland, the estate of that person is subject to sequestration or a judicial factor has been appointed on that person's estate under section 41 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980;
 - (ii) the payment is made to the trustee in bankruptcy or any other person acting on behalf of the creditors; and
 - (iii) the person referred to in sub-paragraph (i) and any member of his family does not possess, or is not treated as possessing, any other income apart from that payment.

(5) Where an applicant is in receipt of any benefit under the benefit Acts and the rate of that benefit is altered with effect from a date on or after 1st April in any year but not more than 14 days thereafter, the authority must treat the applicant as possessing such benefit at the altered rate from either 1st April or the first Monday in April in that year, whichever date the authority selects, to the date on which the altered rate is to take effect.

(6) Subject to sub-paragraph (7), where--

- (a) an applicant performs a service for another person; and
- (b) that person makes no payment of earnings or pays less than that paid for a comparable employment in the area,

the authority must treat the applicant as possessing such earnings (if any) as is reasonable for that employment unless the applicant satisfies the authority that the means of that person are insufficient for him to pay or to pay more for the service.

(7) Sub-paragraph (6) does not apply--

- (a) to an applicant who is engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation or who is a volunteer if the authority is satisfied in any of those cases that it is reasonable for him to provide those services free of charge; or
- (b) in a case where the service is performed in connection with--
 - (i) the applicant's participation in an employment or training programme in accordance with regulation 19(1)(q) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996, other than where the service

is performed in connection with the applicant's participation in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations; or

(ii) the applicant's or the applicant's partner's participation in an employment or training programme as defined in regulation 19(3) of those Regulations for which a training allowance is not payable or, where such an allowance is payable, it is payable for the sole purpose of reimbursement of travelling or meal expenses to the person participating in that programme; or

(c) to an applicant who is participating in a work placement approved by the Secretary of State (or a person providing services to the Secretary of State) before the placement starts.

(8) In sub-paragraph (7)(c) "work placement" means practical work experience which is not undertaken in expectation of payment.

(9) Where an applicant is treated as possessing any income under any of sub-paragraphs (1) to (8), the foregoing provisions of this Part apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of that income as if a payment had actually been made and as if it were actual income which he does possess.

(10) Where an applicant is treated as possessing any earnings under sub-paragraph (6) the foregoing provisions of this Part apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of those earnings as if a payment had actually been made and as if they were actual earnings which he does possess except that paragraph 42(2) or 52(3) (calculation of net earnings of employed earners: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners, respectively) do not apply and his net earnings are to be calculated by taking into account those earnings which he is treated as possessing, less--

(a) an amount in respect of income tax equivalent to an amount calculated by applying to those earnings the basic rate of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007 as are appropriate to his circumstances; but, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal relief deductible under this sub-paragraph is to be calculated on a pro rata basis;

(b) an amount equivalent to the amount of the primary Class 1 contributions that would be payable by him under the SSCBA in respect of those earnings if such contributions were payable; and

(c) one-half of any sum payable by the applicant by way of a contribution towards an occupational or personal pension scheme.

(11) Sub-paragraphs (1), (2), (3) and (6) do not apply in respect of any amount of income other than earnings, or earnings of an employed earner, arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.

Chapter 6

Income: Further Provisions Applying to Pensioners and Persons Who are Not Pensioners

Calculation of income on a weekly basis

57

(1) Subject to paragraph 60 (disregard of changes in tax, etc), the income of an applicant is to be calculated on a weekly basis--

(a) by estimating the amount which is likely to be his average weekly income in accordance with this Part;

(b) by adding to that amount the weekly income calculated--

(i) if the applicant is a pensioner, under paragraph 71 (tariff income: pensioners);

(ii) if the applicant is a person who is not a pensioner, under paragraph 72 (tariff income: persons who are not pensioners); and

(c) deducting from the sum of paragraphs (a) and (b) any relevant child care charges to which paragraph 58 (treatment of child care charges) applies from any earnings which form part of the average weekly income or, in a case where the conditions in sub-paragraph (2) are met, from those earnings plus whichever credit specified in paragraph (b) of that sub-paragraph is appropriate, up to a maximum deduction in respect of the applicant's family of whichever of the sums specified in sub-paragraph (3) applies in his case.

(2) The conditions of this paragraph are that--

(a) the applicant's earnings which form part of his average weekly income are less than the lower of either his relevant child care charges or whichever of the deductions specified in sub-paragraph (3) otherwise applies in his case; and

(b) that applicant or, if he is a member of a couple either the applicant or his partner, is in receipt of either working tax credit or child tax credit.

(3) The maximum deduction to which sub-paragraph (1)(c) above refers is to be--

(a) where the applicant's family includes only one child in respect of whom relevant child care charges are paid, £175.00 per week;

(b) where the applicant's family includes more than one child in respect of whom relevant child care charges are paid, £300 per week.

Treatment of child care charges: pensioners

58

(1) This paragraph applies where an applicant (within the meaning in this paragraph) is incurring relevant child care charges and--

(a) is a lone parent and is engaged in remunerative work;

(b) is a member of a couple both of whom are engaged in remunerative work; or

(c) is a member of a couple where one member is engaged in remunerative work and the other--

(i) is incapacitated;

(ii) is an in-patient in hospital; or

(iii) is in prison (whether serving a custodial sentence or remanded in custody awaiting trial or sentence).

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) and subject to sub-paragraph (4), a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies must be treated as engaged in remunerative work for a period not exceeding 28 weeks during which he--

(a) is paid statutory sick pay;

(b) is paid short-term incapacity benefit at the lower rate under sections 30A to 30E of the SSCBA;

(c) is paid an employment and support allowance;

(d) is paid income support on the grounds of incapacity for work under regulation 4ZA of, and paragraph 7 or 14 of Schedule 1B to, the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987; or

(e) is credited with earnings on the grounds of incapacity for work or limited capability for work under regulation 8B of the Social Security (Credits) Regulations 1975.

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who was engaged in remunerative work immediately before--

- (a) the first day of the period in respect of which he was first paid statutory sick pay, short-term incapacity benefit, an employment and support allowance or income support on the grounds of incapacity for work; or
- (b) the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited,

as the case may be.

(4) In a case to which sub-paragraph (2)(d) or (e) applies, the period of 28 weeks begins on the day on which the person is first paid income support or on the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited, as the case may be.

(5) Relevant child care charges are those charges for care to which sub-paragraphs (6) and (7) apply, and are to be calculated on a weekly basis in accordance with sub-paragraph (9).

(6) The charges are paid by the applicant for care which is provided--

- (a) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is not disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that child's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that child's fifteenth birthday; or
- (b) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that person's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday.

(7) The charges are paid for care which is provided by one or more of the care providers listed in sub-paragraph (8) and are not paid--

- (a) in respect of the child's compulsory education;
- (b) by an applicant to a partner or by a partner to an applicant in respect of any child for whom either or any of them is responsible in accordance with paragraph 7 (circumstances in which a person is treated as responsible or not responsible for another); or
- (c) in respect of care provided by a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home.

(8) The care to which sub-paragraph (7) refers may be provided--

- (a) out of school hours, by a school on school premises or by a local authority--
 - (i) for children who are not disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their fifteenth birthday; or
 - (ii) for children who are disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their sixteenth birthday; or
- (b) by a child care provider approved in accordance with the Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999; or
- (c) by persons registered under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010; or
- (d) by a person who is excepted from registration under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 because the child care that person provides is in a school or establishment referred to in article 11, 12 or 14 of the Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) Order 2010; or
- (e) by--
 - (i) persons registered under section 59(1) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010; or
 - (ii) local authorities registered under section 83(1) of that Act,

where the care provided is child minding or day care of children within the meaning of that Act; or

(f) by a person prescribed in regulations made pursuant to section 12(4) of the Tax Credits Act 2002; or

(g) by a person who is registered under Chapter 2 or 3 of Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006; or

(h) by any of the schools mentioned in section 34(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 2 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 34(2) of that Act; or

(i) by any of the schools mentioned in section 53(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 3 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 53(2) of that Act; or

(j) by any of the establishments mentioned in section 18(5) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the care is not included in the meaning of "childcare" for the purposes of Part 1 and Part 3 of that Act by virtue of that subsection; or

(k) by a foster parent or kinship carer under the Fostering Services Regulations 2011 or the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 in relation to a child other than one whom the foster parent is fostering or kinship carer is looking after; or

(ka) by a foster parent under the Fostering Panels (Establishment and Functions) (Wales) Regulations 2018 or a person with whom a child is placed under regulation 26 of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015 (temporary approval of a relative, friend or other person connected with the child) or regulation 28 of those Regulations (temporary approval of a particular prospective adopter) in relation to a child other than one whom the foster parent is fostering or the person is looking after; or

(l) by a provider of personal care within the meaning of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 and being a regulated activity prescribed by those Regulations or by a person who is employed, or engaged under a contract for services, to provide care and support by the provider of a domiciliary support service within the meaning of Part 1 of the Regulations and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016; or

(m) by a person who is not a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home.

(9) Relevant child care charges must be estimated over such period, not exceeding a year, as is appropriate in order that the average weekly charge may be estimated accurately having regard to information as to the amount of that charge provided by the child minder or person providing the care.

(10) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(c) the other member of a couple is incapacitated where--

(a) he is aged not less than 80;

(b) he is aged less than 80, and--

(i) an additional condition specified in paragraph 10 of Schedule 3 (additional condition for the disability premium) to this scheme is treated as applying in his case; and

(ii) he satisfies that conditions or would satisfy it but for his being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;

(c) the other member of the couple would be a member of the support group or a member of the work-related activity group but for that other member being treated as not having limited capability for work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 or the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013;

(d) he is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this

purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(e) he is, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 [or the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013] for a continuous period of not less than 196 days and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(f) there is payable in respect of him one or more of the following pensions or allowances--

(i) long-term incapacity benefit or short-term incapacity benefit at the higher rate under Schedule 4 to the SSCBA;

(ii) attendance allowance under section 64 of the SSCBA;

(iia) pension age disability payment;

(iii) severe disablement allowance under section 68 of the SSCBA;

(iv) disability living allowance under section 71 of the SSCBA;

(v) personal independence payment;

(vi) an AFIP;

(vii) increase of disablement pension under section 104 of the SSCBA;

(viii) a pension increase paid as part of a war disablement pension or under an industrial injuries scheme which is analogous to an allowance or increase of disablement pension under sub-paragraph (ii), (iv), (v) or (vii) above;

(ix) main phase employment and support allowance;

(x) adult disability payment;

(g) a pension or allowance or payment to which sub-paragraph (v), (vii) or (viii) of paragraph (f) above refers was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in consequence of his becoming a patient, which in this paragraph means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005;

(ga) a pension age disability payment was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in accordance with regulation 20 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024;

(gb) an adult disability payment was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in accordance with regulation 28 of the DAWAP Regulations;

(h) an attendance allowance under section 64 of the SSCBA or disability living allowance would be payable to that person but for--

(i) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or

(ii) an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation;

(i) the daily living component of personal independence payment would be payable to that person but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients);

(j) an AFIP would be payable to that person but for any suspension of payment in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allow for a suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution;

(k) paragraph (f), (g), (h) or (i) would apply to him if the legislative provisions referred to in those

paragraphs were provisions under any corresponding enactment having effect in Northern Ireland;
or

(l) he has an invalid carriage or other vehicle provided to him by the Secretary of State or an integrated care board under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the National Health Service Act 2006 or under section 46 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 or provided by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland under Article 30(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.

(11) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (10), once sub-paragraph (10)(d) applies to the person, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work, that sub-paragraph is, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter to apply to him for so long as he remains incapable, or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.

(12) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (10), once sub-paragraph (10)(e) applies to the person, if he then ceases, for a period of 84 days or less, to have, or to be treated as having, limited capability for work, that paragraph is, on his again having, or being treated as having, limited capability for work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter to apply to him for so long as he has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work.

(13) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (6) and (8)(a), a person is disabled if he is a person--

- (a) to whom an attendance allowance or the care component of disability allowance is payable or would be payable but for--
 - (i) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA;
or
 - (ii) an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation;

(aa) in respect of whom child disability payment is payable;

(b) to whom the daily living component of personal independence payment is payable or has ceased to be payable by virtue of a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients);

(ba) in respect of whom adult disability payment is payable, or has ceased to be payable solely by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations;

(c) who is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept under section 77(1) of the Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults), in Scotland has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered as blind in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 or is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or

(d) who ceased to be registered as blind or severely sight-impaired in such a register within the period beginning 28 weeks before the first Monday in September following that person's fifteenth birthday and ending on the day preceding that person's sixteenth birthday.

(14) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) a person on maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave, parental bereavement leave or adoption leave is to be treated as if he is engaged in remunerative work for the period specified in sub-paragraph (15) ("the relevant period") provided that—

- (a) in the week before the period of maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave, parental bereavement leave or adoption leave began he was in remunerative work;
- (b) the applicant is incurring relevant child care charges within the meaning of sub-paragraph (5);
and
- (c) he is entitled to either statutory maternity pay under section 164 of the SSCBA, statutory

paternity pay by virtue of section 171ZA or 171ZB of that Act, statutory adoption pay by virtue of section 171ZL of that Act, maternity allowance under section 35 of that Act, statutory shared parental pay by virtue of section 171ZU or 171ZV of that Act, statutory parental bereavement pay by virtue of section 171ZZ6 of that Act or qualifying support.

(15) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (14) the relevant period begins on the day on which the person's maternity, paternity leave, shared parental leave, parental bereavement leave or adoption leave commences and ends on—

- (a) the date that leave ends;
- (b) if no child care element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance, qualifying support, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay or statutory shared parental pay, statutory parental bereavement pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement ends; or
- (c) if a child care element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance or qualifying support, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay, statutory parental bereavement pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement to that award of the child care element of the working tax credit ends,

whichever shall occur first.

(16) In sub-paragraphs (14) and (15)--

- (a) "qualifying support" means income support to which that person is entitled by virtue of paragraph 14B of Schedule 1B to the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987; and
- (b) "child care element" of working tax credit means the element of working tax credit prescribed under section 12 of the Tax Credits Act 2002 (child care element).

(17) In sub-paragraphs (6), (8)(a) and (13)(d), "the first Monday in September" means the Monday which first occurs in the month of September in any year.

Treatment of child care charges: persons who are not pensioners

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(1) This paragraph applies where an applicant (within the meaning in this paragraph) is incurring relevant child care charges and--

- (a) is a lone parent and is engaged in remunerative work;
- (b) is a member of a couple both of whom are engaged in remunerative work; or
- (c) is a member of a couple where one member is engaged in remunerative work and the other--
 - (i) is incapacitated;
 - (ii) is an in-patient in hospital; or
 - (iii) is in prison (whether serving a custodial sentence or remanded in custody awaiting trial or sentence).

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) and subject to sub-paragraph (4), a person to whom sub-paragraph (3) applies must be treated as engaged in remunerative work for a period not exceeding 28 weeks during which he--

- (a) is paid statutory sick pay;
- (b) is paid short-term incapacity benefit at the lower rate under sections 30A to 30E of the SSCBA;

- (c) is paid an employment and support allowance;
- (d) is paid income support on the grounds of incapacity for work under regulation 4ZA of, and paragraph 7 or 14 of Schedule 1B to, the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987; or
- (e) is credited with earnings on the grounds of incapacity for work or limited capability for work under regulation 8B of the Social Security (Credits) Regulations 1975.

(3) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who was engaged in remunerative work immediately before--

- (a) the first day of the period in respect of which he was first paid statutory sick pay, short-term incapacity benefit, an employment and support allowance or income support on the grounds of incapacity for work; or
- (b) the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited,

as the case may be.

(4) In a case to which sub-paragraph (2)(d) or (e) applies, the period of 28 weeks begins on the day on which the person is first paid income support or on the first day of the period in respect of which earnings are credited, as the case may be.

(5) Relevant child care charges are those charges for care to which sub-paragraphs (6) and (7) apply, and are to be calculated on a weekly basis in accordance with sub-paragraph (10).

(6) The charges are paid by the applicant for care which is provided--

- (a) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is not disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that child's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that child's fifteenth birthday; or
- (b) in the case of any child of the applicant's family who is disabled, in respect of the period beginning on that person's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday.

(7) The charges are paid for care which is provided by one or more of the care providers listed in sub-paragraph (8) and are not paid--

- (a) in respect of the child's compulsory education;
- (b) by an applicant to a partner or by a partner to an applicant in respect of any child for whom either or any of them is responsible in accordance with paragraph 7 (circumstances in which a person is treated as responsible or not responsible for another); or
- (c) in respect of care provided by a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home.

(8) The care to which sub-paragraph (7) refers may be provided--

- (a) out of school hours, by a school on school premises or by a local authority--
 - (i) for children who are not disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their fifteenth birthday; or
 - (ii) for children who are disabled in respect of the period beginning on their eighth birthday and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following their sixteenth birthday; or
- (b) by a child care provider approved in accordance with the Tax Credit (New Category of Child Care Provider) Regulations 1999; or
- (c) by persons registered under Part 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010; or
- (d) by a person who is excepted from registration under Part 2 of the Children and Families

(Wales) Measure 2010 because the child care that person provides is in a school or establishment referred to in article 11, 12 or 14 of the Child Minding and Day Care Exceptions (Wales) Order 2010; or

(e) by--

(i) persons registered under section 59(1) of the Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010; or

(ii) local authorities registered under section 83(1) of that Act, where the care provided is child minding or day care of children within the meaning of that Act; or

(f) by a person prescribed in regulations made pursuant to section 12(4) of the Tax Credits Act 2002; or

(g) by a person who is registered under Chapter 2 or 3 of Part 3 of the Childcare Act 2006; or

(h) by any of the schools mentioned in section 34(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 2 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 34(2) of that Act; or

(i) by any of the schools mentioned in section 53(2) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the requirement to register under Chapter 3 of Part 3 of that Act does not apply by virtue of section 53(2) of that Act; or

(j) by any of the establishments mentioned in section 18(5) of the Childcare Act 2006 in circumstances where the care is not included in the meaning of "childcare" for the purposes of Part 1 and Part 3 of that Act by virtue of that subsection; or

(k) by a foster parent or kinship carer under the Fostering Services Regulations 2011, the Fostering Services (Wales) Regulations 2003 or the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 in relation to a child other than one whom the foster parent is fostering or kinship carer is looking after; or

(ka) by a foster parent under the Fostering Panels (Establishment and Functions) Regulations 2018 or a person with whom a child is placed under regulation 26 of the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015 (temporary approval of a relative, friend or other person connected with the child) or regulation 28 of those Regulations (temporary approval of a particular prospective adopter) in relation to a child other than one whom the foster parent is fostering or the person is looking after; or

(l) by a provider of personal care within the meaning of paragraph 1 of Schedule 1 to the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Regulated Activities) Regulations 2010 and being a regulated activity prescribed by those Regulations or by a person who is employed, or engaged under a contract for services, to provide care and support by the provider of a domiciliary support service within the meaning of Part 1 of the Regulations and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016; or

(m) by a person who is not a relative of the child wholly or mainly in the child's home.

(9) In sub-paragraphs (6) and (8)(a), "the first Monday in September" means the Monday which first occurs in the month of September in any year.

(10) Relevant child care charges must be estimated over such period, not exceeding a year, as is appropriate in order that the average weekly charge may be estimated accurately having regard to information as to the amount of that charge provided by the child minder or person providing the care.

(11) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(c) the other member of a couple is incapacitated where--

(a) the applicant is a pensioner and the other member of the couple is aged not less than 80;

(b) the applicant is a pensioner and the other member of the couple is aged less than 80, and--

(i) the additional condition specified in paragraph 10 of Schedule 3 (additional condition for the disability premium) to this scheme is treated as applying in his case; and

(ii) he satisfies that conditions or would satisfy it but for his being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;

(c) the applicant is not a pensioner, the applicant's applicable amount includes a disability premium on account of the other member's incapacity or the support component or the other member is a member of the work-related activity group on account of his having limited capability for work;

(d) the applicant is not a pensioner, the applicant's applicable amount would include a disability premium on account of the other member's incapacity but for that other member being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;

(e) the other member of the couple would be a member of the support group or a member of the work-related activity group but for that other member being treated as not having limited capability for work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 or the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013;

(f) he is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(g) he is, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 or the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013 for a continuous period of

not less than 196 days and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;

(h) there is payable in respect of him one or more of the following pensions or allowances--

(i) long-term incapacity benefit or short-term incapacity benefit at the higher rate under Schedule 4 to the SSCBA;

(ii) attendance allowance under section 64 of the SSCBA;

(iii) severe disablement allowance under section 68 of the SSCBA;

(iv) disability living allowance under section 71 of the SSCBA;

(v) personal independence payment;

(vi) an AFIP;

(vii) increase of disablement pension under section 104 of the SSCBA;

(viii) a pension increase paid as part of a war disablement pension or under an industrial injuries scheme which is analogous to an allowance or increase of disablement pension under sub-paragraph (ii), (iv), (v) or (vii) above;

(ix) main phase employment and support allowance;

(x) adult disability payment;

(i) a pension or allowance or payment to which sub-paragraph (v), (vii) or (viii) of paragraph (h) above refers was payable on account of his incapacity but has ceased to be payable in consequence of his becoming a patient, which in this paragraph means a person (other than a person who is serving a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a youth custody institution) who is regarded as receiving free in-patient treatment within the meaning of regulation 2(4) and (5) of the Social Security (Hospital In-Patients) Regulations 2005;

(j) an attendance allowance under section 64 of the SSCBA or disability living allowance would be payable to that person but for--

(i) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or

(ii) an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation;

- (k) the daily living component of personal independence payment would be payable to that person but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients);
 - (l) an AFIP would be payable to that person but for any suspension of payment in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allow for a suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution;
 - (m) paragraph (h), (i), (j) or (k) would apply to him if the legislative provisions referred to in those paragraphs were provisions under any corresponding enactment having effect in Northern Ireland; or
 - (n) he has an invalid carriage or other vehicle provided to him by the Secretary of State or an integrated care board under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the National Health Service Act 2006 or under section 46 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 or provided by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland under Article 30(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972.
- (12) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (11), once sub-paragraph (11)(f) applies to the person, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work, that sub-paragraph is, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter to apply to him for so long as he remains incapable, or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.
- (13) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (11), once sub-paragraph (11)(g) applies to the person, if he then ceases, for a period of 84 days or less, to have, or to be treated as having, limited capability for work, that paragraph is, on his again having, or being treated as having, limited capability for work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter to apply to him for so long as he has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work.
- (14) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (6) and (8)(a), a person is disabled if he is a person--
 - (a) to whom an attendance allowance or the care component of disability allowance is payable or would be payable but for—
 - (i) a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA; or

an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation;

(aa) in respect of whom child disability payment is payable.

 - (b) to whom the daily living component of personal independence payment is payable or has ceased to be payable by virtue of a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 (hospital in-patients);
 - (ba) in respect of whom adult disability payment is payable, or has ceased to be payable solely by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations;
 - (c) who is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept under section 77(1) of the Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults), in Scotland has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered as blind in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 or is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or
 - (d) who ceased to be registered as blind in such a register within the period beginning 28 weeks before the first Monday in September following that person's fifteenth birthday and ending on the day preceding that person's sixteenth birthday.

(15) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) a person on maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave or adoption leave is to be treated as if he is engaged in remunerative work for the period specified in sub-paragraph (16) ("the relevant period") provided that--

- (a) in the week before the period of maternity leave, paternity leave, shared parental leave or adoption leave began he was in remunerative work;
- (b) the applicant is incurring relevant child care charges within the meaning of sub-paragraph (5); and
- (c) he is entitled to either statutory maternity pay under section 164 of the SSCBA, statutory paternity pay by virtue of section 171ZA or 171ZB of that Act, statutory adoption pay by of section 171ZL of that Act, maternity allowance under section 35 of that Act, statutory shared parental pay by virtue of section 171ZU or 171ZV of that Act or qualifying support.

(16) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (15) the relevant period begins on the day on which the person's maternity, paternity leave, shared parental leave or adoption leave commences and ends on--

- (a) the date that leave ends;
- (b) if no child care element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance, qualifying support, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement ends; or
- (c) if a child care element of working tax credit is in payment on the date that entitlement to maternity allowance or qualifying support, statutory maternity pay, statutory paternity pay, statutory shared parental pay or statutory adoption pay ends, the date that entitlement to that award of the child care element of the working tax credit ends,

whichever occurs first.

(17) In sub-paragraphs (15) and (16)--

- (a) "qualifying support" means income support to which that person is entitled by virtue of paragraph 14B of Schedule 1B to the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987; and
- (b) "child care element" of working tax credit means the element of working tax credit prescribed under section 12 of the Tax Credits Act 2002 (child care element).

(18) In this paragraph "applicant" does not include an applicant--

- (a) who has, or
- (b) who (jointly with his partner) has,

an award of universal credit.

Calculation of average weekly income from tax credits

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- (1) This paragraph applies where an applicant receives a tax credit.
- (2) Where this paragraph applies, the period over which a tax credit is to be taken into account is the period set out in sub-paragraph (3).
- (3) Where the instalment in respect of which payment of a tax credit is made is--
 - (a) a daily instalment, the period is 1 day, being the day in respect of which the instalment is paid;
 - (b) a weekly instalment, the period is 7 days, ending on the day on which the instalment is due to be paid;

- (c) a two weekly instalment, the period is 14 days, commencing 6 days before the day on which the instalment is due to be paid;
- (d) a four weekly instalment, the period is 28 days, ending on the day on which the instalment is due to be paid.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph "tax credit" means child tax credit or working tax credit.

Disregard of changes in tax, contributions etc

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In calculating the applicant's income the authority may disregard any legislative change--

- (a) in the basic or other rates of income tax;
- (aa) in the Scottish basic or other rates of income tax;
- (b) in the amount of any personal tax reliefs under Chapters 2, 3, and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007;
- (c) in the rates of national insurance contributions payable under the SSCBA or in the lower earnings limit or upper earnings limit for Class 1 contributions under that Act, or the lower or upper limits applicable to Class 4 contributions under that Act;
- (d) in the amount of tax payable as a result of an increase in the weekly rate of Category A, B, C or D retirement pension or any addition thereto or any graduated pension payable under the SSCBA or a state pension under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014;
- (e) in the maximum rate of child tax credit or working tax credit,

for a period not exceeding 30 reduction weeks beginning with the reduction week immediately following the date from which the change is effective.

Calculation of net profit of self-employed earners

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(1) For the purposes of paragraphs 48 (average weekly earnings of self-employed earners: persons who are not pensioners) and 57 (calculation of income on a weekly basis) the earnings of an applicant to be taken into account must be--

- (a) in the case of a self-employed earner who is engaged in employment on his own account, the net profit derived from that employment;
- (b) in the case of a self-employed earner who is a pensioner whose employment is carried on in partnership, his share of the net profit derived from that employment, less--
 - (i) an amount in respect of income tax and of national insurance contributions payable under the SSCBA calculated in accordance with paragraph 62 (deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners); and
 - (ii) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium;
- (c) in the case of a self-employed earner who is not a pensioner whose employment is carried on in partnership or is that of a share fisherman within the meaning of the Social Security (Mariners' Benefits) Regulations 1975, his share of the net profit derived from that employment, less--

- (i) an amount in respect of income tax and of national insurance contributions payable under the SSCBA calculated in accordance with paragraph 62 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and
- (ii) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.

(2) There must be disregarded from the net profit of an applicant who is not a pensioner, any sum, where applicable, specified in paragraphs 1 to 16 of Schedule 7 (sums disregarded in the calculation of earnings: persons who are not pensioners).

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(a) the net profit of the employment must, except where sub-paragraph (9) applies, be calculated by taking into account the earnings of the employment over the assessment period less--

- (a) subject to sub-paragraphs (5) to (8), any expenses wholly and exclusively incurred in that period for the purposes of that employment;
- (b) an amount in respect of--
 - (i) income tax; and
 - (ii) national insurance contributions payable under the SSCBA,

calculated in accordance with paragraph 62 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and

- (c) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b) the net profit of the employment is to be calculated by taking into account the earnings of the employment over the assessment period less, subject to sub-paragraphs (5) to (8), any expenses wholly and exclusively incurred in that period for the purposes of the employment.

(5) Subject to sub-paragraph (6), no deduction is to be made under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or (4), in respect of--

- (a) any capital expenditure;
- (b) the depreciation of any capital asset;
- (c) any sum employed or intended to be employed in the setting up or expansion of the employment;
- (d) any loss incurred before the beginning of the assessment period;
- (e) the repayment of capital on any loan taken out for the purposes of the employment;
- (f) any expenses incurred in providing business entertainment; and
- (g) in the case of an applicant who is not a pensioner, any debts, except bad debts proved to be such, but this paragraph does not apply to any expenses incurred in the recovery of a debt.

(6) A deduction is to be made under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or (4) in respect of the repayment of capital on any loan used for--

- (a) the replacement in the course of business of equipment or machinery; or
- (b) the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair.

(7) The authority must refuse to make a deduction in respect of any expenses under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or (4) where it is not satisfied given the nature and the amount of the expense that it has been

reasonably incurred.

(8) For the avoidance of doubt--

- (a) a deduction must not be made under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or (4) in respect of any sum unless it has been expended for the purposes of the business;
- (b) a deduction must be made thereunder in respect of--
 - (i) the excess of any value added tax paid over value added tax received in the assessment period;
 - (ii) any income expended in the repair of an existing business asset except to the extent that any sum is payable under an insurance policy for its repair;
 - (iii) any payment of interest on a loan taken out for the purposes of the employment.

(9) Where an applicant is engaged in employment as a child minder the net profit of the employment is to be one-third of the earnings of that employment, less--

- (a) an amount in respect of--
 - (i) income tax; and
 - (ii) national insurance contributions payable under the SSCBA,

calculated in accordance with paragraph 62 (deduction of tax and contributions for self-employed earners); and

- (b) one-half of the amount calculated in accordance with sub-paragraph (11) in respect of any qualifying premium.

(10) For the avoidance of doubt where an applicant is engaged in employment as a self-employed earner and he is also engaged in one or more other employments as a self-employed or employed earner any loss incurred in any one of his employments must not be offset against his earnings in any other of his employments.

(11) The amount in respect of any qualifying premium is to be calculated by multiplying the daily amount of the qualifying premium by the number equal to the number of days in the assessment period; and for the purposes of this paragraph the daily amount of the qualifying premium must be determined--

- (a) where the qualifying premium is payable monthly, by multiplying the amount of the qualifying premium by 12 and dividing the product by 365;
- (b) in any other case, by dividing the amount of the qualifying premium by the number equal to the number of days in the period to which the qualifying premium relates.

(12) In this paragraph, "qualifying premium" means any premium which is payable periodically in respect of a personal pension scheme and is so payable on or after the date of application.

Calculation of deduction of tax and contributions of self-employed earners

62

(1) The amount to be deducted in respect of income tax under paragraph 61(1)(b)(i), (3)(b)(i) or (9)(a)(i) (calculation of net profit of self-employed earners) must be calculated--

- (a) on the basis of the amount of chargeable income, and
- (b) as if that income were assessable to income tax at the basic rate, or in the case of a Scottish taxpayer, the Scottish basic rate, of tax applicable to the assessment period less only the personal

reliefs to which the applicant is entitled under Chapters 2, 3 and 3A of Part 3 of the Income Tax Act 2007 as are appropriate to his circumstances.

(2) But, if the assessment period is less than a year, the earnings to which the basic rate, or the Scottish basic rate, of tax is to be applied and the amount of the personal reliefs deductible under this paragraph must be calculated on a pro rata basis.

(3) The amount to be deducted in respect of national insurance contributions under paragraph 60(1)(b)(i), (3)(b)(ii) or (9)(a)(ii) is the total of--

(a) the amount of Class 4 contributions (if any) which would be payable under section 15 of the SSCBA (Class 4 contributions recoverable under the Income Tax Acts) at the percentage rate applicable to the assessment period on so much of the chargeable income as exceeds the lower limit but does not exceed the upper limit of profits and gains applicable for the tax year applicable to the assessment period; but if the assessment period is less than a year, those limits must be reduced pro rata.

(4) In this paragraph "chargeable income" means--

- (a) except where paragraph (b) applies, the earnings derived from the employment less any expenses deducted under sub-paragraph (3)(a) or, as the case may be, (5) of paragraph 61;
- (b) in the case of employment as a child minder, one-third of the earnings of that employment.

Chapter 7

Capital

Calculation of capital

63

(1) The capital of an applicant to be taken into account must be, subject to sub-paragraph (2), the whole of his capital calculated in accordance with this Part and (in the case of persons who are not pensioners) any income treated as capital under paragraph 64 (income treated as capital: persons who are not pensioners).

(2) There must be disregarded from the calculation of an applicant's capital under sub-paragraph (1), any capital, where applicable, specified in--

- (a) Schedule 9, in relation to pensioners;
- (b) Schedule 10, in relation to persons who are not pensioners.

(3) In the case of an applicant who is a pensioner, his capital is to be treated as including any payment made to him by way of arrears of--

- (a) child tax credit;
- (b) working tax credit;
- (c) state pension credit,

if the payment was made in respect of a period for the whole or part of which a reduction under this scheme was allowed before those arrears were paid.

(4) The capital of a child or young person who is a member of the family of an applicant who is not a pensioner must not be treated as capital of the applicant.

Income treated as capital: persons who are not pensioners

64

- (1) This paragraph applies in relation to persons who are not pensioners.
- (2) Any bounty derived from employment to which paragraph 9 of Schedule 7 (sums disregarded in the calculation of earnings: persons who are not pensioners) applies and paid at intervals of at least one year is to be treated as capital.
- (3) Any amount by way of a refund of income tax deducted from profits or emoluments chargeable to income tax under Schedule D or E is to be treated as capital.
- (4) Any holiday pay which is not earnings under paragraph 41(1)(d) or 51(1)(d) (earnings of employed earners) is to be treated as capital.
- (5) Except any income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 4, 5, 7, 11, 17, 30 to 33, 50 or 51 of Schedule 10 (capital disregards: persons who are not pensioners), any income derived from capital is to be treated as capital but only from the date it is normally due to be credited to the applicant's account.
- (6) In the case of employment as an employed earner, any advance of earnings or any loan made by the applicant's employer is to be treated as capital.
- (7) Any charitable or voluntary payment which is not made or due to be made at regular intervals, other than a payment which is made under or by the the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Independent Living Fund (2006), the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, We love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, or the London Bombings Relief is to be treated as capital.
- (8) There is to be treated as capital the gross receipts of any commercial activity carried on by a person in respect of which assistance is received under the self-employment route, but only in so far as those receipts were payable into a special account during the period in which that person was receiving such assistance.
- (9) Any arrears of subsistence allowance which are paid to an applicant as a lump sum must be treated as capital.
- (10) Any arrears of working tax credit or child tax credit must be treated as capital.

Calculation of capital in the United Kingdom

65

Capital which an applicant possesses in the United Kingdom is to be calculated at its current market or surrender value less--

- (a) where there would be expenses attributable to the sale, 10 per cent; and
- (b) the amount of any encumbrance secured on it.

Calculation of capital outside the United Kingdom

66

Capital which an applicant possesses in a country outside the United Kingdom must be calculated--

- (a) in a case where there is no prohibition in that country against the transfer to the United Kingdom of an amount equal to its current market or surrender value in that country, at that value;

- (b) in a case where there is such a prohibition, at the price which it would realise if sold in the United Kingdom to a willing buyer,

less, where there would be expenses attributable to sale, 10 per cent and the amount of any encumbrances secured on it.

Notional capital

67

(1) An applicant is to be treated as possessing capital of which he has deprived himself for the purpose of securing entitlement to a reduction or increasing the amount of that reduction except to the extent that that capital is reduced in accordance with paragraph 68 (diminishing notional capital rule).

(2) A person who is a pensioner who disposes of capital for the purpose of--

- (a) reducing or paying a debt owed by the applicant; or
- (b) purchasing goods or services if the expenditure was reasonable in the circumstances of the applicant's case,

is to be regarded as not depriving himself of it.

(3) Sub-paragraphs (4) to (6) apply in relation to applicants who are not pensioners.

(4) Except in the case of--

- (a) a discretionary trust; or
- (b) a trust derived from a payment made in consequence of a personal injury; or
- (c) any loan which would be obtained only if secured against capital disregarded under Schedule 9; or
- (d) a personal pension scheme, occupational pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund; or
- (e) any sum to which paragraph 50(2)(a) of Schedule 10 (capital disregards: persons who are not pensioners) applies which is administered in the way referred to in paragraph 50(1)(a); or
- (f) any sum to which paragraph 51(a) of Schedule 10 refers; or
- (g) child tax credit; or
- (h) working tax credit,

any capital which would become available to the applicant upon application being made, but which has not been acquired by him, is to be treated as possessed by him but only from the date on which it could be expected to be acquired were an application made.

(5) Any payment of capital, other than a payment of capital specified in sub-paragraph (6), made--

- (a) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where that payment is a payment of an occupational pension, a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund, be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, by that member;
- (b) to a third party in respect of a single applicant or in respect of a member of the family (but not a member of the third party's family) must, where it is not a payment referred to in paragraph (a), be treated as possessed by that single applicant or by that member to the extent that it is used for the food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of that single applicant or, as the case may be, of any member of that family or is used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable;
- (c) to a single applicant or a member of the family in respect of a third party (but not in respect of

another member of the family) must be treated as possessed by that single applicant or, as the case may be, that member of the family to the extent that it is kept or used by him or used by or on behalf of any member of the family.

- (6) Sub-paragraph (5) does not apply in respect of a payment of capital made--
- (a) under or by any of by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Independent Living Fund (2006), the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, We love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, or the London Bombings Relief);
 - (b) pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 in respect of a person's participation--
 - (i) in an employment programme specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(ii) of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;
 - (ii) in a training scheme specified in regulation 75(1)(b)(ii) of those Regulations;
 - (iii) in the Intense Activity Period specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(iv) of those Regulations;
 - (iv) in a qualifying course within the meaning specified in regulation 17A(7) of those Regulations; or
 - (v) in the Flexible New Deal specified in regulation 75(1)(a)(v) of those Regulations;
 - (c) in respect of a person's participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme;
 - (d) in respect of a person's participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme;
 - (e) in respect of an applicant's participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme;
 - (f) under an occupational pension scheme, in respect of a pension or other periodical payment made under a personal pension scheme or a payment made by the Board of the Pension Protection Fund where--
 - (i) a bankruptcy order has been made in respect of the person in respect of whom the payment has been made or, in Scotland, the estate of that person is subject to sequestration or a judicial factor has been appointed on that person's estate under section 41 of the Solicitors (Scotland) Act 1980;
 - (ii) the payment is made to the trustee in bankruptcy or any other person acting on behalf of the creditors; and
 - (iii) the person referred to in sub-paragraph (i) and any member of his family does not possess, or is not treated as possessing, any other income apart from that payment.
- (7) Where an applicant stands in relation to a company in a position analogous to that of a sole owner or partner in the business of that company, he may be treated as if he were such sole owner or partner and in such a case--
- (a) the value of his holding in that company must, notwithstanding paragraph 63 (calculation of capital) be disregarded; and
 - (b) he must, subject to sub-paragraph (8), be treated as possessing an amount of capital equal to the value or, as the case may be, his share of the value of the capital of that company and the foregoing provisions of this Chapter apply for the purposes of calculating that amount as if it were actual capital which he does possess.
- (8) For so long as the applicant undertakes activities in the course of the business of the company, the amount which he is treated as possessing under sub-paragraph (7) is to be disregarded.
- (9) Where an applicant is treated as possessing capital under any of sub-paragraphs (1), (4) or (5)

the foregoing provisions of this Chapter apply for the purposes of calculating its amount as if it were actual capital which he does possess.

Diminishing notional capital rule: pensioners

68

(1) Where an applicant who is a pensioner is treated as possessing capital under paragraph 67(1) (notional capital), the amount which he is treated as possessing--

- (a) in the case of a week that is subsequent to--
 - (i) the relevant week in respect of which the conditions set out in sub-paragraph (2) are satisfied; or
 - (ii) a week which follows that relevant week and which satisfies those conditions,

is to be reduced by an amount determined under sub-paragraph (3);

- (b) in the case of a week in respect of which sub-paragraph (1)(a) does not apply but where--
 - (i) that week is a week subsequent to the relevant week; and
 - (ii) that relevant week is a week in which the condition in sub-paragraph (4) is satisfied,

is to be reduced by the amount determined under sub-paragraph (5).

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a reduction week where the applicant satisfies the conditions that--

- (a) he is in receipt of a reduction under this scheme; and
- (b) but for paragraph 67(1), he would have received a greater reduction in council tax under this scheme in that week.

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(3) In a case to which sub-paragraph (2) applies, the amount of the reduction in the amount of capital he is treated as possessing for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(a) must be equal to the aggregate of--

- (a) an amount equal to the additional amount of the reduction in council tax to which sub-paragraph (2)(b) refers;
- (b) where the applicant has also claimed state pension credit, the amount of any state pension credit or any additional amount of state pension credit to which he would have been entitled in respect of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 21(1) of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002 (notional capital);
- (c) where the applicant has also claimed housing benefit, the amount of any housing benefit or any additional amount of housing benefit to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 47(1) of the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006 (notional capital);
- (d) where the applicant has also claimed a jobseeker's allowance, the amount of an income-based jobseeker's allowance to which he would have been entitled in respect of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 113 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996 (notional capital); and
- (e) where the applicant has also claimed an employment and support allowance, the amount of an income-related employment and support allowance to which he would have been entitled in respect of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 (notional capital).

(4) Subject to sub-paragraph (7), for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b) the condition is that the applicant is a pensioner and would have been entitled to a reduction in council tax under this scheme

in the relevant week but for paragraph 67(1).

(5) In such a case the amount of the reduction in the amount of capital he is treated as possessing for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b) is equal to the aggregate of--

(a) the amount of the reduction in council tax to which the applicant would have been entitled in the relevant week but for paragraph 67(1);

(b) if the applicant would, but for regulation 21 of the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002, have been entitled to state pension credit in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 1(2) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled;

(c) if the applicant would, but for regulation 47(1) of the Housing Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006, have been entitled to housing benefit or to an additional amount of housing benefit in respect of the benefit week which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount which is equal to--

(i) in a case where no housing benefit is payable, the amount to which he would have been entitled; or

(ii) in any other case, the amount equal to the additional amount of housing benefit to which he would have been entitled;

(d) if the applicant would, but for regulation 113 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996, have been entitled to an income-based jobseeker's allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 1(3) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled; and

(e) if the applicant would, but for regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008, have been entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled.

(6) But if the amount mentioned in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of sub-paragraph (5) ("the relevant amount") is in respect of a part-week, the amount that is to be taken into account under that paragraph is to be determined by--

(a) dividing the relevant amount by the number equal to the number of days in that part-week, and

(b) multiplying the result of that calculation by 7.

(7) The amount determined under sub-paragraph (5) is to be re-determined under that sub-paragraph if the applicant makes a further application and the conditions in sub-paragraph (8) are satisfied, and in such a case--

(a) paragraphs (a) to (e) of sub-paragraph (5) apply as if for the words "relevant week" there were substituted the words "relevant subsequent week"; and

(b) subject to sub-paragraph (9), the amount as re-determined has effect from the first week following the relevant subsequent week in question.

(8) The conditions are that--

(a) a further application is made 26 or more weeks after--

(i) the date on which the applicant made an application in respect of which he was first treated as possessing the capital in question under paragraph 67(1);

(ii) in a case where there has been at least one re-determination in accordance with sub-paragraph (11), the date on which he last made an application which resulted in the weekly amount being re-determined, or

(iii) the date on which he last ceased to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme,

whichever last occurred; and

(b) the applicant would have been entitled to a reduction under this scheme but for paragraph 67(1).

(9) The amount as re-determined pursuant to sub-paragraph (7) must not have effect if it is less than the amount which applied in that case immediately before the re-determination and in such a case the higher amount must continue to have effect.

(10) For the purposes of this paragraph--

"part-week"--

(a) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(a), means a period of less than a week for which a reduction in council tax under this scheme is allowed;

(b) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(b), means a period of less than a week for which housing benefit is payable;

(c) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(c), (d) or (e), means--

(i) a period of less than a week which is the whole period for which income support, an income-related employment and support allowance or, as the case may be, an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable; and

(ii) any other period of less than a week for which it is payable;

"relevant week" means the reduction week or part-week in which the capital in question of which the applicant has deprived himself within the meaning of paragraph 67(1)--

(a) was first taken into account for the purpose of determining his entitlement to a reduction; or

(b) was taken into account on a subsequent occasion for the purpose of determining or re-determining his entitlement to a reduction on that subsequent occasion and that determination or re-determination resulted in his beginning to receive, or ceasing to receive, a reduction;

and where more than one reduction week is identified by reference to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this definition, the later or latest such reduction week or, as the case may be, the later or latest such part-week is the relevant week;

"relevant subsequent week" means the reduction week or part-week which includes the day on which the further application or, if more than one further application has been made, the last such application was made.

Diminishing notional capital rule: persons who are not pensioners

69

(1) Where an applicant who is not a pensioner is treated as possessing capital under paragraph 67(1) (notional capital), the amount which he is treated as possessing--

(a) in the case of a week that is subsequent to--

(i) the relevant week in respect of which the conditions set out in sub-paragraph (2) are satisfied; or

(ii) a week which follows that relevant week and which satisfies those conditions,

is to be reduced by an amount determined under sub-paragraph (3);

(b) in the case of a week in respect of which sub-paragraph (1)(a) does not apply but where--

- (i) that week is a week subsequent to the relevant week; and
- (ii) that relevant week is a week in which the condition in sub-paragraph (4) is satisfied,

is to be reduced by the amount determined under sub-paragraph (5).

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to a reduction week (or, in the case of persons who are not pensioners, part-week) where the applicant satisfies the conditions that--

- (a) he is in receipt of a reduction in council tax under this scheme; and
- (b) but for paragraph 67(1), he would have received a greater reduction in council tax under this scheme in that week.

(3) In a case to which sub-paragraph (2) applies, the amount of the reduction in the amount of capital he is treated as possessing for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(a) is equal to the aggregate of--

- (a) an amount equal to the additional amount of the reduction in council tax to which sub-paragraph (2)(b) refers;
- (b) where the applicant has also claimed housing benefit, the amount of any housing benefit or any additional amount of that benefit to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 49(1) of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 (notional capital);
- (c) where the applicant has also claimed income support, the amount of income support to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 51(1) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987 (notional capital);
- (d) where the applicant has also claimed a jobseeker's allowance, the amount of an income-based jobseeker's allowance to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 113 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996 (notional capital); and
- (e) where the applicant has also claimed an employment and support allowance, the amount of an income-related employment and support allowance to which he would have been entitled in respect of the whole or part of the reduction week to which sub-paragraph (2) refers but for the application of regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 (notional capital).

(4) Subject to sub-paragraph (7), for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b) the condition is that the applicant is not a pensioner and would have been entitled to a reduction in council tax in the relevant week but for paragraph 67(1).

(5) In such a case the amount of the reduction in the amount of capital he is treated as possessing must be equal to the aggregate of--

- (a) the amount of council tax benefit to which the applicant would have been entitled in the relevant week but for paragraph 67(1);
- (b) if the applicant would, but for regulation 49(1) of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, have been entitled to housing benefit or to an additional amount of housing benefit in respect of the benefit week which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount which is equal to--
 - (i) in a case where no housing benefit is payable, the amount to which he would have been entitled; or
 - (ii) in any other case, the amount equal to the additional amount of housing benefit to which he would have been entitled;

(c) if the applicant would, but for regulation 51(1) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987, have been entitled to income support in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled;

(d) if the applicant would, but for regulation 113 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996, have been entitled to an income-based jobseeker's allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 1(3) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled; and

(e) if the applicant would, but for regulation 115 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008, have been entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance in respect of the benefit week, within the meaning of regulation 2(1) of those Regulations (interpretation), which includes the last day of the relevant week, the amount to which he would have been entitled.

(6) But if the amount mentioned in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d) or (e) of sub-paragraph (5) ("the relevant amount") is in respect of a part-week, the amount that is to be taken into account under that paragraph is to be determined by--

(a) dividing the relevant amount by the number equal to the number of days in that part-week, and

(b) multiplying the result of that calculation by 7.

(7) The amount determined under sub-paragraph (5) is to be re-determined under the appropriate sub-paragraph if the applicant makes a further application and the conditions in sub-paragraph (8) are satisfied, and in such a case--

(a) paragraphs (a) to (e) of sub-paragraph (5) apply as if for the words "relevant week" there were substituted the words "relevant subsequent week"; and

(b) subject to sub-paragraph (9), the amount as re-determined has effect from the first week following the relevant subsequent week in question.

(8) The conditions are that--

(a) a further application is made 26 or more weeks after--

(i) the date on which the applicant made an application for a reduction under this scheme in respect of which he was first treated as possessing the capital in question under paragraph 67(1);

(ii) in a case where there has been at least one re-determination in accordance with sub-paragraph (7), the date on which he last made an application under this scheme which resulted in the weekly amount being re-determined, or

(iii) the date on which he last ceased to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme,

whichever last occurred; and

(b) the applicant would have been entitled to a reduction under this scheme but for paragraph 67(1).

(9) The amount as re-determined pursuant to sub-paragraph (6) must not have effect if it is less than the amount which applied in that case immediately before the re-determination and in such a case the higher amount must continue to have effect.

(10) For the purposes of this paragraph--

"part-week"--

(a) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(a), means a period of less than a week for which a reduction under this scheme is allowed;

(b) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(b), means a period of less than a

week for which housing benefit is payable;

(c) in relation to an amount mentioned in sub-paragraph (5)(c), (d) or (e), means--

(i) a period of less than a week which is the whole period for which income support, an income-related employment and support allowance or, as the case may be, an income-based jobseeker's allowance is payable; and

(ii) any other period of less than a week for which it is payable;

"relevant week" means the reduction week or part-week in which the capital in question of which the applicant has deprived himself within the meaning of paragraph 67(1)--

(a) was first taken into account for the purpose of determining his entitlement to a reduction; or

(b) was taken into account on a subsequent occasion for the purpose of determining or re-determining his entitlement to a reduction on that subsequent occasion and that determination or re-determination resulted in his beginning to receive, or ceasing to receive, a reduction,

and where more than one reduction week is identified by reference to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this definition, the later or latest such reduction week or, as the case may be, the later or latest such part-week is the relevant week;

"relevant subsequent week" means the reduction week or part-week which includes the day on which the further application or, if more than one further application has been made, the last such application was made.

Capital jointly held

70

Except where an applicant possesses capital which is disregarded under paragraph 67(7) (notional capital), where an applicant and one or more persons are beneficially entitled in possession to any capital asset they must be treated, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, as if each of them were entitled in possession to the whole beneficial interest therein in an equal share and the foregoing provisions of this Chapter apply for the purposes of calculating the amount of capital which the applicant is treated as possessing as if it were actual capital which the applicant does possess.

Calculation of tariff income from capital: pensioners

71

The capital of an applicant who is a pensioner, calculated in accordance with this Part, is to be treated as if it were a weekly income of--

(a) £1 for each £500 in excess of £10,000 but not exceeding £16,000; and

(b) £1 for any excess which is not a complete £500.

Calculation of tariff income from capital: persons who are not pensioners

72

The capital of an applicant who is not a pensioner, calculated in accordance with this Part, is to be treated as if it were a weekly income of--

(a) £1 for each £250 in excess of £6,000 but not exceeding £10,000;

(b) £1 for any excess which is not a complete £250.

**Part 11
Students**

**Chapter 1
General**

Interpretation

73

(1) In this Part--

"academic year" means the period of twelve months beginning on 1st January, 1st April, 1st July or 1st September according to whether the course in question begins in the winter, the spring, the summer or the autumn respectively but if students are required to begin attending the course during August or September and to continue attending through the autumn, the academic year of the course is to be considered to begin in the autumn rather than the summer;

"access funds" means--

- (a) grants made under section 68 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 for the purpose of providing funds on a discretionary basis to be paid to students;
- (b) grants made under sections 73(a) and (c) and 74(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;
- (c) grants made under Article 30 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 or grants, loans or other payments made under Article 5 of the Further Education (Northern Ireland) Order 1997 in each case being grants, or grants, loans or other payments as the case may be, for the purpose of assisting students in financial difficulties;
- (d) discretionary payments, known as "learner support funds", which are made available to students in further education by institutions out of funds provided by the Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002, under sections 100 and 101 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009; or
- (e) Financial Contingency Funds made available by the Welsh Ministers;

"college of further education" means a college of further education within the meaning of Part 1 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

"contribution" means--

- (a) any contribution in respect of the income of a student or any person which the Secretary of State, the Scottish Ministers or an education authority takes into account in ascertaining the amount of a student's grant or student loan; or
- (b) any sums, which in determining the amount of a student's allowance or bursary in Scotland under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the Scottish Ministers or education authority takes into account being sums which the Scottish Ministers or education authority considers that it is reasonable for the following persons to contribute towards the holder's expenses--
 - (i) the holder of the allowance or bursary;
 - (ii) the holder's parents;
 - (iii) the holder's parent's spouse, civil partner or a person ordinarily living with the holder's parent as if he or she were the spouse or civil partner of that parent; or
 - (iv) the holder's spouse or civil partner;

"course of study" means any course of study, whether or not it is a sandwich course and whether or not a grant is made for attending or undertaking it;

"covenant income" means the gross income payable to a full-time student under a Deed of Covenant by his

parent;

"education authority" means a government department, a local authority as defined in section 579 of the Education Act 1996 (interpretation), a local education authority as defined in section 123 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, an education and library board established under Article 3 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, any body which is a research council for the purposes of the Science and Technology Act 1965 or any analogous government department, authority, board or body, of the Channel Islands, Isle of Man or any other country outside Great Britain;

"full-time course of study" means a full-time course of study which--

- (a) is not funded in whole or in part by the Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002, or under section 100 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 or by the Welsh Ministers or a full-time course of study which is not funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education or a full-time course of study which is a course of higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers;
- (b) is funded in whole or in part by the Secretary of State under section 14 of the Education Act 2002, or under section 100 of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 or by the Welsh Ministers if it involves more than 16 guided learning hours per week for the student in question, according to the number of guided learning hours per week for that student set out--
 - (i) in the case of a course funded by the Secretary of State, in the student's learning agreement signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by the Secretary of State for the delivery of that course; or
 - (ii) in the case of a course funded by the Welsh Ministers, in a document signed on behalf of the establishment which is funded by that Council for the delivery of that course; or
- (c) is not higher education and is funded in whole or in part by the Scottish Ministers at a college of further education and involves--
 - (i) more than 16 hours per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college; or
 - (ii) 16 hours or less per week of classroom-based or workshop-based programmed learning under the direct guidance of teaching staff and additional hours using structured learning packages supported by the teaching staff where the combined total of hours exceeds 21 hours per week, according to the number of hours set out in a document signed on behalf of the college;

"full-time student" means a person attending or undertaking a full-time course of study and includes a student on a sandwich course;

"grant" (except in the definition of "access funds") means any kind of educational grant or award and includes any scholarship, studentship, exhibition, allowance or bursary but does not include a payment from access funds or any payment to which paragraph 16 of Schedule 8 or paragraph 55 of Schedule 10 (allowances and payments for courses of study) applies;

"grant income" means--

- (a) any income by way of a grant;
- (b) any contribution whether or not it is paid;

"higher education" means higher education within the meaning of Part 2 of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

"last day of the course" means--

- (a) in the case of a qualifying course, the date on which the last day of that course falls or the date on which the final examination relating to that course is completed, whichever is the later;
- (b) in any other case, the date on which the last day of the final academic term falls in respect

of the course in which the student is enrolled;

"period of study" means--

- (a) in the case of a course of study for one year or less, the period beginning with the start of the course and ending with the last day of the course;
- (b) in the case of a course of study for more than one year, in the first or, as the case may be, any subsequent year of the course, other than the final year of the course, the period beginning with the start of the course or, as the case may be, that year's start and ending with either--
 - (i) the day before the start of the next year of the course in a case where the student's grant or loan is assessed at a rate appropriate to his studying throughout the year or, if he does not have a grant or loan, where a loan would have been assessed at such a rate had he had one; or
 - (ii) in any other case, the day before the start of the normal summer vacation appropriate to his course;
- (c) in the final year of a course of study of more than one year, the period beginning with that year's start and ending with the last day of the course;

"periods of experience" means periods of work experience which form part of a sandwich course;

"qualifying course" means a qualifying course as defined for the purposes of Parts 2 and 4 of the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;

"sandwich course" has the meaning prescribed in regulation 2(9) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2008, regulation 4(2) of the Education (Student Loans) (Scotland) Regulations 2007 or regulation 2(8) of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007, as the case may be;

"standard maintenance grant" means--

- (a) except where paragraph (b) or (c) applies, in the case of a student attending or undertaking a course of study at the University of London or an establishment within the area comprising the City of London and the Metropolitan Police District, the amount specified for the time being in paragraph 2(2)(a) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 ("the 2003 Regulations") for such a student;
- (b) except where paragraph (c) applies, in the case of a student residing at his parent's home, the amount specified in paragraph 3 thereof;
- (c) in the case of a student receiving an allowance or bursary under the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, the amount of money specified as "standard maintenance allowance" for the relevant year appropriate for the student set out in the Student Support in Scotland Guide issued by the Student Awards Agency for Scotland, or its nearest equivalent in the case of a bursary provided by a college of further education or a local education authority;
- (d) in any other case, the amount specified in paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 2 to the 2003 Regulations other than in sub-paragraph (a) or (b) thereof;

"student" means a person, other than a person in receipt of a training allowance, who is attending or undertaking--

- (a) a course of study at an educational establishment; or
- (b) a qualifying course;

"student loan" means a loan towards a student's maintenance pursuant to any regulations made under section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, section 73 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 or Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 and

includes, in Scotland, a young student's bursary paid under regulation 4(1)(c) of the Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 2007.

(2) For the purposes of the definition of "full-time student" in sub-paragraph (1), a person must be regarded as attending or, as the case may be, undertaking a full-time course of study or as being on a sandwich course--

(a) subject to sub-paragraph (3), in the case of a person attending or undertaking a part of a modular course which would be a full-time course of study for the purposes of this Part, for the period beginning on the day on which that part of the course starts and ending--

(i) on the last day on which he is registered with the educational establishment as attending or undertaking that part as a full-time course of study; or

(ii) on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons the course or is dismissed from it;

(b) in any other case, throughout the period beginning on the date on which he starts attending or undertaking the course and ending on the last day of the course or on such earlier date (if any) as he finally abandons it or is dismissed from it.

(3) For the purposes of paragraph (a) of sub-paragraph (2), the period referred to in that paragraph includes--

(a) where a person has failed examinations or has failed successfully to complete a module relating to a period when he was attending or undertaking a part of the course as a full-time course of study, any period in respect of which he attends or undertakes the course for the purpose of retaking those examinations or that module;

(b) any period of vacation within the period specified in that paragraph or immediately following that period except where the person has registered with the educational establishment to attend or undertake the final module in the course and the vacation immediately follows the last day on which he is required to attend or undertake the course.

(4) In sub-paragraph (2), "modular course" means a course of study which consists of two or more modules, the successful completion of a specified number of which is required before a person is considered by the educational establishment to have completed the course.

Treatment of students

74

This scheme has effect in relation to students who are not pensioners subject to the following provisions of this Part.

Students who are excluded from entitlement to a reduction under this scheme

75

(1) The students who are excluded from entitlement to a reduction under this scheme are, subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (7)--

(a) full-time students, and

(b) students who are persons treated as not being in Great Britain.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a student--

(a) who is a person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance;

(b) who is a lone parent;

- (c) whose applicable amount would, but for this paragraph, include the disability premium or severe disability premium;
- (d) whose applicable amount would include the disability premium but for his being treated as capable of work by virtue of a determination made in accordance with regulations made under section 171E of the SSCBA;
- (e) who is, or is treated as, incapable of work and has been so incapable, or has been so treated as incapable, of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work) for a continuous period of not less than 196 days; and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 56 days must be treated as one continuous period;
- (f) who has, or is treated as having, limited capability for work and has had, or been treated as having, limited capability for work in accordance with the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 for a continuous period of not less than 196 days, and for this purpose any two or more separate periods separated by a break of not more than 84 days must be treated as one continuous period;
- (g) who has a partner who is also a full-time student, if he or that partner is treated as responsible for a child or young person;
- (h) who is a single applicant with whom a child is placed by a local authority or voluntary organisation within the meaning of the Children Act 1989 or, in Scotland, boarded out within the meaning of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968;
- (i) who is--
 - (i) aged under 21 and whose course of study is not a course of higher education,
 - (ii) aged 21 and attained that age during a course of study which is not a course of higher education, or
 - (iii) a qualifying young person or child within the meaning of section 142 of the SSCBA (child and qualifying young person);
- (j) in respect of whom--
 - (i) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003;
 - (ii) an allowance, or as the case may be, bursary has been granted which includes a sum under paragraph (1)(d) of regulation 4 of the Students' Allowances (Scotland) Regulations 1999 or, as the case may be, under paragraph (1)(d) of regulation 4 of the Education Authority (Bursaries) (Scotland) Regulations 1995, in respect of expenses incurred;
 - (iii) a payment has been made under or by virtue of regulations made under the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998;
 - (iv) a grant has been made under regulation 13 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2005 or under regulation 13 of the Education (Student Support) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000; or
 - (v) a supplementary requirement has been determined under paragraph 9 of Schedule 6 to the Students Awards Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 or a payment has been made under Article 50(3) of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986,

on account of his disability by reason of deafness.

- (3) Sub-paragraph (2)(i)(ii) only applies to an applicant until the end of the course during which the applicant attained the age of 21.
- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2), once sub-paragraph (2)(e) applies to a full-time student, if he then ceases, for a period of 56 days or less, to be incapable, or to be treated as incapable, of work,

that sub-paragraph must, on his again becoming so incapable, or so treated as incapable, of work at the end of that period, immediately thereafter apply to him for so long as he remains incapable or is treated as remaining incapable, of work.

(5) In sub-paragraph (2)(i) the reference to a course of higher education is a reference to a course of any description mentioned in Schedule 6 to the Education Reform Act 1988.

(6) A full-time student to whom sub-paragraph (2)(i) applies must be treated as satisfying that sub-paragraph from the date on which he made a request for the supplementary requirement, allowance, bursary or payment as the case may be.

(7) Sub-paragraph (1)(b) does not apply to a full-time student for the period specified in sub-paragraph (8) if--

(a) at any time during an academic year, with the consent of the relevant educational establishment, he ceases to attend or undertake a course because he is--

(i) engaged in caring for another person; or

(ii) ill;

(b) he has subsequently ceased to be engaged in caring for that person or, as the case may be, he has subsequently recovered from that illness; and

(c) he is not eligible for a grant or a student loan in respect of the period specified in sub-paragraph (8).

(8) The period specified for the purposes of sub-paragraph (7) is the period, not exceeding one year, beginning on the day on which he ceased to be engaged in caring for that person or, as the case may be, the day on which he recovered from that illness and ending on the day before--

(a) the day on which he resumes attending or undertaking the course; or

(b) the day from which the relevant educational establishment has agreed that he may resume attending or undertaking the course,

whichever first occurs.

Chapter 2 Income

Calculation of grant income

76

(1) The amount of a student's grant income to be taken into account in assessing his income must, subject to sub-paragraphs (2) and (3), be the whole of his grant income.

(2) There must be excluded from a student's grant income any payment--

(a) intended to meet tuition fees or examination fees;

(b) in respect of the student's disability;

(c) intended to meet additional expenditure connected with term time residential study away from the student's educational establishment;

(d) on account of the student maintaining a home at a place other than that at which he resides during his course;

(e) on account of any other person but only if that person is residing outside the United Kingdom and there is no applicable amount in respect of him;

(f) intended to meet the cost of books and equipment;

- (g) intended to meet travel expenses incurred as a result of his attendance on the course;
- (h) intended for the child care costs of a child dependant;
- (i) of higher education bursary for care leavers made under Part 3 of the Children Act 1989.

(3) Where a student does not have a student loan and is not treated as possessing such a loan, there must be excluded from the student's grant income--

- (a) the sum of £303 per academic year in respect of travel costs; and
- (b) the sum of £390 per academic year towards the costs of books and equipment,

whether or not any such costs are incurred.

(4) There must also be excluded from a student's grant income the grant for dependants known as the parents' learning allowance paid pursuant to regulations made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998 or section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998.

(5) Subject to sub-paragraphs (6) and (7), a student's grant income must be apportioned--

- (a) subject to sub-paragraph (8), in a case where it is attributable to the period of study, equally between the weeks in that period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period of study and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study;
- (b) in any other case, equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the period for which it is payable and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period for which it is payable.

(6) Any grant in respect of dependants paid under section 63(6) of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 (grants in respect of the provision of instruction to officers of hospital authorities) and any amount intended for the maintenance of dependants under Part 3 of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 must be apportioned equally over the period of 52 weeks or, if there are 53 reduction weeks (including part-weeks) in the year, 53.

(7) In a case where a student is in receipt of a student loan or where he could have acquired a student loan by taking reasonable steps but had not done so, any amount intended for the maintenance of dependants to which neither sub-paragraph (6) nor paragraph 80(2) (other amounts to be disregarded) applies, must be apportioned over the same period as the student's loan is apportioned or, as the case may be, would have been apportioned.

(8) In the case of a student on a sandwich course, any periods of experience within the period of study must be excluded and the student's grant income must be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which immediately follows the last day of the period of experience and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the period of study.

Calculation of covenant income where a contribution is assessed

77

(1) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant during a period of study and a contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenant income to be taken into account for that period and any summer vacation immediately following must be the whole amount of the covenant income less, subject to sub-paragraph (3), the amount of the contribution.

(2) The weekly amount of the student's covenant must be determined--

- (a) by dividing the amount of income which falls to be taken into account under sub-paragraph (1) by 52 or 53, whichever is reasonable in the circumstances; and

(b) by disregarding £5 from the resulting amount.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), the contribution must be treated as increased by the amount (if any) by which the amount excluded under paragraph 76(2)(g) falls short of the amount specified in paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 2 to the Education (Mandatory Awards) Regulations 2003 (travel expenditure).

Covenant income where no grant income or no contribution is assessed

78

(1) Where a student is not in receipt of income by way of a grant the amount of his covenant income must be calculated as follows--

- (a) any sums intended for any expenditure specified in paragraph 76(2)(a) to (e) necessary as a result of his attendance on the course must be disregarded;
- (b) any covenant income, up to the amount of the standard maintenance grant, which is not so disregarded, must be apportioned equally between the weeks of the period of study;
- (c) there must be disregarded from the amount so apportioned the amount which would have been disregarded under paragraph 76(2)(f) and (3) had the student been in receipt of the standard maintenance grant; and
- (d) the balance, if any, must be divided by 52 or 53 whichever is reasonable in the circumstances and treated as weekly income of which £5 must be disregarded.

(2) Where a student is in receipt of income by way of a grant and no contribution has been assessed, the amount of his covenanted income must be calculated in accordance with paragraphs (a) to (d) of sub-paragraph (1), except that--

- (a) the value of the standard maintenance grant must be abated by the amount of such grant income less an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under paragraph 76(2)(a) to (e); and
- (b) the amount to be disregarded under sub-paragraph (1)(c) must be abated by an amount equal to the amount of any sums disregarded under paragraph 76(2)(f) and (g) and (3).

Relationship with amounts to be disregarded under Schedule 8

79

No part of a student's covenant income or grant income is to be disregarded under paragraph 19 of Schedule 8 (disregard of certain charitable and voluntary, etc, payments).

Other amounts to be disregarded

80

(1) For the purposes of ascertaining income other than grant income, covenant income and loans treated as income in accordance with paragraph 81 (treatment of student loans), any amounts intended for any expenditure specified in paragraph 76(2) (calculation of grant income), necessary as a result of his attendance on the course must be disregarded.

(2) But sub-paragraph (1) applies only if, and to the extent that, the necessary expenditure exceeds or is likely to exceed the amount of the sums disregarded under paragraph 76(2) or (3), 77(3), 78(1)(a) or (c) or 81(5) (calculation of grant income, covenant income and treatment of student loans) on like expenditure.

Treatment of student loans

81

- (1) A student loan is to be treated as income.
- (2) In calculating the weekly amount of the loan to be taken into account as income--
 - (a) in respect of a course that is of a single academic year's duration or less, a loan which is payable in respect of that period is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with--
 - (i) except in a case where sub-paragraph (ii) applies, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the single academic year;
 - (ii) where the student is required to start attending the course in August or where the course is less than an academic year's duration, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of the course,

and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

- (b) in respect of an academic year of a course which starts other than on 1st September, a loan which is payable in respect of that academic year is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period--
 - (i) beginning with the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year, and
 - (ii) ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with or immediately precedes, the last day of that academic year,

but excluding any reduction weeks falling entirely within the quarter during which, in the opinion of the authority, the longest of any vacation is taken and for the purposes of this paragraph, "quarter" has the same meaning as for the purposes of the Education (Student Support) Regulations 2005;

- (c) in respect of the final academic year of a course (not being a course of a single year's duration), a loan which is payable in respect of that final academic year is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with--
 - (i) except in a case where sub-paragraph (ii) applies, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the first day of that academic year;
 - (ii) where the final academic year starts on 1st September, the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows, the earlier of 1st September or the first day of the autumn term,

and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of the course;

- (d) in any other case, the loan is to be apportioned equally between the weeks in the period beginning with the earlier of--
 - (i) the first day of the first reduction week in September; or
 - (ii) the reduction week, the first day of which coincides with, or immediately follows the first day of the autumn term,

and ending with the reduction week, the last day of which coincides with, or immediately precedes, the last day of June,
and, in all cases, from the weekly amount so apportioned £10 is to be disregarded.

- (3) A student is to be treated as possessing a student loan in respect of an academic year where--
 - (a) a student loan has been made to him in respect of that year; or

- (b) he could acquire such a loan in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so.
- (4) Where a student is treated as possessing a student loan under sub-paragraph (3), the amount of the student loan to be taken into account as income must be, subject to sub-paragraph (5)--
- (a) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is made in respect of an academic year, a sum equal to--
 - (i) the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year by taking reasonable steps to do so; and
 - (ii) any contribution whether or not it has been paid to him;
 - (b) in the case of a student to whom a student loan is not made in respect of an academic year, the maximum student loan that would be made to the student if--
 - (i) he took all reasonable steps to obtain the maximum student loan he is able to acquire in respect of that year; and
 - (ii) no deduction in that loan was made by virtue of the application of a means test.
- (5) There must be deducted from the amount of income taken into account under sub-paragraph (4)--
- (a) the sum of £303 per academic year in respect of travel costs; and
 - (b) the sum of £390 per academic year towards the cost of books and equipment,

whether or not any such costs are incurred.

(6) A loan for fees, known as a fee loan or a fee contribution loan, made pursuant to regulations made under Article 3 of the Education (Student Support) (Northern Ireland) Order 1998, section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998 or section 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, shall be disregarded as income.

Treatment of payments from access funds

82

- (1) This paragraph applies to payments from access funds that are not payments to which paragraph 85(2) or (3) (income treated as capital) applies.
- (2) A payment from access funds, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (3) applies, must be disregarded as income.
- (3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4) of this paragraph and paragraph 40 of Schedule 8 (disregards in the calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners)--
 - (a) any payments from access funds which are intended and used for an item of food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel, or rent of a single applicant or, as the case may be, of the applicant or any other member of his family, and
 - (b) any payments from access funds which are used for any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable,

must be disregarded as income to the extent of £20 per week.

- (4) Where a payment from access funds is made--
 - (a) on or after 1st September or the first day of the course, whichever first occurs, but before receipt of any student loan in respect of that year and that payment is intended for the purpose of bridging the period until receipt of the student loan; or

(b) before the first day of the course to a person in anticipation of that person becoming a student, that payment must be disregarded as income.

Disregard of contribution

83

Where the applicant or his partner is a student and, for the purposes of assessing a contribution to the student's grant or student loan, the other partner's income has been taken into account, an amount equal to that contribution must be disregarded for the purposes of assessing that other partner's income.

Further disregard of student's income

84

Where any part of a student's income has already been taken into account for the purposes of assessing his entitlement to a grant or student loan, the amount taken into account must be disregarded in assessing that student's income.

Income treated as capital

85

- (1) Any amount by way of a refund of tax deducted from a student's covenant income must be treated as capital.
- (2) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum must be treated as capital.
- (3) An amount paid from access funds as a single lump sum which is intended and used for an item other than food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent, or which is used for an item other than any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable, must be disregarded as capital but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the payment.

Disregard of changes occurring during summer vacation

86

In calculating a student's income the authority must disregard any change in the standard maintenance grant, occurring in the recognised summer vacation appropriate to the student's course, if that vacation does not form part of his period of study from the date on which the change occurred to the end of that vacation.

Part 12 Extended Reductions

Chapter 1 Extended Reductions: Pensioners

Extended reductions: pensioners

87

Paragraphs 88 to 93 apply in relation to applicants who are pensioners.

Extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits): pensioners

88

(1) Except in the case of an applicant who is in receipt of state pension credit, an applicant who is entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes A to C is entitled to an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) where--

- (a) the applicant or the applicant's partner was entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit;
- (b) entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased because the applicant or the applicant's partner--
 - (i) commenced employment as an employed or self-employed earner;
 - (ii) increased their earnings from such employment; or
 - (iii) increased the number of hours worked in such employment,

and that employment is or, as the case may be, those increased earnings or increased number of hours are expected to last five weeks or more;

- (c) the applicant or the applicant's partner had been entitled to and in receipt of a qualifying contributory benefit or a combination of qualifying contributory benefits for a continuous period of at least 26 weeks before the day on which the entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased; and
- (d) the applicant or the applicant's partner was not entitled to and not in receipt of a qualifying income-related benefit in the last reduction week in which the applicant, or the applicant's partner, was entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

(2) An applicant must be treated as entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes A to C where--

- (a) the applicant ceased to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme because the applicant vacated the dwelling in which the applicant was resident;
- (b) the day on which the applicant vacated the dwelling was either in the week in which entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased, or in the preceding week; and
- (c) entitlement to the qualifying contributory benefit ceased in any of the circumstances listed in sub-paragraph (1)(b).

Duration of extended reduction period (qualifying contributory benefits): pensioners

89

(1) Where an applicant is entitled to an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits), the extended reduction period starts on the first day of the reduction week immediately following the reduction week in which the applicant, or the applicant's partner, ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

(2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1), an applicant or an applicant's partner ceases to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit on the day immediately following the last day of entitlement to that benefit.

(3) The extended reduction period ends--

- (a) at the end of a period of four weeks; or
- (b) on the date on which the applicant who is receiving the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) has no liability for council tax, if that occurs first.

Amount of extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits): pensioners

90

(1) For any week during the extended reduction period the amount of the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) the applicant is entitled to is the greater of--

- (a) the amount of council tax reduction to which the applicant was entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes A to C in the last reduction week before the applicant or the applicant's partner ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit;
- (b) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant would be entitled under by virtue of falling within any of classes A to C for any reduction week during the extended reduction period, if paragraph 88 (extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits): pensioners) did not apply to the applicant; or
- (c) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant's partner would be entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes A to C, if paragraph 88 did not apply to the applicant.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply in the case of a mover.

(3) Where an applicant is in receipt of an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) under this paragraph and the applicant's partner makes an application for a reduction under this scheme, the authority must not award a reduction in pursuance of that application during the extended reduction period.

Extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits)--movers: pensioners

91

(1) This paragraph applies--

- (a) to a mover; and
- (b) from the Monday following the day of the move.

(2) The amount of the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) awarded from the Monday from which this paragraph applies until the end of the extended reduction period is to be the amount of reduction under this scheme which was payable to the mover for the last reduction week before the mover, or the mover's partner, ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

(3) Where a mover's liability to pay council tax in respect of the new dwelling is to a second authority, the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) may take the form of a payment from this authority to--

- (a) the second authority; or
- (b) the mover directly.

Relationship between extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) and entitlement to a reduction by virtue of classes A to C

92

(1) Where an applicant's reduction under this scheme would have ended when the applicant ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit in the circumstances listed in paragraph 88(1)(b), that reduction does not cease to have effect until the end of the extended reduction period.

(2) Part 13 (when entitlement begins and change of circumstances) does not apply to any extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) payable in accordance with paragraph 90(1)(a) or paragraph 91(2) (amount of extended reduction--movers: pensioners).

Continuing reductions where state pension credit claimed: pensioners

93

- (1) This paragraph applies where--
 - (a) the applicant is entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
 - (b) sub-paragraph (2) is satisfied; and
 - (c) either--
 - (i) the applicant has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; or
 - (ii) the applicant's partner has actually claimed state pension credit.
- (2) This sub-paragraph is only satisfied if the Secretary of State has certified to the authority that the applicant's partner has actually claimed state pension credit or that--
 - (a) the applicant's award of--
 - (i) income support has terminated because the applicant has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; or
 - (ii) income-based jobseeker's allowance or income-related employment and support allowance has terminated because the applicant has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; and
 - (b) the applicant has claimed or is treated as having claimed or is required to make a claim for state pension credit.
- (3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), in a case to which this paragraph applies, a person continues to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme for the period of 4 weeks beginning on the day following the day the applicant's entitlement to income support or, as the case may be, income-based jobseeker's allowance, income-related employment and support allowance, ceased, if and for so long as the applicant otherwise satisfies the conditions for entitlement to a reduction under this scheme.
- (4) Where a reduction under this scheme is awarded for the period of 4 weeks in accordance with sub-paragraph (3) above, and the last day of that period falls on a day other than the last day of a reduction week, then a reduction under this scheme must continue to be awarded until the end of the reduction week in which the last day of that period falls.
- (5) Throughout the period of 4 weeks specified in sub-paragraph (3) and any further period specified in sub-paragraph (4)--
 - (a) the whole of the income and capital of the applicant is to be disregarded;
 - (b) the maximum council tax reduction amount of the applicant is to be that which was applicable in his case immediately before that period commenced.
- (6) The maximum reduction is to be calculated in accordance with paragraph 29(1) if, since the date it was last calculated--
 - (a) the applicant's council tax liability has increased; or
 - (b) a change in the deduction under paragraph 30 falls to be made.

Chapter 2

Extended Reductions: Persons Who are Not Pensioners

Extended reductions: persons who are not pensioners

94

Paragraphs 95 to 104 apply in relation to applicants who are not pensioners.

Extended reductions: persons who are not pensioners

95

(1) An applicant who is entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F is entitled to an extended reduction where--

- (a) the applicant or the applicant's partner was entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit;
- (b) entitlement to a qualifying income-related benefit ceased because the applicant or the applicant's partner--
 - (i) commenced employment as an employed or self-employed earner;
 - (ii) increased their earnings from such employment; or
 - (iii) increased the number of hours worked in such employment,

and that employment is or, as the case may be, those increased earnings or increased number of hours are expected to last five weeks or more; and

(c) the applicant or the applicant's partner had been entitled to and in receipt of a qualifying income-related benefit, jobseeker's allowance or a combination of those benefits for a continuous period of at least 26 weeks before the day on which the entitlement to a qualifying income-related benefit ceased.

(2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1)(c), an applicant or an applicant's partner is to be treated as having been entitled to and in receipt of a qualifying income-related benefit or jobseeker's allowance during any period of less than five weeks in respect of which the applicant or the applicant's partner was not entitled to any of those benefits because the applicant or the applicant's partner was engaged in remunerative work as a consequence of their participation in an employment zone programme.

(3) For the purpose of this paragraph, where an applicant or an applicant's partner is entitled to and in receipt of joint-claim jobseeker's allowance they must be treated as being entitled to and in receipt of jobseeker's allowance.

(4) An applicant must be treated as entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F where--

- (a) the applicant ceased to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme because the applicant vacated the dwelling in which the applicant was resident;
- (b) the day on which the applicant vacated the dwelling was either in the week in which entitlement to a qualifying income-related benefit ceased, or in the preceding week; and
- (c) entitlement to the qualifying income-related benefit ceased in any of the circumstances listed in sub-paragraph (1)(b).

(5) This paragraph does not apply where, on the day before an applicant's entitlement to income support ceased, regulation 6(5) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987 (remunerative work: housing costs) applied to that applicant.

Duration of extended reduction period: persons who are not pensioners

96

(1) Where an applicant is entitled to an extended reduction, the extended reduction period starts on the first day of the reduction week immediately following the reduction week in which the applicant, or the applicant's partner, ceased to be entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit.

(2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1), an applicant or an applicant's partner ceases to be entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit on the day immediately following the last day of entitlement to that benefit.

(3) The extended reduction period ends--

- (a) at the end of a period of four weeks; or
- (b) on the date on which the applicant to whom the extended reduction is payable has no liability for council tax, if that occurs first.

Amount of extended reduction: persons who are not pensioners

97

- (1) For any week during the extended reduction period the amount of the extended reduction to which an applicant is entitled is to be the higher of--
 - (a) the amount of the reduction under this scheme to which the applicant was entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F in the last reduction week before the applicant or the applicant's partner ceased to be entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit;
 - (b) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant would be entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F for any reduction week during the extended reduction period, if paragraph 95 (extended reductions: persons who are not pensioners) did not apply to the applicant; or
 - (c) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant's partner would be entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F, if paragraph 95 did not apply to the applicant.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply in the case of a mover.
- (3) Where an applicant is in receipt of an extended reduction under this paragraph and the applicant's partner makes an application for a reduction under this scheme, no amount of reduction under this scheme is to be awarded by the authority during the extended reduction period.

Extended reductions--movers: persons who are not pensioners

98

- (1) This paragraph applies--
 - (a) to a mover; and
 - (b) from the Monday following the day of the move.
- (2) The amount of the extended reduction awarded from the Monday from which this paragraph applies until the end of the extended reduction period is to be the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the mover would have been entitled had they, or their partner, not ceased to be entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit.
- (3) Where a mover's liability to pay council tax in respect of the new dwelling is to a second authority, the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) may take the form of a payment from this authority to--
 - (a) the second authority; or
 - (b) the mover directly.

Relationship between extended reduction and entitlement to a reduction by virtue of classes D to F

99

- (1) Where an applicant's entitlement to a reduction under this scheme would have ended when the applicant ceased to be entitled to a qualifying income-related benefit in the circumstances listed in paragraph 95(1)(b), that entitlement does not cease until the end of the extended reduction period.

(2) Paragraphs 106 and 107 do not apply to any extended reduction payable in accordance with paragraph 95(1)(a) or 98(2) (amount of extended reduction--movers: persons who are not pensioners).

Extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits): persons who are not pensioners

100

(1) An applicant who is entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F is entitled to an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) where--

- (a) the applicant or the applicant's partner was entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit;
- (b) entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased because the applicant or the applicant's partner--
 - (i) commenced employment as an employed or self-employed earner;
 - (ii) increased their earnings from such employment; or
 - (iii) increased the number of hours worked in such employment,

and that employment is or, as the case may be, those increased earnings or increased number of hours are expected to last five weeks or more;

(c) the applicant or the applicant's partner had been entitled to and in receipt of a qualifying contributory benefit or a combination of qualifying contributory benefits for a continuous period of at least 26 weeks before the day on which the entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased; and

(d) the applicant or the applicant's partner was not entitled to and not in receipt of a qualifying income-related benefit in the last reduction week in which the applicant, or the applicant's partner, was entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

(2) An applicant must be treated as entitled to a reduction under this scheme by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F where--

- (a) the applicant ceased to be entitled to a reduction under this scheme because the applicant vacated the dwelling in which the applicant was resident;
- (b) the day on which the applicant vacated the dwelling was either in the week in which entitlement to a qualifying contributory benefit ceased, or in the preceding week; and
- (c) entitlement to the qualifying contributory benefit ceased in any of the circumstances listed in sub-paragraph (1)(b).

Duration of extended reduction period (qualifying contributory benefits): persons who are not pensioners

101

(1) Where an applicant is entitled to an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits), the extended reduction period starts on the first day of the reduction week immediately following the reduction week in which the applicant, or the applicant's partner, ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

(2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1), an applicant or an applicant's partner ceases to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit on the day immediately following the last day of entitlement to that benefit.

(3) The extended reduction period ends--

- (a) at the end of a period of four weeks; or

- (b) on the date on which the applicant entitled to the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) has no liability for council tax, if that occurs first.

Amount of extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits): persons who are not pensioners

102

- (1) For any week during the extended reduction period the amount of the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) payable to an applicant is to be the greater of--

- (a) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant was entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F in the last reduction week before the applicant or the applicant's partner ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit;
- (b) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant would be entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F for any reduction week during the extended reduction period, if paragraph 100 (extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits): persons who are not pensioners) did not apply to the applicant; or
- (c) the amount of reduction under this scheme to which the applicant's partner would be entitled by virtue of falling within any of classes D to F, if paragraph 100 did not apply to the applicant.

- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply in the case of a mover.

- (3) Where an applicant is in receipt of an extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) under this paragraph and the applicant's partner makes an application for a reduction under this scheme, no amount of reduction may be allowed by the appropriate authority during the extended reduction period.

Extended reductions (qualifying contributory benefits)--movers: persons who are not pensioners

103

- (1) This paragraph applies--

- (a) to a mover; and
- (b) from the Monday following the day of the move.

- (2) The amount of the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefit) payable from the Monday from which this paragraph applies until the end of the extended reduction period is to be the amount of reduction under this scheme which was awarded to the mover for the last reduction week before the mover, or the mover's partner, ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit.

- (3) Where a mover's liability to pay council tax in respect of the new dwelling is to a second authority, the extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) may take the form of a payment from this authority to--

- (a) the second authority; or
- (b) the mover directly.

Relationship between extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) and entitlement to reduction by virtue of classes D to F

104

- (1) Where an applicant's reduction under this scheme would have ended when the applicant ceased to be entitled to a qualifying contributory benefit in the circumstances listed in paragraph 100(1)(b), that reduction does not cease until the end of the extended reduction period.

(2) Paragraphs 106 and 107 (dates on which entitlement begins and change of circumstances take effect) do not apply to any extended reduction (qualifying contributory benefits) payable in accordance with paragraph 102(1)(a) or 103(2) (amount of extended reduction--movers: persons who are not pensioners).

Chapter 3

Extended Reductions: Movers in the Authority's Area

Extended reductions: applicant moving into the authority's area

105

Where--

- (a) an application is made to the authority ("the current authority") for a reduction under this scheme, and
- (b) the applicant, or the partner of the applicant, is in receipt of an extended reduction from--
 - (i) another billing authority in England; or
 - (ii) a billing authority in Wales,

the current authority must reduce any reduction to which the applicant is entitled under this scheme by the amount of that extended reduction.

Part 13

When Entitlement Begins and Change of Circumstances

Date on which entitlement begins

106

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any person by whom or in respect of whom an application for a reduction under this scheme is made and who is otherwise entitled to that reduction is so entitled from the reduction week following the date on which that application is made or is treated as made.
- (2) Where a person is otherwise entitled to a reduction under this scheme and becomes liable for the first time for the authority's council tax in respect of a dwelling of which he is a resident in the reduction week in which his application is made or is treated as made, he is so entitled from that reduction week.

Tolerance for changes in circumstances for working age claimants

106A

Where any change of circumstances occurs which would result in an increase or decrease in a working age claimant's entitlement of less than £3.25 per week, no change in council tax reduction will be effected until such time as the total changes cumulatively amount to at least £3.25 per week. Where this occurs, the change will be effective from the date of the last change.

Date on which change of circumstances is to take effect

107

- (1) Except in cases where paragraph 60 (disregard of changes in tax, contributions, etc) applies and

subject to the following provisions of this paragraph and (in the case of applicants who are pensioners) paragraph 108 (change of circumstance where state pension credit in payment), a change of circumstances which affects entitlement to, or the amount of, a reduction under this scheme ("change of circumstances"), takes effect from the first day of the reduction week following the date on which the change actually occurs.

(2) Where that change is cessation of entitlement to any benefit under the benefit Acts, the date on which the change actually occurs is the day immediately following the last day of entitlement to that benefit.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), where the change of circumstances is a change in the amount of council tax payable, it takes effect from the day on which it actually occurs.

(4) Where the change of circumstances is a change in the amount a person is liable to pay in respect of council tax in consequence of regulations under section 13 of the 1992 Act (reduced amounts of council tax) or changes in the discount to which a dwelling may be subject under section 11 or 11A of that Act (discounts), it takes effect from the day on which the change in amount has effect.

(5) Where the change of circumstances is the applicant's acquisition of a partner, the change takes effect on the day on which the acquisition takes place.

(6) Where the change of circumstances is the death of an applicant's partner or their separation, it takes effect on the day the death or separation occurs.

(7) If two or more changes of circumstances occurring in the same reduction week would, but for this paragraph, take effect in different reduction weeks in accordance with sub-paragraphs (1) to (6) they take effect from the day to which the appropriate sub-paragraph from (3) to (6) above refers, or, where more than one day is concerned, from the earlier day.

(8) Where the change of circumstances is that income, or an increase in the amount of income, other than a benefit or an increase in the amount of a benefit under the SSCBA, is paid in respect of a past period and there was no entitlement to income of that amount during that period, the change of circumstances takes effect from the first day on which such income, had it been paid in that period at intervals appropriate to that income, would have fallen to be taken into account for the purposes of this scheme.

(9) Without prejudice to sub-paragraph (8), where the change of circumstances is the payment of income, or arrears of income, in respect of a past period, the change of circumstances takes effect from the first day on which such income, had it been timeously paid in that period at intervals appropriate to that income, would have fallen to be taken into account for the purposes of this scheme.

(10) Sub-paragraph (11) applies if--

- (a) the applicant or his partner has attained the age of 65; and
- (b) either--
 - (i) a non-dependant took up residence in the applicant's dwelling; or
 - (ii) there has been a change of circumstances in respect of a non-dependant so that the amount of the deduction which falls to be made under paragraph 30 increased.

(11) Where this sub-paragraph applies, the change of circumstances referred to in sub-paragraph (10)(b) takes effect from the effective date.

(12) In sub-paragraph (11), but subject to sub-paragraph (13), "the effective date" means--

- (a) where more than one change of a kind referred to in sub-paragraph (10)(b) relating to the same non-dependant has occurred since--
 - (i) the date on which the applicant's entitlement to a reduction under this scheme first began; or
 - (ii) the date which was the last effective date in respect of such a change,

whichever is the later, the date which falls 26 weeks after the date on which the first such change occurred;

(b) where paragraph (a) does not apply, the date which falls 26 weeks after the date on which the change referred to in sub-paragraph (10)(b) occurred.

(13) If in any particular case the date determined under sub-paragraph (12) is not the first day of a reduction week, the effective date in that case is to be the first day of the next reduction week to commence after the date determined under that sub-paragraph.

(14) Sub-paragraphs (15) to (19) apply to persons who fall within classes D, E and F.

(15) Where—

(a) the change of circumstances is a change of circumstances that is required by this scheme to be notified, and

(b) that change of circumstances is notified more than one month after it occurs, or such longer period as may be allowed under sub-paragraph (16), and

(c) the superseding decision is advantageous to the claimant

the date of notification of the change of circumstances shall be treated as the date on which the change of circumstances occurred.

(16) Subject to sub-paragraph (18), for the purposes of making a decision under this scheme a longer period of time may be allowed for the notification of a change of circumstances in so far as it affects the effective date of the change where the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (17) are satisfied. An application for the purposes of this sub-paragraph shall include:

(a) particulars of the change of circumstances and the reasons for the failure to notify the change of circumstances on an earlier date, and

(b) be made within 3 months of the date on which the change occurred.

(17) In determining whether it is reasonable to grant an application for the purposes of sub-paragraph (16), the authority shall have regard to the principle that the greater the amount of time that has elapsed between the date one month after the change of circumstances occurred and the date the application for a superseding decision is made, the more compelling should be the special circumstances on which the application is based. An application shall not be granted unless the authority is satisfied that—

(a) it is reasonable to grant the application;

(b) that change of circumstances notified by the applicant is relevant to the decision which is to be superseded; and

(c) special circumstances are relevant and as a result of those special circumstances it was not practicable for the applicant to notify the change of circumstances within one month of the change occurring.

(18) In determining whether it is reasonable to grant an application, no account shall be taken of the following—

(a) that the applicant was unaware of, or misunderstood, the law applicable to his case (including ignorance or misunderstanding of the time limits imposed by this scheme); or

(b) that the Valuation Tribunal or a court has taken a different view of the law from that previously understood and applied.

- (19) An application under this part which has been refused may not be renewed.

Change of circumstances where state pension credit in payment

108

- (1) Sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) apply where--

- (a) the applicant is in receipt of state pension credit;
- (b) the amount of state pension credit awarded to him is changed in consequence of a change in the applicant's circumstances or the correction of an official error; and
- (c) the change in the amount of state pension credit payable to the applicant results in a change in the amount of a reduction he receives under this scheme.

- (2) Where the change of circumstance is that an increase in the amount of state pension credit payable to the applicant results in--

- (a) an increase in the reduction he receives under this scheme, the change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week in which state pension credit becomes payable at the increased rate; or
- (b) a decrease in the reduction he receives under this scheme, the change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week next following the date on which--
 - (i) the authority receives notification from the Secretary of State of the increase in the amount of state pension credit; or
 - (ii) state pension credit is increased,whichever is the later.

- (3) Where the change of circumstance ("the relevant change") is that the applicant's state pension credit has been reduced and in consequence the reduction the applicant receives under this scheme reduces--

- (a) in a case where the applicant's state pension credit has been reduced because the applicant failed to notify the Secretary of State timeously of a change of circumstances, the relevant change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week from which state pension credit was reduced; or
- (b) in any other case the relevant change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week next following the date on which--
 - (i) the authority receives notification from the Secretary of State of the reduction in the amount of state pension credit; or
 - (ii) state pension credit is reduced,

whichever is the later.

- (4) Where the change of circumstance is that state pension credit is reduced and in consequence of the change, the amount of a reduction he receives under this scheme is increased, the change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week in which state pension credit becomes payable at the reduced rate.

- (5) Where a change of circumstance occurs in that an award of state pension credit has been made to the applicant or his partner and this would result in a decrease in the amount of reduction he receives under this scheme, the change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week next following the date on which--

- (a) the authority receives notification from the Secretary of State of the award of state pension credit; or
- (b) entitlement to state pension credit begins,

whichever is the later.

(6) Where, in the case of an applicant who, or whose partner, is or has been awarded state pension credit comprising only the savings credit, there is--

- (a) a change of circumstances of a kind described in any of sub-paragraphs (2) to (5) which results from a relevant calculation or estimate; and
- (b) a change of circumstances which is a relevant determination,

each of which results in a change in the amount of reduction the applicant receives under this scheme, the change of circumstances referred to in sub-paragraph (b) takes effect from the day specified in sub-paragraph (2), (3), (4) or (5) as the case may be, in relation to the change referred to in paragraph (a).

(7) Where a change of circumstance occurs in that a guarantee credit has been awarded to the applicant or his partner and this would result in an increase in the amount of a reduction the applicant receives under this scheme, the change takes effect from the first day of the reduction week next following the date in respect of which the guarantee credit is first payable.

(8) Where a change of circumstances would, but for this sub-paragraph, take effect under the preceding provisions of this paragraph within the 4 week period specified in paragraph 43 (continuing reductions where state pension credit claimed), that change takes effect on the first day of the first reduction week to commence after the expiry of the 4 week period.

(9) In this paragraph--

"official error" means an error made by--

- (a) the authority or a person--
 - (i) authorised to carry out any function of the authority relating to this scheme; or
 - (ii) providing services relating to this scheme directly or indirectly to the authority; or
- (b) an officer of--
 - (i) the Department for Work and Pensions; or
 - (ii) the Commissioners of Inland Revenue,

acting as such,

but excludes any error caused wholly or partly by any person or body not specified in paragraph (a) or (b) of this definition and any error of law which is shown to have been an error only by virtue of a subsequent decision of the court;

"relevant calculation or estimate" means the calculation or estimate made by the Secretary of State of the applicant's or, as the case may be, the applicant's partner's income and capital for the purposes of the award of state pension credit;

"relevant determination" means a change in the determination by the authority of the applicant's income and capital using the relevant calculation or estimate, in accordance with paragraph 36(1).

Part 14

Applications (Including Duties to Notify Authority of Change of Circumstances)

Making an application

109

(1) In the case of--

- (a) a couple or (subject to paragraph (b)) members of a polygamous marriage an application is to be made by whichever one of them they agree should so apply or, in default of agreement, by such one of them as the authority determines; or
- (b) in the case of members of a polygamous marriage to whom paragraph 37 (income and capital: award of universal credit) applies, an application is to be made by whichever one of the parties to the earliest marriage that still subsists they agree should so apply or, in default of agreement, by such one of them as the authority determines.

(2) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is unable for the time being to act, and--

- (a) a deputy has been appointed by the Court of Protection with power to claim, or as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or
- (b) in Scotland, his estate is being administered by a judicial factor or any guardian acting or appointed under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 who has power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or
- (c) an attorney with a general power or a power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit, has been appointed by that person under the Powers of Attorney Act 1971, the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act 1985 or the Mental Capacity Act 2005 or otherwise,

that deputy, judicial factor, guardian or attorney, as the case may be, may make an application on behalf of that person.

(3) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is unable for the time being to act and sub-paragraph (2) does not apply to him, the authority may, upon written application made to them by a person who, if a natural person, is over the age of 18, appoint that person to exercise on behalf of the person who is unable to act, any right to which that person might be entitled under this scheme and to receive and deal on his behalf with any sums payable to him.

(4) Where a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling is for the time being unable to act and the Secretary of State has appointed a person to act on his behalf under regulation 33 of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1987 (persons unable to act), the authority may if that person agrees, treat him as if he had been appointed by them under sub-paragraph (3).

(5) Where the authority has made an appointment under sub-paragraph (3) or treated a person as an appointee under sub-paragraph (4)--

- (a) it may at any time revoke the appointment;
- (b) the person appointed may resign his office after having given 4 weeks notice in writing to the authority of his intention to do so;
- (c) any such appointment must terminate when the authority is notified of the appointment of a person mentioned in sub-paragraph (2).

(6) Anything required by this scheme to be done by or to any person who is for the time being unable to act may be done by or to the persons mentioned in sub-paragraph (2) above or by or to the person appointed or treated as appointed under this paragraph and the receipt of any such person so appointed shall be a good discharge to the authority for any sum paid.

(7) The authority must--

- (a) inform any person making an application of the duty imposed by paragraph 115(1)(a);

- (b) explain the possible consequences (including prosecution) of failing to comply with that duty; and
- (c) set out the circumstances a change in which might affect entitlement to the reduction or its amount.

Date on which an application is made

110

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (7), the date on which an application is made is--

(a) in a case where--

- (i) an award of state pension credit which comprises a guarantee credit has been made to the applicant or his partner, and
- (ii) the application is made within one month of the date on which the claim for that state pension credit which comprises a guarantee credit was received at the appropriate DWP office,

the first day of entitlement to state pension credit which comprises a guarantee credit arising from that claim;

(b) in a case where--

- (i) an applicant or his partner is a person in receipt of a guarantee credit,
- (ii) the applicant becomes liable for the first time to pay council tax in respect of the dwelling which he occupies as his home, and
- (iii) the application to the authority is received at the designated office within one month of the date of the change,

the date on which the change takes place;

(c) in a case where--

- (i) an award of income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or an award of universal credit has been made to the applicant or his partner, and
- (ii) the application is made within one month of the date on which the claim for that income support, jobseeker's allowance, employment and support allowance or universal credit was received,

the first day of entitlement to income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance, an income-related employment and support allowance or universal credit arising from that claim;

(d) in a case where--

- (i) an applicant or his partner is a person on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or has an award of universal credit,
- (ii) the applicant becomes liable for the first time to pay council tax in respect of the dwelling which he occupies as his home, and
- (iii) the application to the authority is received at the designated office within one month of the date of the change,

the date on which the change takes place;

(e) in a case where--

- (i) the applicant is the former partner of a person who was, at the date of his death or their separation, entitled to a reduction under this scheme, and

- (ii) the applicant makes an application for a reduction under that scheme within one month of the date of the death or the separation,

the date of the death or separation;

(f) except where paragraph (a), (b) or (e) is satisfied, in a case where a properly completed application is received within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date on which an application form was issued to the applicant following the applicant first notifying, by whatever means, the authority of an intention to make an application, the date of first notification;

(g) in any other case, the date on which the application is received at the designated office.

(2) For the purposes only of sub-paragraph (1)(c) a person who has been awarded an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance is to be treated as entitled to that allowance for any days which immediately precede the first day in that award and on which he would, but for regulations made under--

(a) in the case of income-based jobseeker's allowance, paragraph 4 of Schedule 1 to the Jobseekers Act 1995 (waiting days); or

(b) in the case of income-related employment and support allowance, paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Welfare Reform Act 2007 (waiting days),

have been entitled to that allowance.

(3) Where the defect referred to in paragraph 7 of Schedule 1 to this scheme (application by telephone)--

(a) is corrected within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date the authority last drew attention to it, the authority must treat the application as if it had been duly made in the first instance;

(b) is not corrected within one month (or such longer period as the authority considers reasonable) of the date the authority last drew attention to it, the authority must treat the application as if it had been duly made in the first instance where it considers it has sufficient information to decide on the application.

(4) The authority is to treat a defective application as if it had been validly made in the first instance if, in any particular case, the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (5)(a), (b) or (c) are satisfied.

(5) The conditions are that--

(a) where paragraph 4(a) of Schedule 1 (incomplete form) applies, the authority receives at its designated office the properly completed application or the information requested to complete it or the evidence within one month of the request, or such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable; or

(b) where paragraph 4(b) of Schedule 1 (application not on approved form or further information requested by authority) applies--

(i) the approved form sent to the applicant is received at the designated office properly completed within one month of it having been sent to him; or, as the case may be,

(ii) the applicant supplies whatever information or evidence was requested under paragraph 4 of that Schedule within one month of the request,

or, in either case, within such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable; or

(c) where the authority has requested further information, the authority receives at its designated office the properly completed application or the information requested to complete it within one month of the request or within such longer period as the authority considers reasonable.

(6) Except in the case of an application made by a person treated as not being in Great Britain,

where a person has not become liable for council tax to the authority but it is anticipated that he will become so liable within the period of 8 weeks (the relevant period), he may apply for a reduction under this scheme at any time in that period in respect of that tax and, provided that liability arises within the relevant period, the authority is to treat the application as having been made on the day on which the liability for the tax arises.

(7) Except in the case of an application made by a person treated as not being in Great Britain, where the applicant is not entitled to a reduction under this scheme in the reduction week immediately following the date of his application but the authority is of the opinion that unless there is a change of circumstances he will be entitled to a reduction under this scheme for a period beginning not later than-

- (a) in the case of an application made by--
 - (i) a pensioner, or
 - (ii) a person who has attained, or whose partner has attained, the age which is 17 weeks younger than the qualifying age for state pension credit,

the seventeenth reduction week following the date on which the application is made, or

- (b) in the case of an application made by a person who is not a pensioner, the thirteenth reduction week following the date on which the application is made,

the authority may treat the application as made on a date in the reduction week immediately preceding the first reduction week of that period of entitlement and award a reduction accordingly.

(8) In this paragraph "appropriate DWP office" means an office of the Department for Work and Pensions dealing with state pension credit or an office which is normally open to the public for the receipt of claims for income support, a jobseeker's allowance or an employment and support allowance.

Back-dating of applications: pensioners

111

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the time for the making of an application under this scheme by a pensioner is as regards any day on which, apart from satisfying the condition of making an application, the applicant is entitled to such a reduction, that day and the period of three months immediately following it.

(2) In any case where paragraph 110(1)(a) applies, sub-paragraph (1) does not entitle a person to apply for a reduction under this scheme in respect of any day earlier than three months before the date on which the claim for state pension credit is made (or treated as made by virtue of any provision of the Social Security (Claims and Payments) Regulations 1987).

Back-dating of applications: persons who are not pensioners

112

(1) Where an applicant who is a person who is not a pensioner--

- (a) makes an application under this scheme which includes (or which he subsequently requests should include) a period before the application is made; and
- (b) from a day in that period, up to the date he made the application (or subsequently requested that the application should include a past period), the applicant had continuous good cause for failing to make an application (or request that the application should include that period),

the application is to be treated as made on the date determined in accordance with sub-paragraph (2).

- (2) That date is the latest of--
- (a) the first day from which the applicant had continuous good cause;
 - (b) the day 12 months before the date the application was made;
 - (c) the day 12 months before the date when the applicant requested that the application should include a past period.

Information and evidence

113

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), a person who makes an application for a reduction under this scheme must satisfy sub-paragraph (2) in relation both to himself and to any other person in respect of whom he is making the application.
- (2) This sub-paragraph is satisfied in relation to a person if--
- (a) the application is accompanied by--
 - (i) a statement of the person's national insurance number and information or evidence establishing that that number has been allocated to the person; or
 - (ii) information or evidence enabling the authority to ascertain the national insurance number that has been allocated to the person; or
 - (b) the person has made an application for a national insurance number to be allocated to him and the application for the reduction is accompanied by--
 - (i) evidence of the application for a national insurance number to be so allocated; and
 - (ii) the information or evidence enabling it to be so allocated.
- (3) Sub-paragraph (2) does not apply--
- (a) in the case of a child or young person in respect of whom an application for a reduction is made;
 - (b) to a person who--
 - (i) is a person treated as not being in Great Britain for the purposes of this scheme;
 - (ii) is subject to immigration control within the meaning of section 115(9)(a) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; and
 - (iii) has not previously been allocated a national insurance number.
- (4) Subject to sub-paragraph (5), a person who makes an application, or a person to whom a reduction under this scheme has been awarded, must furnish such certificates, documents, information and evidence in connection with the application or the award, or any question arising out of the application or the award, as may reasonably be required by the authority in order to determine that person's entitlement to, or continuing entitlement to a reduction under this scheme and must do so within one month of the authority requiring him to do so or such longer period as the authority may consider reasonable.
- (5) Nothing in this paragraph requires a person to furnish any certificates, documents, information or evidence relating to a payment to which sub-paragraph (7) applies.
- (6) Where a request is made under sub-paragraph (4), the authority must--
- (a) inform the applicant or the person to whom a reduction under this scheme has been awarded of his duty under paragraph 115 (duty to notify change of circumstances) to notify the authority of

any change of circumstances; and

(b) without prejudice to the extent of the duty owed under paragraph 115, indicate to him either orally or by notice or by reference to some other document available to him on application and without charge, the kind of change of circumstances which is to be notified.

(7) This sub-paragraph applies to any of the following payments--

(a) a payment which is--

(i) disregarded under paragraph 28 of Schedule 8 (sums disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners) or paragraph 38 of Schedule 10 (capital disregards: persons who are not pensioners); or

(ii) made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund;

(aa) a Grenfell Tower support payment;

(b) a payment which is disregarded under paragraph 16 of Schedule 9 (payments made under certain trusts and certain other payments), other than a payment under the Independent Living Fund (2006);

(c) a payment which is disregarded under paragraph 30(9)(b) or (c) (payment made under certain trusts etc) or paragraph 2(b) or (c) of Schedule 4 (payments made under certain trusts etc) other than a payment under the Independent Living Fund (2006).

(8) Where an applicant or a person to whom a reduction under this scheme has been awarded or any partner has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and is a member of, or a person deriving entitlement to a pension under, a personal pension scheme, he must where the authority so requires furnish the following information--

(a) the name and address of the pension fund holder;

(b) such other information including any reference or policy number as is needed to enable the personal pension scheme to be identified.

Amendment and withdrawal of application

114

(1) A person who has made an application may amend it at any time before a decision has been made on it by a notice in writing delivered or sent to the designated office.

(2) Where the application was made by telephone in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 1, the amendment may also be made by telephone.

(3) Any application amended in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) or (2) is to be treated as if it had been amended in the first instance.

(4) A person who has made an application may withdraw it by notice to the designated office at any time before a decision has been made on it.

(5) Where the application was made by telephone in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 1, the withdrawal may also be made by telephone.

(6) Any notice of withdrawal given in accordance with sub-paragraph (4) or (5) has effect when it is received.

(7) Where a person, by telephone, amends or withdraws an application the person must (if required

to do so by the authority) confirm the amendment or withdrawal by a notice in writing delivered or sent to the designated office.

Duty to notify changes of circumstances

115

(1) Subject to sub-paragraphs (3), and (9), the applicant (or any person acting on his behalf) must comply with sub-paragraph (2) if there is a relevant change of circumstances at any time--

- (a) between the making of an application and a decision being made on it, or
- (b) after the decision is made (where the decision is that the applicant is entitled to a reduction under this scheme) including at any time while the applicant is in receipt of such a reduction.

(2) The applicant (or any person acting on his behalf) must notify any change of circumstances which the applicant (or that person) might reasonably be expected to know might affect his entitlement to, or the amount of, a reduction under this scheme (a "relevant change of circumstances") by giving notice to the authority--

- (a) in writing; or
- (b) by telephone--
 - (i) where the authority has published a telephone number for that purpose or for the purposes of Part 1 of Schedule 1 unless the authority determines that in any particular case or class of case notification may not be given by telephone; or
 - (ii) in any case or class of case where the authority determines that notice may be given by telephone; or
- (c) by any other means which the authority agrees to accept in any particular case,

within a period of 21 days beginning with the day on which the change occurs, or as soon as reasonably practicable after the change occurs, whichever is later.

(3) The duty imposed on a person by sub-paragraph (1) does not extend to notifying--

- (a) changes in the amount of council tax payable to the authority;
- (b) changes in the age of the applicant or that of any member of his family;
- (c) in the case of an applicant in receipt of a relevant benefit, changes in circumstances which affect the amount of the benefit but not the amount of the reduction under this scheme to which he is entitled, other than the cessation of that entitlement to the benefit.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3)(c) "relevant benefit" means income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance or universal credit.

(5) Notwithstanding sub-paragraph (3)(b) or (c) an applicant is required by sub-paragraph (1) to notify the authority of any change in the composition of his family arising from the fact that a person who was a member of his family is now no longer such a person because he has ceased to be a child or young person.

(6) The duty imposed on a person by sub-paragraph (1) includes--

- (a) in the case of a person falling within class C (pensioners: alternative maximum council tax reduction) giving written notice to the authority of changes which occur in the number of adults in the dwelling or in their total gross incomes and, where any such adult ceases to be in receipt of state pension credit, the date when this occurs;

(b) in the case of a person falling within class F (persons who are not pensioners: alternative maximum council tax reduction) giving written notice to the authority of changes which occur in the number of adults in the dwelling or in their total gross incomes and, where any such adult ceases to be in receipt of income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, the date when this occurs.

(7) A person who has been awarded a reduction under this scheme who is also on state pension credit must report--

(a) changes affecting the residence or income of any non-dependant normally residing with the applicant or with whom the applicant normally resides;

(b) any absence from the dwelling which exceeds or is likely to exceed 13 weeks or where the absence is from Great Britain, which exceeds or is likely to exceed 4 weeks.

(8) In addition to the changes required to be reported under sub-paragraph (7), a person whose state pension credit comprises only the savings credit must also report--

(a) changes affecting a child living with him which may result in a change in the amount of reduction under this scheme allowed in his case, but not changes in the age of the child;

(b) any change in the amount of the applicant's capital to be taken into account which does or may take the amount of his capital to more than £16,000;

(c) any change in the income or capital of--

(i) a non-dependant whose income and capital are treated as belonging to the applicant in accordance with paragraph 34 (circumstances in which income of a non-dependant is to be treated as applicant's); or

(ii) a person to whom paragraph 36(2)(e) (partner treated as member of the household under paragraph 8) refers,

and whether such a person or, as the case may be, non-dependant stops living or begins or resumes living with the applicant.

(9) A person who is entitled to a reduction under this scheme and on state pension credit need only report to the authority the changes specified in sub-paragraphs (7) and (8).

Part 15

Decisions by Authority

Decision by authority

116

The authority must make a decision on an application for a reduction under this scheme within 14 days of paragraphs 110 and 113 and Part 1 of Schedule 1 being satisfied, or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.

Notification of decision

117

(1) The authority must notify in writing any person affected by a decision made by it under this scheme--

(a) in the case of a decision on an application, forthwith or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter;

- (b) in any other case, within 14 days of that decision or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
- (2) Where the decision is to award a reduction the notification under sub-paragraph (1) must include a statement--
 - (a) informing the person affected of the duty imposed by paragraph 115(1)(b);
 - (b) explaining the possible consequences (including prosecution) of failing to comply with that duty; and
 - (c) setting out the circumstances a change in which might affect entitlement to the reduction or its amount.
- (3) Where the decision is to award a reduction, the notification under sub-paragraph (1) must include a statement as to how that entitlement is to be discharged.
- (4) In any case, the notification under sub-paragraph (1) must inform the person affected of the procedure by which an appeal may be made and must refer the person to the provisions in this scheme relating to the procedure for making an appeal.
- (5) A person affected to whom the authority sends or delivers a notification of decision may, within one month of the date of the notification of that decision request in writing the authority to provide a written statement setting out the reasons for its decision on any matter set out in the notice.
- (6) The written statement referred to in sub-paragraph (5) must be sent to the person requesting it within 14 days or as soon as reasonably practicable thereafter.
- (7) For the purposes of this paragraph a person is to be treated as a person affected by a decision of the authority under this scheme where the rights, duties or obligations of that person are affected by that decision and the person falls within sub-paragraph (8).
- (8) This sub-paragraph applies to--
 - (a) the applicant;
 - (b) in the case of a person who is liable to pay council tax in respect of a dwelling and is unable for the time being to act--
 - (i) a deputy appointed by the Court of Protection with power to claim, or as the case may be, receive benefit on his behalf; or
 - (ii) in Scotland, a judicial factor or any guardian acting or appointed under the Adults with Incapacity (Scotland) Act 2000 who has power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit on the person's behalf; or
 - (iii) an attorney with a general power or a power to apply or, as the case may be, receive benefit, has been appointed by that person under the Powers of Attorney Act 1971, the Enduring Powers of Attorney Act 1985 or the Mental Capacity Act 2005 or otherwise,
 - (c) a person appointed by the authority under paragraph 109(3).

Part 16

Circumstances in Which a Payment May be Made

Payment where there is joint and several liability

118

- (1) Where--
 - (a) a person is entitled to a reduction under this scheme in respect of his liability for the authority's council tax as it has effect in respect of a financial year;

- (b) the person entitled to the reduction is jointly and severally liable for the council tax; and
- (c) the authority determines that discharging his entitlement by reducing the amount of his liability to which regulation 20(2) of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992 refers would be inappropriate,

it may make a payment to him of the amount of reduction to which he is entitled, rounded where necessary to the nearest penny.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment made under sub-paragraph (1) must be made to the person who is entitled to the reduction.

(3) Where a person other than the person who is entitled to the reduction under this scheme made the application for the reduction and that first person is a person acting pursuant to an appointment under paragraph 109(3) (persons appointed to act for a person unable to act) or is treated as having been so appointed by virtue of paragraph 109(5), the amount of the reduction may be paid to that person.

SCHEDULE 1

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Paragraph 11

Part 1

Procedure for an Application for a Reduction Under this Scheme

Procedure by which a person may apply for a reduction under this scheme

1

Paragraphs 2 to 7 apply to an application for a reduction under this scheme.

2

An application may be made--

- (a) in writing,
- (b) by means of an electronic communication in accordance with Part 4 of this Schedule, or
- (c) where the authority has published a telephone number for the purpose of receiving such applications, by telephone.

3

- (1) An application which is made in writing must be made to the designated office on a properly completed form.
- (2) The form must be provided free of charge by the authority for the purpose.

4

Where an application made in writing is defective because--

- (a) it was made on the form supplied for the purpose but that form is not accepted by the authority as being properly completed; or
- (b) it was made in writing but not on the form supplied for the purpose and the authority does not accept the application as being in a written form which is sufficient in the circumstances of the case having regard to the sufficiency of the written information and evidence,

the authority may, in a case to which sub-paragraph (a) applies, request the applicant to complete the defective application or, in the case to which sub-paragraph (b) applies, supply the applicant with the approved form or request further information and evidence.

- (2) An application made on a form provided by the authority is properly completed if completed in accordance with the instructions on the form, including any instructions to provide information and evidence in connection with the application.

5

- (1) If an application made by electronic communication is defective the authority must provide the person making the application with an opportunity to correct the defect.
- (2) An application made by electronic communication is defective if the applicant does not provide all the information the authority requires.

6

In a particular case the authority may determine that an application made by telephone is only valid if the person making the application approves a written statement of his circumstances provided by the authority.

7

- (1) If an application made by telephone is defective the authority must provide the person making the application with an opportunity to correct the defect.
- (2) An application made by telephone is defective if the applicant does not provide all the information the authority requests during the telephone call.

Part 2
Procedure for Making an Appeal

Procedure by which a person may make an appeal against certain decisions of the authority

8

A person who is aggrieved by a decision of the authority which affects--

- (a) the person's entitlement to a reduction under this scheme, or
- (b) the amount of any reduction under this scheme,

may serve a written notice on the authority stating the matter by which, and the grounds on which, he is aggrieved.

9

The authority must--

- (a) consider the matter to which the notice relates;
- (b) notify the aggrieved person in writing--
 - (i) that the ground is not well founded, giving reasons for that belief; or
 - (ii) that steps have been taken to deal with the grievance, stating the steps taken.

10

Where, following notification under paragraph 9(b)(i) or (ii), the person is still aggrieved, or if the authority fails to notify the person aggrieved in accordance with paragraph 9(b) within two months of the service of his notice, he may appeal to a valuation tribunal under section 16 of the 1992 Act.

Part 3

Procedure for Applying for a Discretionary Reduction

Procedure for an application to the authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act

11

(1) An application to the authority for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Act may be made--

- (a) in writing;
- (b) by means of an electronic communication in accordance with Part 4 of this Schedule; or
- (c) where the authority has published a telephone number for the purposes of receiving such applications, by telephone.

(2) Where--

- (a) the authority has made a determination under section 13A(1)(c) in relation to a class of case in which liability is to be reduced; and
- (b) a person in that class would otherwise be entitled to a reduction under this scheme,

that person's application for a reduction under this scheme may also be treated as an application for a reduction under section 13A(1)(c).

Part 4

Electronic Communication

Interpretation

12

In this Part--

"information" includes an application, certificate, notice or other evidence;

"official computer system" means a computer system maintained by or on behalf of the authority for the sending, receiving, processing or storing of any information.

Conditions for the use of electronic communication

13

(1) The authority may use an electronic communication in connection with applications for, and awards of, reductions under this scheme.

(2) A person other than the authority may use an electronic communication in connection with the matters referred to in sub-paragraph (1) if the conditions specified in sub-paragraphs (3) to (6) are satisfied.

(3) The first condition is that the person is for the time being permitted to use an electronic communication by an authorisation given by means of a direction of the Chief Executive of the authority.

(4) The second condition is that the person uses an approved method of--

- (a) authenticating the identity of the sender of the communication;
- (b) electronic communication;
- (c) authenticating any application or notice delivered by means of an electronic communication; and
- (d) subject to sub-paragraph (7), submitting to the authority any information.

(5) The third condition is that any information sent by means of an electronic communication is in a form supplied for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule.

(6) The fourth condition is that the person maintains such records in written or electronic form as may be specified in a direction given by the Chief Executive of the authority.

(7) Where the person uses any method other than the method approved of submitting any information, that information is to be treated as not having been submitted.

(8) In this paragraph "approved" means approved by means of a direction given by the Chief Executive of the authority for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule.

Use of intermediaries

14

The authority may use intermediaries in connection with--

- (a) the delivery of any information by means of an electronic communication; and
- (b) the authentication or security of anything transmitted by such means,

and may require other persons to use intermediaries in connection with those matters.

Effect of delivering information by means of electronic communication

15

(1) Any information which is delivered by means of an electronic communication is to be treated as having been delivered in the manner or form required by any provision of this scheme, on the day the conditions imposed--

- (a) by this Part; and
- (b) by or under an enactment,

are satisfied.

(2) The authority may determine that any information is to be treated as delivered on a different day (whether earlier or later) from the day provided for in sub-paragraph (1).

(3) Information must not be taken to have been delivered to an official computer system by means of an electronic communication unless it is accepted by the system to which it is delivered.

Proof of identity of sender or recipient of information

16

If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, the identity of--

- (a) the sender of any information delivered by means of an electronic communication to an official computer system; or
- (b) the recipient of any such information delivered by means of an electronic communication from an official computer system,

the sender or recipient, as the case may be, is to be presumed to be the person whose name is recorded as such on that official computer system.

Proof of delivery of information

17

(1) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, that the use of an electronic communication has resulted in the delivery of any information this must be presumed to have been the case where--

- (a) any such information has been delivered to the relevant authority, if the delivery of that information has been recorded on an official computer system; or
- (b) any such information has been delivered by the relevant authority, if the delivery of that information has been recorded on an official computer system.

(2) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, that the use of an electronic communication has resulted in the delivery of any such information, this must be presumed not to be the case, if that information delivered to the relevant authority has not been recorded on an official computer system.

(3) If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, when any such information sent by means of an electronic communication has been received, the time and date of receipt must be presumed to be that recorded on an official computer system.

Proof of content of information

18

If it is necessary to prove, for the purpose of any legal proceedings, the content of any information sent by means of an electronic communication, the content must be presumed to be that recorded on an official computer system.

SCHEDULE 2
APPLICABLE AMOUNTS: PENSIONERS

Paragraph 25

Part 1
Personal Allowances

Personal allowance

1

The amount specified in column (2) below in respect of each person or couple specified in column (1) is the amount specified for the purposes of paragraph 25(1)(a).

| <i>Column (1)</i> <i>Person or couple</i> | <i>Column (2)</i> <i>Amount</i> |
|--|------------------------------------|
| (1) Single applicant or lone parent who has attained pensionable age before 1 st April 2021 | £244.40 |
| (2) Couple where one or both members have attained pensionable age before 1 st April 2021 | £366.00 |
| (3) If the applicant is a member of a polygamous marriage and one or more of the members of the marriage has attained pensionable age before 1 st April 2021— | |
| (a) for the applicant and the other party to the marriage; | (a) £366.00 |
| (b) for each additional spouse who is a member of the same household as the applicant. | (b) £121.60. |
| (4) Single applicant or lone parent who has attained pensionable age on or after 1 st April 2021 | £277.10 |
| (5) Couple where both members have attained pensionable age on or after 1 st April 2021 | £346.60 |
| (6) If the applicant is a member of a polygamous marriage and all members of the marriage have attained pensionable age on or after 1 st April 2021— | (a) £346.60 |
| (a) for the applicant and the other party to the marriage; | (b) £119.50 |
| (b) for each additional spouse who is a member of the same household as the applicant | |

Child or young person amounts

2

(1) The amounts specified in column (2) below in respect of each person specified in column (1) are the amounts, for the relevant period specified in column (1), specified for the purposes of paragraph 25(1)(b).

| <i>Column (1)</i> <i>Child or young person</i> | <i>Column (2)</i> <i>Amount</i> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Person in respect of the period-- | |
| (a) beginning on that person's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday; | (a) £84.66 |
| (b) beginning on the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday and ending on the day preceding that person's twentieth birthday. | (b) £84.66 |

(2) In column (1) of the table "the first Monday in September" means the Monday which first occurs in the month of September in any year.

Part 2
Family Premium

Family premium

3

The amount for the purposes of paragraph 25(1)(c) in respect of a family of which at least one member is a child or young person —

- (a) is £19.48 in respect of a reduction week which begins in the period beginning with 1st April 2016 and ending with 30th April 2016;
- (b) is nil in respect of a reduction week which begins after 1st May 2016.

Transitional provision

3 A

(1) Subject to paragraph (2), paragraph 3 does not apply to a person who, on 30th April 2016, is liable to pay council tax at a reduced rate by virtue of a council tax reduction under the authority's scheme established under section 13A(2) of the Act and is—

- (a) a member of a family of which at least one member is a child or young person; or
- (b) a partner in a polygamous marriage, where he or she, or another partner of the polygamous marriage, is responsible for a child or young person who is a member of the same household.

(2) Paragraph (1) does not apply if—

- (a) sub-paragraph (a) or (b) of that paragraph ceases to apply; or
- (b) the person makes a new application for a reduction under the authority's scheme under section 13A(2) of the Act.

(3) For the purposes of this paragraph—

- (a) “the Act” means the Local Government Finance Act 1992;
- (b) “child”, “family”, “partner”, “polygamous marriage” and “young person” have the meanings given by Part 2 (‘Interpretation’) of this scheme.

Part 3
Premiums

4

The premiums specified in Part 4 are, for the purposes of paragraph 25(1)(d), applicable to an applicant who satisfies the condition specified in this Part in respect of that premium.

5

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, once a premium is applicable to an applicant under this Part, a person is to be treated as being in receipt of any benefit for--

- (a) in the case of a benefit to which the Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Regulations 1979 applies, any period during which, apart from the provision of those Regulations, he would be in receipt of that benefit;
 - (b) any period spent by a person in undertaking a course of training or instruction provided or approved by the Secretary of State under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973, or by Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highland and Islands Enterprise under section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 or for any period during which he is in receipt of a training allowance; and
 - (c) in the case of carer support payment, any period during which, apart from regulation 16 of the Carer's Assistance (Carer Support Payment) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, he would be in receipt of that payment..
- (2) For the purposes of the carer premium under paragraph 9, a person is to be treated as being in receipt of a carer's allowance by virtue of sub- paragraph (1)(a) or carer support payment by virtue of sub-paragraph (1)(c) only if and for so long as the person in respect of whose care the allowance or payment has been claimed remains in receipt of—
- (a) attendance allowance;
 - (aa) pension age disability payment;
 - (b) the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (c) the care component of child disability payment at the highest or middle rate in accordance with regulation 11(5) of the DACYP Regulations;
 - (d) the daily living component of personal independence payment paid at either rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;
 - (e) the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations; or
 - (f) an AFIP.

Severe disability premium

6

- (1) The condition is that the applicant is a severely disabled person.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), an applicant is to be treated as being a severely disabled person if, and only if--
 - (a) in the case of a single applicant, a lone parent or an applicant who is treated as having no partner in consequence of sub-paragraph (3)--
 - (i) he is in receipt of—
 - (aa) attendance allowance;
 - (aaa) pension age disability payment;
 - (bb) the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (cc) the daily living component of personal independence payment paid at either rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;
 - (dd) the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations; or
 - (ee) an AFIP; and
 - (ii) subject to sub-paragraph (6), he has no non-dependants aged 18 or over normally residing with him or with whom he is normally residing; and
 - (iii) no person is entitled to, and in receipt of, a carer's allowance under section 70 of the

SSCBA or carer support payment or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 in respect of caring for him;

- (b) in the case of an applicant who has a partner--
 - (i) the applicant is in receipt of--
 - (aa) attendance allowance;
 - (aaa) pension age disability payment;
 - (bb) the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (cc) the daily living component of personal independence payment paid at either rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;
 - (dd) the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations; or
 - (ee) an AFIP;
 - (ii) his partner is also in receipt of such an allowance or payment or, if he is a member of a polygamous marriage, each other member of that marriage is in receipt of such an allowance or payment; and
 - (iii) subject to sub-paragraph (6), the applicant has no non-dependants aged 18 or over normally residing with him or with whom he is normally residing,

and either a person is entitled to and in receipt of a carer's allowance or carer support payment or has an award of universal credit that includes the carer element in respect of caring for only one of the couple or, if he is a member of a polygamous marriage, for one or more but not all the members of the marriage, or as the case may be, no person is entitled to and in receipt of such an allowance or payment or has such an award of universal credit in respect of caring for either member of a couple or any of the members of the marriage.

(3) Where an applicant has a partner who does not satisfy the condition in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(ii), and that partner is blind or is treated as blind within the meaning of sub-paragraph (4), that partner is to be treated for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) as if he were not a partner of the applicant.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (3), a person is blind if he is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in England under section 77(1) of the Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults), in Scotland, has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 or is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

(5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (4), a person who has ceased to be registered as blind on regaining his eyesight is nevertheless to be treated as blind and as satisfying the additional condition set out in that sub-paragraph for a period of 28 weeks following the date on which he ceased to be so registered.

(6) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a)(ii) and (2)(b)(iii) no account is to be taken of--

- (a) A person receiving--
 - (i) attendance allowance;
 - (ia) pension age disability payment;
 - (ii) the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA;
 - (iii) the daily living component of personal independence payment paid at either rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;
 - (iv) the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations; or

- (v) an AFIP; or
- (b) a person who is blind or is treated as blind within the meaning of sub-paragraphs (4) and (5).
- (7) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(b) a person is to be treated--
 - (a) as being in receipt of attendance allowance, or the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA, if he would, but for his being a patient for a period exceeding 28 days, be so in receipt;
 - (b) as being in receipt of the daily living component of personal independence payment paid at the rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 if he would, but for his being a patient for a period exceeding 28 days, be so in receipt, notwithstanding section 86 of that Act and regulations made thereunder;
 - (ba) as being in receipt of the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations, if they would, but for payment ceasing by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of those Regulations, be so in receipt;
 - (c) as being in receipt of an AFIP if he would be so in receipt but for a suspension of payment in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allow for a suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution;
 - (d) as being entitled to and in receipt of a carer's allowance or carer support payment or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element if he would, but for the person for whom he was caring being a patient in hospital for a period exceeding 28 days, be so entitled and in receipt or have such an award of universal credit.
 - (e) as being in receipt of pension age disability payment if he would, but for payment ceasing by virtue of regulation 20 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024, be so in receipt.
- (8) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) and (b)--
 - (a) no account is to be taken of an award of carer's allowance or carer support payment to the extent that payment of such an award is back-dated for a period before the date on which the award is first paid; and
 - (b) a reference to a person being in receipt of a carer's allowance or as having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element include reference to a person who would have been in receipt of that allowance or had such an award of universal credit but for the application of a restriction under section 6B or 7 of the Social Security Fraud Act 2001 (loss of benefit).

Enhanced disability premium

7

- (1) The condition is that--
 - (a) the care component of disability living allowance is, or would, but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 113(2) of the SSCBA or but for an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation, be payable at the highest rate prescribed under section 73(2) of that Act;
 - (aa) the care component of child disability payment is payable at the highest rate in accordance with regulation 11(5) of the DACYP Regulations;
 - (ab) the daily living component of adult disability payment is payable, or has ceased to be payable by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations, at the enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of those Regulations;
 - (b) (as the case may be) the daily living component of personal independence payment is, or would, but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations under section 86 of the

Welfare Reform Act 2012, be payable at the enhanced rate prescribed in accordance with section 78(2) of that Act; or

(c) an AFIP is payable,

in respect of a child or young person who is a member of the applicant's family.

(2) Where the condition in sub-paragraph (1) ceases to be satisfied because of the death of a child or young person, the condition is that the applicant or partner is entitled to child benefit in respect of that person under section 145A of the SSCBA (entitlement after death of child or qualifying young person).

Disabled child premium

8

The condition is that a child or young person for whom the applicant or a partner of his is responsible and who is a member of the applicant's household--

(a) is in receipt of disability living allowance, personal independence payment or is no longer in receipt of such allowance or payment because he is a patient, provided that the child or young person continues to be a member of the family; or

(aa) is in receipt of child disability payment; or

(b) is blind within the meaning of paragraph 6(4) or treated as blind in accordance with paragraph 6(5); or

(c) is a child or young person in respect of whom section 145A of the SSCBA (entitlement after death of child or qualifying young person) applies for the purposes of entitlement to child benefit but only for the period prescribed under that section, and in respect of whom a disabled child premium was included in the applicant's applicable amount immediately before the death of that child or young person, or ceased to be included in the applicant's applicable amount because of that child or young person's death.

(d) is a young person who is in receipt of adult disability payment or who would, but for payment ceasing by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations be so in receipt, provided that the young person continues to be a member of the family; or

(e) is a young person who is in receipt of an AFIP.

Carer premium

9

(1) The condition is that the applicant or his partner is, or both of them are, entitled to a carer's allowance or carer support payment.

(2) Where a carer premium has been awarded but--

(a) the person in respect of whose care the carer's allowance or carer support payment has been awarded dies; or

(b) the person in respect of whom the premium was awarded ceases to be entitled, or ceases to be treated as entitled, to a carer's allowance or carer support payment,
this paragraph is to be treated as satisfied for a period of eight weeks from the relevant date specified in sub-paragraph (3).

(3) The relevant date for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) is--

(a) in a case within sub-paragraph (2)(a), the Sunday following the death of the person in respect of whose care the carer's allowance or carer support payment has been awarded (or beginning with the date of death if the date occurred on a Sunday);

(b) in a case within sub-paragraph (2)(b), the date on which that person who was entitled to a carer's allowance or carer support payment ceases to be entitled to it.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph, a person is to be treated as being entitled to and in receipt of a carer's allowance or carer support payment for any period not covered by an award but in respect of which a payment is made in lieu of an award.

Persons in receipt of concessionary payments

10

For the purpose of determining whether a premium is applicable to a person under paragraphs 6 to 9, any concessionary payment made to compensate that person for the non-payment of any benefit mentioned in those paragraphs is to be treated as if it were a payment of that benefit.

Person in receipt of benefit

11

For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a person is to be regarded as being in receipt of any benefit if, and only if, it is paid in respect of him and is to be so regarded only for any period in respect of which that benefit is paid.

Part 4 **Amounts of Premium Specified in Part 3**

12

(1) Severe Disability Premium--

| <i>Provision</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|
| (a) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 6(2)(a); | (a) £82.90 |
| (b) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 6(2)(b)-- | (b) |
| (i) in a case where there is someone in receipt of a carer's allowance or carer support payment or who has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 or if he or any partner satisfies that condition only by virtue of paragraph 6(7); | (i) £82.90 |
| (ii) in a case where there is no-one in receipt of such an allowance or payment or such an award of universal credit. | (ii) £165.80 |
| (2) Enhanced disability premium. | (2) £32.75 in respect of each child or young person in respect of whom the conditions specified in paragraph |

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| (3) Disabled Child Premium. | 7 are satisfied. |
| (4) Carer Premium. | (3) 81.37 in respect of each child or young person in respect of whom the condition specified in paragraph 8 is satisfied (4) £46.40 in respect of each person who satisfies the condition specified in paragraph 9. |

SCHEDULE 3
APPLICABLE AMOUNTS: PERSONS WHO ARE NOT PENSIONERS

Paragraph 26

Part 1
Personal Allowances

1

The amounts specified in column (2) below in respect of each person or couple specified in column (1) are the amounts specified for the purposes of paragraphs 26(1)(a) and 27(1)(a) and (b)--

| <i>Column (1)</i> <i>Person or couple</i> | <i>Column (2)</i> <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|
| (1) A single applicant who-- (a) is entitled to main phase employment and support allowance; (b) is aged not less than 25; (c) is aged not less than 18 but less than 25. | <i>Amounts as specified in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time to time</i> |
| (2) Lone parent. | |
| (3) Couple. | |

2

For the purposes of paragraph 1 an applicant is entitled to main phase employment and support allowance if--

- (a) paragraph 18 is satisfied in relation to the applicant; or
- (b) the applicant is entitled to a converted employment and support allowance.

3

(1) The amounts specified in column (2) below in respect of each person specified in column (1) are, for the relevant period specified in column (1), the amounts specified for the purposes of paragraphs 26(1)(b) and 27(1)(c)--

| <i>Column (1)</i> <i>Child or Young person</i> | <i>Column (2)</i> <i>Amount</i> |
|--|--|
| Person in respect of the period-- (a) beginning on that person's date of birth and ending on the day preceding the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday; (b) beginning on the first Monday in September following that person's sixteenth birthday and ending on the day preceding that person's twentieth birthday. | <i>Amounts as specified in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time to time</i> |
| | |

(2) In column (1) of the table in sub-paragraph (1), "the first Monday in September" means the Monday which first occurs in the month of September in any year.

Part 2
Family Premium

4

(1) The amount for the purposes of paragraphs 26(1)(c) and 27(1)(d) in respect of a family of which at least one member is a child or young person is--

- (a) where the applicant is a lone parent to whom sub-paragraph (2) applies,
- (b) in any other case,

in both cases, the amounts as specified in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time

to time

- (2) The amount in sub-paragraph (1)(a) is applicable to a lone parent--
- (a) who was entitled to council tax benefit on 5th April 1998 and whose applicable amount on that date included the amount applicable under paragraph 3(1)(a) of Schedule 1 to the Council Tax Benefit (Persons who have attained the qualifying age for state pension credit) Regulations 2006 as in force on that date; or
 - (b) on becoming entitled to council tax benefit where that lone parent--
 - (i) had been treated as entitled to that benefit in accordance with sub-paragraph (3) as at the day before the date of claim for that benefit; and
 - (ii) was entitled to housing benefit as at the date of claim for council tax benefit or would have been entitled to housing benefit as at that date had that day not fallen during a rent free period as defined in regulation 81 of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006,

and in respect of whom, all of the conditions specified in sub-paragraph (3) have continued to apply.

(3) The conditions specified for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) are that, in respect of the period commencing on 6th April 1998--

- (a) the applicant has not ceased to be entitled, or has not ceased to be treated as entitled, to
 - (i) council tax benefit (in relation to the period prior to 1st April 2013), and
 - (ii) a reduction under a scheme made by this authority (in relation to the period commencing on 1st April 2013);
- (b) the applicant has not ceased to be a lone parent;
- (c) where the applicant was entitled to income support or to an income-based jobseeker's allowance on 5th April 1998, he has continuously, since that date, been entitled to income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income-related employment and support allowance or a combination of those benefits;
- (d) where the applicant was not entitled to income support or to an income-based jobseeker's allowance on 5th April 1998, he has not become entitled to income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance; and
- (e) a premium under paragraph 9 or a component under paragraph 24 or 22 has not become applicable to the applicant.

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (2)(b)(i) and (3)(a), an applicant is to be treated as entitled to council tax benefit during any period where he was not, or had ceased to be, so entitled and--

- (a) throughout that period, he had been awarded housing benefit and his applicable amount included the amount applicable under paragraph 3(1)(a) of Schedule 3 to the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 (lone parent rate of family premium); or
- (b) he would have been awarded housing benefit during that period had that period not been a rent free period as defined in regulation 81 of the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 and his applicable amount throughout that period would have included the amount applicable under paragraph 3(1)(a) of Schedule 3 to those Regulations.

Part 3 Premiums

5

Except as provided in paragraph 6, the premiums specified in Part 4 are, for the purposes of paragraphs 26(1)(d) and 27(1)(e) (premiums), applicable to an applicant who satisfies the condition

specified in paragraphs 9 to 14 in respect of that premium.

6

Subject to paragraph 7, where an applicant satisfies the conditions in respect of more than one premium in this Part of this Schedule, only one premium is applicable to him and, if they are different amounts, the higher or highest amount applies.

7

The following premiums, namely--

- (a) a severe disability premium to which paragraph 11 applies;
- (b) an enhanced disability premium to which paragraph 12 applies;
- (c) a disabled child premium to which paragraph 13 applies; and
- (d) a carer premium to which paragraph 14 applies,

may be applicable in addition to any other premium which may apply under this Schedule.

8

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), for the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, once a premium is applicable to an applicant under this Part, a person is to be treated as being in receipt of any benefit for--

- (a) in the case of a benefit to which the Social Security (Overlapping Benefits) Regulations 1979 applies, any period during which, apart from the provisions of those Regulations, he would be in receipt of that benefit; and
- (b) any period spent by a person in undertaking a course of training or instruction provided or approved by the Secretary of State under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or by Skills Development Scotland, Scottish Enterprise or Highlands and Islands Enterprise under section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 for any period during which he is in receipt of a training allowance.

- (2) For the purposes of the carer premium under paragraph 14, a person is to be treated as being in receipt of carer's allowance by virtue of sub-paragraph (1)(a) only if and for so long as the person in respect of whose care the allowance has been claimed remains in receipt of attendance allowance, or the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA, the care component of child disability payment at the highest or middle rate in accordance with regulation 11(5) of the DACYP Regulations; or the daily living component of personal independence payment payable under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, or the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations.

Disability premium

9

The condition is that--

- (a) where the applicant is a single applicant or a lone parent, he has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and the additional condition specified in paragraph 10 is satisfied; or
- (b) where the applicant has a partner, either--
 - (i) the applicant has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and the additional

condition specified in paragraph 10(1)(a) or (b) is satisfied by him; or

(ii) his partner has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and the additional condition specified in paragraph 10(1)(a) is satisfied by his partner.

Additional condition for the disability premium

10

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2) and paragraph 8, the additional condition referred to in paragraph 9 is that either--

(a) the applicant or, as the case may be, his partner--

(i) is in receipt of one or more of the following benefits: attendance allowance, pension age disability payment, disability living allowance, child disability payment, personal independence payment, adult disability payment, an AFIP, the disability element or the severe disability element of working tax credit as specified in regulation 20(1)(b) and (f) of the Working Tax Credit (Entitlement and Maximum Rate) Regulations 2002, mobility supplement, long-term incapacity benefit under Part 2 of the SSCBA or severe disablement allowance under Part 3 of that Act but, in the case of long-term incapacity benefit or severe disablement allowance, only where it is paid in respect of him; or

(ii) was in receipt of long-term incapacity benefit under Part 2 of the SSCBA when entitlement to that benefit ceased on account of the payment of a retirement pension under that Act or a state pension under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014 and the applicant remained continuously entitled to--

(aa) council tax benefit (in relation to the period prior to 1st April 2013, or

(bb) a reduction under a scheme made by this authority (in relation to the period commencing on or after 1st April 2013), and

if the long-term incapacity benefit was payable to his partner, the partner is still a member of the family; or

(iii) was in receipt of attendance allowance or disability living allowance but payment of benefit has been suspended in accordance with regulations made under section 113(2) of the SSCBA or otherwise abated as a consequence of the applicant or his partner becoming a patient within the meaning of paragraph 58(11)(i) (treatment of child care charges); or

(iv) was in receipt of personal independence payment, but payment of that benefit has been suspended in accordance with section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 as a consequence of the applicant becoming a patient within the meaning of paragraph 58A(11)(i) (treatment of child care charges); or

“(iva) was in receipt of adult disability payment that is no longer payable by virtue of regulation 28 of the DAWAP Regulations; or

(ivb) was in receipt of pension age disability payment that is no longer payable by virtue of regulation 20 of the Disability Assistance for Older People (Scotland) Regulations 2024; or

(v) was in receipt of an AFIP, but payment has been suspended in accordance with any terms of the armed and reserve forces compensation scheme which allow for suspension because a person is undergoing medical treatment in a hospital or similar institution; or

(vi) he has an invalid carriage or other vehicle provided to him by the Secretary of State or an integrated care board under paragraph 9 of Schedule 1 to the National Health Service Act 2006 or under section 46 of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978 or provided by the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety in Northern Ireland under Article 30(1) of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972; or

(vii) who is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept under section 77(1) of the

Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults), in Scotland has been certified as blind and in consequence he is registered as blind in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 or is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or

(viii) was in receipt of Adult Disability Payment, but payment of that benefit has been suspended in accordance with regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement) of the DAWAP Regulations as a consequence of the applicant becoming a patient within the meaning of paragraph 58A(11)(i) (treatment of child care charges); or

(b) the applicant--

(i) is, or is treated as, incapable of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work); and

(ii) has been incapable, or has been treated as incapable, of work for a continuous period of not less than--

(aa) in the case of an applicant who is terminally ill within the meaning of section 30B(4) of the SSCBA, 196 days;

(bb) in any other case, 364 days.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(a)(vii), a person who has ceased to be registered as blind on regaining his eyesight is nevertheless to be treated as blind and as satisfying the additional condition set out in that sub-paragraph for a period of 28 weeks following the date on which he ceased to be so registered.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b), once the disability premium is applicable to an applicant by virtue of his satisfying the additional condition specified in that provision, if he then ceases, for a period of 8 weeks or less, to be treated as incapable of work or to be incapable of work he is, on again becoming so incapable of work, immediately thereafter to be treated as satisfying the condition in sub-paragraph (1)(b).

(4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b), once the disability premium is applicable to an applicant by virtue of his satisfying the additional condition specified in that provision, he is to continue to be treated as satisfying that condition for any period spent by him in undertaking a course of training provided under section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 or for any period during which he is in receipt of a training allowance.

(5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(b), where any two or more periods of incapacity are separated by a break of not more than 56 days, those periods are to be treated as one continuous period.

(6) For the purposes of this paragraph, a reference to a person who is or was in receipt of long-term incapacity benefit includes a person who is or was in receipt of short-term incapacity benefit at a rate equal to the long-term rate by virtue of section 30B(4)(a) of the Act (short-term incapacity benefit for a person who is terminally ill), or who would be or would have been in receipt of short-term incapacity benefit at such a rate but for the fact that the rate of short-term incapacity benefit already payable to him is or was equal to or greater than the long-term rate.

(7) In the case of an applicant who is a welfare to work beneficiary (a person to whom regulation 13A(1) of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Regulations 1995 applies, and who again becomes incapable of work for the purposes of Part 12A of the SSCBA)--

(a) the reference to a period of 8 weeks in sub-paragraph (3); and

(b) the reference to a period of 56 days in sub-paragraph (5),

in each case is to be treated as a reference to a period of 104 weeks.

(8) The applicant is not entitled to the disability premium if he has, or is treated as having, limited

capability for work.

Severe disability premium

11

- (1) The condition is that the applicant is a severely disabled person.
- (2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), an applicant is to be treated as being a severely disabled person if, and only if--

- (a) in the case of a single applicant, a lone parent or an applicant who is treated as having no partner in consequence of sub-paragraph (3)--

- (i) he is in receipt of attendance allowance, or the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA, or the daily living component of personal independence payment payable at either rate under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, or the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations, or an AFIP; and

- (ii) subject to sub-paragraph (4), he has no non-dependants aged 18 or over normally residing with him or with whom he is normally residing; and

- (iii) no person is entitled to, and in receipt of, a carer's allowance under section 70 of the SSCBA or has an award of universal credit which includes the carer element under regulation 29 of the Universal Credit Regulations 2013 in respect of caring for him;

- (b) in the case of an applicant who has a partner--

- (i) the applicant is in receipt of attendance allowance, or the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA or the daily living component of personal independence payment payable at either rate under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, or the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations, or an AFIP; and

- (ii) his partner is also in receipt of such an allowance or, if he is a member of a polygamous marriage, all the partners of that marriage are in receipt of such an allowance; and

- (iii) subject to sub-paragraph (4), the applicant has no non-dependants aged 18 or over normally residing with him or with whom he is normally residing,

and either a person is entitled to and in receipt of a carer's allowance or has an award of universal credit that includes the carer element in respect of caring for only one of a couple or, in the case of a polygamous marriage, for one or more but not all the partners of the marriage, or as the case may be, no person is entitled to and in receipt of such an allowance in respect of caring for either member of a couple or any partner of a polygamous marriage.

- (3) Where an applicant has a partner who does not satisfy the condition in sub-paragraph (2)(b)(ii), and that partner is blind or is treated as blind within the meaning of paragraph 10(1)(a)(vii) and (2), that partner is to be treated for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(b)(ii) as if he were not a partner of the applicant.

- (4) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a)(ii) and (2)(b)(iii) no account is to be taken of--

- (a) a person receiving attendance allowance, or disability living allowance by virtue of the care component at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA, or the daily living component of personal independence payment payable at either rate prescribed in accordance with Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 or the daily living component of adult

disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations; or

(b) a person who is blind or is treated as blind within the meaning of paragraph 10(1)(a)(vii) and (2).

(5) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(b) a person is to be treated--

(a) as being in receipt of attendance allowance, or the care component of disability living allowance at the highest or middle rate prescribed in accordance with section 72(3) of the SSCBA, or the daily living component of personal independence payment payable at either rate under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, or the daily living component of adult disability payment at the standard or enhanced rate in accordance with regulation 5 of the DAWAP Regulations, or an AFIP if he would, but for his being a patient for a period exceeding 28 days, be so in receipt;

(b) as being entitled to and in receipt of a carer's allowance or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element if he would, but for the person for whom he was caring being a patient in hospital for a period exceeding 28 days, be so entitled and in receipt.

(6) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) and (2)(b), no account is to be taken of an award of carer's allowance to the extent that payment of such an award is back-dated for a period before the date on which the award is first paid.

(7) In sub-paragraph (2)(a)(iii) and (b), references to a person being in receipt of a carer's allowance or having an award of universal credit which includes the carer element include references to a person who would have been in receipt of that allowance but for the application of a restriction under section 6B or 7 of the Social Security Fraud Act 2001 (loss of benefit provisions).

Enhanced disability premium

12

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the condition is that--

(a) the Secretary of State has decided that the applicant has, or is to be treated as having, limited capability for work-related activity; or

(b) the care component of disability living allowance is, or would be payable at the highest rate prescribed under section 72(3) of the SSCBA, but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with regulations made under section 113(2) of the SSCBA or but for an abatement as a consequence of hospitalisation be payable at the highest rate prescribed under section 72(3) of the SSCBA in respect of--

(i) the applicant; or

(ii) a member of the applicant's family,

who has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit; or

(bb) the care component of child disability payment is payable at the highest rate in accordance with regulation 11(5) of the DACYP Regulations in respect of a child or young person who is a member of the applicant's family;

(c) the daily living component of personal independence payment is, or would be payable at either rate under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012, but for a suspension of benefit in accordance with section 86 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012;

(d) the daily living component of adult disability payment is payable, or has ceased to be payable by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations, at the enhanced rate in accordance with regulations 5 of those

Regulations;

- (2) Where the condition in sub-paragraph (1) ceases to be satisfied because of the death of a child or young person, the condition is that the applicant or partner is entitled to child benefit in respect of that person under section 145A of the SSCBA (entitlement after death of child or qualifying young person).
- (3) The condition is not satisfied if the person to whom sub-paragraph (1) refers is--
 - (a) an applicant who--
 - (i) is not a member of a couple or a polygamous marriage; and
 - (ii) is a patient within the meaning of paragraph 58(11)(i) (treatment of child care charges) and has been for a period of more than 52 weeks; or
 - (b) a member of a couple or a polygamous marriage where each member is a patient within the meaning of paragraph 58(11)(i) and has been for a period of more than 52 weeks.

Disabled child premium

13

The condition is that a child or young person for whom the applicant or a partner of his is responsible and who is a member of the applicant's household--

- (a) is in receipt of disability living allowance or personal independence payment or is no longer in receipt of such allowance because he is a patient, provided that the child or young person continues to be a member of the family; or
- (aa) is in receipt of child disability payment; or
- (b) is blind or treated as blind within the meaning of paragraph 10; or
- (c) is a child or young person in respect of whom section 145A of the SSCBA (entitlement after death of child or qualifying young person) applies for the purposes of entitlement to child benefit but only for the period prescribed under that section, and in respect of whom a disabled child premium was included in the applicant's applicable amount immediately before the death of that child or young person, or ceased to be included in the applicant's applicable amount because of that child or young person's death; or
- (d) is a young person who is in receipt of adult disability payment or who would, but for payment ceasing by virtue of regulation 28 (effect of admission to hospital on ongoing entitlement to Adult Disability Payment) of the DAWAP Regulations be so in receipt, provided that the young person continues to be a member of the family;

Carer premium

14

- (1) The condition is that the applicant or his partner is, or both of them are, entitled to a carer's allowance under section 70 of the SSCBA.
- (2) Where a carer premium is awarded but--
 - (a) the person in respect of whose care the carer's allowance has been awarded dies; or
 - (b) in any other case the person in respect of whom a carer premium has been awarded ceases to be entitled to a carer's allowance,

the condition for the award of the premium is to be treated as satisfied for a period of eight weeks from the relevant date specified in sub-paragraph (3).

(3) The relevant date for the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) is--

- (a) where sub-paragraph (2)(a) applies, the Sunday following the death of the person in respect of whose care a carer's allowance has been awarded or the date of death if the death occurred on a Sunday;
- (b) in any other case, the date on which the person who has been entitled to a carer's allowance ceases to be entitled to that allowance.

(4) Where a person who has been entitled to a carer's allowance ceases to be entitled to that allowance and makes an application for a reduction, the condition for the award of the carer premium is to be treated as satisfied for a period of eight weeks from the date on which--

- (a) the person in respect of whose care the carer's allowance has been awarded dies; or
- (b) in any other case, the person who has been entitled to a carer's allowance ceased to be entitled to that allowance.

Persons in receipt of concessionary payments

15

For the purpose of determining whether a premium is applicable to a person under paragraphs 10 to 14, any concessionary payment made to compensate that person for the non-payment of any benefit mentioned in those paragraphs is to be treated as if it were a payment of that benefit.

Persons in receipt of benefit for another

16

For the purposes of this Part of this Schedule, a person is to be regarded as being in receipt of any benefit if, and only if, it is paid in respect of him and is to be so regarded only for any period in respect of which that benefit is paid.

Part 4

Amounts of Premiums Specified in Part 3

17

| <i>Premium</i> | <i>Amount</i> |
|---|---|
| (1) Disability Premium-- | |
| (a) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 9(a); | |
| (b) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 9(b). | |
| (2) Severe Disability Premium-- | |
| (a) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 11(2)(a); | |
| (b) where the applicant satisfies the condition in paragraph 11(2)(b)-- | (i) in a case where there is someone in |

receipt of a carer's allowance or if he or any partner satisfies that condition only by virtue of paragraph 11(5);

(ii) in a case where there is no-one in receipt of such an allowance.

(3) Disabled Child Premium.

(4) Carer Premium.

(5) Enhanced disability premium

Amounts as specified in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time to time

Part 5
The Component

18

Subject to paragraph 20 the applicant is entitled to the support component in paragraph 22 if--

- (a) the applicant or the applicant's partner has made a claim for employment and support allowance;
- (b) the Secretary of State has decided that the applicant or the applicant's partner has, or is to be treated as having, limited capability for work-related activity; and
- (c) either--
 - (i) the assessment phase as defined in section 24(2) of the Welfare Reform Act has ended; or
 - (ii) regulation 7 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 (circumstances where the condition that the assessment phase has ended before entitlement to the support component arises does not apply) applies.

19

Subject to paragraph 20, the applicant is entitled the support component in paragraph 22 if the applicant or his partner is entitled to a converted employment and support allowance.

20

- (1) The applicant has no entitlement under paragraph ~~24 or~~ 22 if the applicant is entitled to the disability premium under paragraphs 9 and 10.
- (2) Where the applicant and the applicant's partner each satisfies paragraph ~~24 or~~ 22, the component to be included in the applicant's applicable amount is that which relates to the applicant.

The work-related activity component

21

Not in use

The support component

22

The applicant is entitled to the support component if the Secretary of State has decided that the applicant or the applicant's partner has, or is to be treated as having, limited capability for work-related activity.

Part 6 Amount of Component

23

Not in use

The amount of the support component is the amount as specified in the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006 as amended from time to time.

Part 7
Transitional Addition

25

(1) The applicant is entitled to the transitional addition calculated in accordance with paragraph 28 where the applicant or the applicant's partner ("the relevant person")--

- (a) is entitled to a converted employment and support allowance; or
- (b) is appealing a conversion decision as described in regulation 5(2)(b) of the Employment and Support Allowance (Transitional Provisions, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit) (Existing Awards) (No 2) Regulations 2008 and--
 - (i) is treated as having limited capability for work by virtue of regulation 30 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 as modified by the Employment and Support Allowance (Transitional Provisions, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit) (Existing Awards) (No 2) Regulations 2008; and
 - (ii) is not in receipt of an income-related employment and support allowance,

unless the amount of the transitional addition calculated in accordance with paragraph 28 would be nil.

(2) The applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition by virtue of this paragraph ends on any of the following--

- (a) the reduction of the transitional addition to nil in accordance with paragraph 29;
- (b) the termination of the applicant's award of reduction under this scheme;
- (c) the relevant person ceasing to meet the requirements of sub-paragraph (1)(a) or (b), as the case may be;
- (d) the applicant or the applicant's partner becoming entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income support;
- (e) 5th April 2020.

26

(1) This paragraph applies where--

- (a) the applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition ends, by virtue of the termination of the applicant's award of reduction, under--
 - (i) paragraph 25(2)(b);
 - (ii) sub-paragraph (3)(b); or
 - (iii) paragraph 27(3)(b);
- (b) within 12 weeks of that termination but before 5th April 2020 the applicant again becomes entitled to a reduction under this scheme;
- (c) in the reduction week in which the applicant again becomes entitled to a reduction under this scheme the relevant person is entitled to an employment and support allowance which is not income-related; and
- (d) at the date on which the applicant again becomes entitled to a reduction under this scheme, neither the applicant nor the applicant's partner is entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income support.

(2) Where this paragraph applies, the applicant is entitled, with effect from the day on which the applicant again becomes entitled to a reduction under this scheme, to a transitional addition of the amount of the transitional addition that would have applied had the applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition not ended (but taking account of the effect which any intervening change of circumstances would have had by virtue of paragraph 29), unless the amount of the transitional addition would be nil.

(3) The applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition by virtue of this paragraph ends on any of the following--

- (a) the reduction of the transitional addition to nil in accordance with paragraph 29;
- (b) the termination of the applicant's award of a reduction under this scheme;
- (c) the relevant person no longer being entitled to the employment and support allowance referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(c);
- (d) the applicant or the applicant's partner becoming entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income support;
- (e) 5th April 2020.

27

(1) This paragraph applies where--

- (a) the applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition ends, by virtue of the relevant person ceasing to be entitled to an employment and support allowance, under--
 - (i) paragraph 25(2)(c);
 - (ii) paragraph 26(3)(c); or
 - (iii) sub-paragraph (3)(c);
- (b) before 5th April 2020 the relevant person again becomes entitled to an employment and support allowance which is not income-related;
- (c) at the date on which the relevant person again becomes entitled to an employment support allowance which is not income-related regulation 145(1) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 applies to the relevant person; and
- (d) at the date on which the relevant person again becomes entitled to an employment support allowance which is not income-related, neither the applicant nor the applicant's partner is entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income support.

(2) Where this paragraph applies, the applicant is entitled, with effect from the day that the relevant person's entitlement to employment and support allowance takes effect for the purposes of a reduction under this scheme, to a transitional addition of the amount of the transitional addition that would have applied had the applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition not ended (but taking account of the effect which any intervening change of circumstances would have had by virtue of paragraph 29), unless the amount of the transitional addition would be nil.

(3) The applicant's entitlement to a transitional addition by virtue of this paragraph ends on any of the following--

- (a) the reduction of the transitional addition to nil in accordance with paragraph 29;
- (b) the termination of the applicant's award of a reduction under this scheme;
- (c) the relevant person no longer being entitled to the employment and support allowance referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(b);

- (d) the applicant or the applicant's partner becoming entitled to an income-related employment and support allowance, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or income support;
- (e) 5th April 2020.

Part 8
Amount of Transitional Addition

28

- (1) Subject to paragraph 29, the amount of the transitional addition is the amount by which Amount A exceeds Amount B.
- (2) Where a conversion decision as described in regulation 5(2)(a) of the Employment and Support Allowance (Transitional Provisions, Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit) (Existing Awards) (No 2) Regulations 2010 ("the 2010 Regulations") is made in respect of the relevant person--
 - (a) Amount A is the basic amount that would have applied on the day that decision took effect had that decision not been made; and
 - (b) Amount B is the basic amount that applied on that day as a result of that decision.
- (3) Where the relevant person is appealing a conversion decision as described in regulation 5(2)(b) of the 2010 Regulations and is treated as having limited capability for work by virtue of regulation 30 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 as modified by the 2010 Regulations--
 - (a) Amount A is the basic amount that would have applied on the day the relevant person was first treated as having limited capability for work if the relevant person had not been so treated; and
 - (b) Amount B is the basic amount that applied on that day as a result of the relevant person being so treated.
- (4) In this paragraph and paragraph 29, "basic amount" means the aggregate of such amounts as may apply in the applicant's case in accordance with paragraph 26(1)(a) to (e) or paragraph 27(1)(a) to (f) (applicable amounts).

29

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where there is a change of circumstances which leads to an increase in the applicant's basic amount, the transitional addition that applies immediately before the change of circumstances must be reduced by the amount by which Amount C exceeds Amount D.
- (2) If Amount C exceeds Amount D by more than the amount of the transitional addition that applies immediately before the change of circumstances, that transitional addition must be reduced to nil.
- (3) Amount C is the basic amount that applies as a result of the increase.
- (4) Amount D is the basic amount that applied immediately before the increase.

SCHEDULE 4
AMOUNT OF ALTERNATIVE MAXIMUM COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION: PENSIONERS AND PERSONS WHO ARE NOT PENSIONERS

Paragraph 31

1

(1) Subject to paragraphs 2 and 3, the alternative maximum council tax reduction in respect of a day for the purpose of paragraph 31 (alternative maximum council tax reduction: pensioners and persons who are not pensioners) is determined in accordance with Table 1 and Table 2 and in these Tables--

- (a) "second adult" means any person or persons residing with the applicant to whom paragraph 15(2) (class C) or 18(2) (class F) (as the case may be) applies; and
- (b) "persons to whom paragraph 75(1) of this scheme applies" includes any person to whom that paragraph would apply were they, and their partner if they had one, below the qualifying age for state pension credit.

(2) In this Schedule "council tax due in respect of that day" means the council tax payable under section 10 of the 1992 Act less--

- (a) any reductions made in consequence of any enactment in, or under, the 1992 Act (other than a reduction under this scheme); and
- (b) in a case to which sub-paragraph (c) in column (1) of Table 1 or Table 2 below applies, the amount of any discount which may be appropriate to the dwelling under the 1992 Act.

Table 1
Pensioners

| (1) <i>Second adult</i> | (2) <i>Alternative maximum council tax reduction</i> |
|---|--|
| (a) Where the second adult or all second adults are in receipt of income support, an income-related employment and support allowance or state pension credit or are persons on an income-based jobseeker's allowance; | (a) 25 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day; |
| (b) where the gross income of the second adult or, where there is more than one second adult, their aggregate gross income disregarding any income of persons on income support, an income-related employment and support allowance, state pension credit or an income-based jobseeker's allowance— | (b) |
| (i) is less than £276.00 per week; | (i) 15 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day; |
| (ii) is not less than £276.00 per week but less than £358.00 per week; | (ii) 7.5 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day; |
| (c) where the dwelling would be wholly occupied by one or more persons to whom paragraph 73(1) of Schedule 1 to the Default Scheme Regulations applies but for the presence of one or more second adults who | (c) 100 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day. |

are in receipt of income support, state pension credit, an income-related employment and support allowance or are persons on an income-based jobseeker's allowance.

Table 2**Persons who are not pensioners**

| (1) <i>Second adult</i> | (2) <i>Alternative maximum council tax reduction</i> |
|--|---|
| <p>(a) Where the second adult or all second adults are in receipt of income support, an income-related employment and support allowance or state pension credit or are persons on an income-based jobseeker's allowance;</p> <p>(b) where the gross income of the second adult or, where there is more than one second adult, their aggregate gross income disregarding any income of persons on income support, an income-related employment and support allowance, state pension credit or an income-based jobseeker's allowance--</p> <p>(i) is less than the amount specified above in Table 1 per week;</p> <p>(ii) is in accordance with the amounts specified above in Table 1 per week;</p> <p>(c) where the dwelling would be wholly occupied by one or more persons to whom paragraph 75(1) of this scheme applies but for the presence of one or more second adults who are in receipt of income support, state pension credit, an income-related employment and support allowance or are persons on an income-based jobseeker's allowance.</p> | <p>(a) 25 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day;</p> <p>(b)</p> <p>(i) 15 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day;</p> <p>(ii) 7.5 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day;</p> <p>(c) 100 per cent of the council tax due in respect of that day.</p> |

2

In determining a second adult's gross income for the purposes of this Schedule, there must be disregarded from that income--

- (a) In respect of pensioners, any allowance or payment to which Part 7 paragraph 30(9) of this scheme refers (and sub-paragraph (13) of paragraph 30 applies to this paragraph as it applies in relation to that paragraph).
- (b) In respect of persons who are not pensioners:
 - (i) In any attendance allowance, any disability living allowance, any personal independence payment under Part 4 of the Welfare Reform Act 2012 or an AFIP;
 - (ii) any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation or the Independent Living Fund (2006) which, had his income fallen to be calculated under paragraph 54 (calculation of income other than earnings: persons who are not pensioners), would have been disregarded under paragraph 28 of Schedule 8 (income in kind); and
 - (iii) any payment which, had his income fallen to be calculated under paragraph 54, would have been disregarded under paragraph 41 of Schedule 8 (payments made under certain trusts and certain other payments).

3

Where there are two or more second adults residing with the applicant for a reduction under this scheme and any such second adult falls to be disregarded for the purposes of discount in accordance with Schedule 1 to the 1992 Act, his income must be disregarded in determining the amount of any alternative maximum council tax reduction, unless that second adult is a member of a couple and his partner does not fall to be disregarded for the purposes of discount.

SCHEDULE 5
SUMS DISREGARDED FROM APPLICANT'S EARNINGS: PENSIONERS

Paragraph 40

1

Where two or more of paragraphs 2 to 5 apply in any particular case the overall maximum sum which falls to be disregarded in that case under those paragraphs is restricted to--

- (a) £25 in the case of a lone parent;
- (b) £20 in any other case.

2

In a case where an applicant is a lone parent, £25 of earnings.

3

(1) In a case of earnings from any employment or employments to which sub-paragraph (2) applies, £20.

(2) This paragraph applies to employment--

- (a) as a part-time fire-fighter employed by a fire and rescue authority constituted by a scheme under section 2 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 or a scheme to which section 4 of that Act applies;
- (ab) as a part-time fire-fighter employed by a fire and rescue authority created by an order under section 4A of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- (b) a part-time fire-fighter employed by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service established under section 1A of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005;
- (c) as an auxiliary coastguard in respect of coast rescue activities;
- (d) in the manning or launching of a lifeboat if the employment is part-time;
- (e) as a member of any territorial or reserve force prescribed in Part I of Schedule 6 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001.

(3) If--

- (a) any of the earnings of the applicant or, if he has a partner, his partner, or both of them, are disregarded under sub-paragraph (1); and
- (b) either of them has, or both of them have, other earnings,

so much of those other earnings as would not, in the aggregate with the earnings disregarded under that sub-paragraph, exceed £20.

4

(1) If the applicant or, if he has a partner, his partner is a carer, or both are carers, £20 of any earnings received from his or their employment.

(2) Where the carer premium is awarded in respect of the applicant and of any partner of his, their earnings must for the purposes of this paragraph be aggregated, but the amount to be disregarded in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) must not exceed £20 of the aggregated amount.

(3) In this paragraph the applicant or his partner is a carer if paragraph 14 of Part 3 of Schedule 3

(amount applicable for carers) is satisfied in respect of him.

5

(1) £20 is disregarded if the applicant or, if he has a partner, his partner--

(a) is in receipt of--

- (i) long-term incapacity benefit under section 30A of the SSCBA;
- (ii) severe disablement allowance under section 68 of that Act;
- (iii) attendance allowance under sections 64 of that Act;
- (iiia) pension age disability payment;
- (iiib) adult disability payment;
- (iv) disability living allowance;
- (v) personal independence payment;
- (vi) an AFIP;
- (vii) any mobility supplement under article 20 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (including such a supplement by virtue of any other scheme or order) or under article 25A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983;
- (viii) the disability element or the severe disability element of working tax credit under Schedule 2 to the Working Tax Credit (Entitlement and Maximum Rate) Regulations 2002; or
- (ix) main phase employment and support allowance; or

(b) is or are registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in England under section 77(1) of the Care Act 2014 (registers of sight-impaired adults), in Scotland, has been certified as blind and in consequence is registered in a register maintained by or on behalf of a council constituted under section 2 of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1994 or is registered as severely sight-impaired in a register kept by a local authority in Wales under section 18(1) of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014; or

(c) is, or is treated as, incapable of work in accordance with the provisions of, and regulations made under, Part 12A of the SSCBA (incapacity for work), and has been incapable, or has been treated as incapable, of work for a continuous period of not less than--

- (i) in the case of an applicant who is terminally ill within the meaning of section 30B(4) of the Act, 196 days;
- (ii) in any other case, 364 days; or

(d) has, or is treated as having, limited capacity for work within the meaning of section 1(4) of the Welfare Reform Act 1997 or limited capability for work-related activity within the meaning of section 2(5) of that Act and either--

- (i) the assessment phase as defined in section 24(2) of the Welfare Reform Act has ended; or
- (ii) regulation 7 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 or Regulation 7 of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013 (circumstances where the condition that the assessment phase has ended before entitlement to the support component arising does not apply) applies.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), £20 is disregarded if the applicant or, if he has a partner, his partner has, within a period of 8 weeks ending on the day in respect of which the applicant or his partner attains the qualifying age for state pension credit, had an award of housing benefit or council tax benefit or been in receipt of a reduction under this scheme and--

(a) £20 was disregarded in respect of earnings taken into account in that award; and

- (b) the person whose earnings qualified for the disregard continues in employment after the termination of that award.
- (3) The disregard of £20 specified in sub-paragraph (2) applies so long as there is no break, other than a break which does not exceed 8 weeks, in a person's--
 - (a) entitlement to housing benefit; or
 - (b) receipt of a reduction under a council tax reduction scheme; or
 - (c) employment,

following the first day in respect of which that benefit is awarded under this scheme.

- (4) £20 is the maximum amount which may be disregarded under this paragraph, notwithstanding that, where the applicant has a partner, both the applicant and his partner satisfy the requirements of this paragraph.

6

- (1) Where--
 - (a) the applicant (or if the applicant is a member of a couple, at least one member of that couple) is a person to whom sub-paragraph (5) applies;
 - (b) the Secretary of State is satisfied that that person is undertaking exempt work as defined in sub-paragraph (6); and
 - (c) paragraph 35 (applicant in receipt of guarantee credit: pensioners) does not apply,

the amount specified in sub-paragraph (7) ("the specified amount").

- (2) Where this paragraph applies, paragraphs 1 to 5 and 8 do not apply; but in any case where the applicant is a lone parent, and the specified amount would be less than the amount specified in paragraph 2, then paragraph 2 applies instead of this paragraph.
- (3) Notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), if sub-paragraph (1) applies to one member of a couple ("A") it does not apply to the other member of that couple ("B") except to the extent provided in sub-paragraph (4).
- (4) Where A's earnings are less than the specified amount, there is also to be disregarded so much of B's earnings as would not when aggregated with A's earnings exceed the specified amount; but the amount of B's earnings which may be disregarded under this sub-paragraph is limited to a maximum of £20 unless the Secretary of State is satisfied that B is also undertaking exempt work.
- (5) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is--
 - (a) in receipt of a contributory employment and support allowance;
 - (b) in receipt of incapacity benefit;
 - (c) in receipt of severe disablement allowance;
 - (d) being credited with earnings on the grounds of incapacity for work or limited capability for work under regulation 8B of the Social Security (Credits) Regulations 1975.
- (6) "Exempt work" means work of the kind described in--
 - (a) regulation 45(2), (3) or (4) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008 or Regulation 39(1)(a), (b) or (c) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013; or (as the case may be); or
 - (b) regulation 17(2), (3) or (4) of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Regulations 1995,

and, in determining for the purposes of this paragraph whether an applicant or a member of a couple is undertaking any type of exempt work, it is immaterial whether that person or their partner is also undertaking other work.

- (7) The specified amount is the amount of money from time to time mentioned in any provision referred to in sub-paragraph (6) by virtue of which the work referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is exempt (or, where more than one such provision is relevant and those provisions mention different amounts of money, the highest of those amounts).

7

Any amount or the balance of any amount which would fall to be disregarded under paragraph 18 or 19 of Schedule 6 had the applicant's income which does not consist of earnings been sufficient to entitle him to the full amount disregarded thereunder.

8

Except where the applicant or his partner qualifies for a £20 disregard under the preceding provisions of this Schedule--

- (a) £5 is to be disregarded if an applicant who has no partner has earnings;
- (b) £10 is to be disregarded if an applicant who has a partner has earnings.

9

Any earnings, other than earnings referred to in paragraph 40(9)(b), derived from employment which ended before the day in respect of which the applicant first satisfies the conditions for entitlement to a reduction under this scheme.

10

(1) In a case where the applicant is a person who satisfies at least one of the conditions set out in sub-paragraph (2), and his net earnings equal or exceed the total of the amounts set out in sub-paragraph (3), the amount of his earnings that falls to be disregarded under this Schedule is to be increased by £17.10.

(2) The conditions of this sub-paragraph are that--

- (a) the applicant, or if he has a partner, either the applicant or his partner, is a person to whom regulation 20(1)(c) of the Working Tax Credit (Entitlement and Maximum Rate) Regulations 2002 applies; or
- (b) the applicant--
 - (i) is, or any partner of his is, aged at least 25 and is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 30 hours per week; or
 - (ii) if he is a member of a couple--
 - (aa) at least one member of that couple is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week; and
 - (bb) his family includes at least one child or young person; or
 - (iii) is a lone parent who is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week; or
 - (iv) is, or if he has a partner, one of them is, engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week and paragraph 5(1) above is satisfied in respect of that person.

(3) The following are the amounts referred to in sub-paragraph (1)--

- (a) any amount disregarded under this Schedule;
- (b) the amount of child care charges calculated as deductible under paragraph 57(1)(c) (deductions from income of certain child care charges); and
- (c) £17.10.

(4) The provisions of paragraph 10 (remunerative work) apply in determining whether or not a person works for on average not less than 30 hours per week, but as if the reference to 16 hours in sub-paragraph (1) of that paragraph was a reference to 30 hours.

11

Where a payment of earnings is made in a currency other than Sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting to that payment into Sterling.

SCHEDULE 6
AMOUNTS TO BE DISREGARDED IN THE CALCULATION OF INCOME OTHER THAN EARNINGS: PENSIONERS

Paragraph 40

A1

The whole of any amount of the following--

- (a) a war disablement pension;
- (b) a war widow's pension or war widower's pension.

1

In addition to any sum which falls to be disregarded in accordance with paragraphs 2 to 6, £10 of any of the following--

- (a) a pension payable to a person as a widow, widower or surviving civil partner under any power of Her Majesty otherwise than under an enactment to make provision about pensions for or in respect of persons who have been disabled or have died in consequence of service as members of the armed forces of the Crown;
- (b) a guaranteed income payment and, if the amount of that payment has been abated to less than £10 by a pension or payment falling within article 39(1)(a) or (b) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2011, so much of that pension or payment as would not, in aggregate with the amount of any guaranteed income payment disregarded, exceed £10;
- (c) a payment made to compensate for the non-payment of such a pension or payment as is mentioned in any of the preceding sub-paragraphs;
- (d) a pension paid by the government of a country outside Great Britain which is analogous to any of the pensions or payments mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) above;
- (e) a pension paid by a government to victims of National Socialist persecution

2

The whole of any amount included in a pension to which paragraph 1 relates in respect of--

- (a) the applicant's need for constant attendance;
- (b) the applicant's exceptionally severe disablement.

3

Any mobility supplement under article 20 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (including such a supplement by virtue of any other scheme or order) or under article 25A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or any payment intended to compensate for the non-payment of such a supplement.

4

Any supplementary pension under article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (pensions to surviving spouses and surviving civil partners) and any analogous payment made by the Secretary of State for Defence to any person who is not a person entitled under that Order.

5

In the case of a pension awarded at the supplementary rate under article 27(3) of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 (pensions to widows, widowers or surviving civil partners), the sum specified in paragraph 1(c) of Schedule 4 to that Scheme.

6

(1) Any payment which is--

(a) made under any of the Dispensing Instruments to a widow, widower or surviving civil partner of a person--

(i) whose death was attributable to service in a capacity analogous to service as a member of the armed forces of the Crown; and

(ii) whose service in such capacity terminated before 31st March 1973; and

(b) equal to the amount specified in article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006.

(2) In this paragraph "the Dispensing Instruments" means the Order in Council of 19th December 1881, the Royal Warrant of 27th October 1884 and the Order by His Majesty of 14th January 1922 (exceptional grants of pay, non-effective pay and allowances).

7

£15 of any widowed parent's allowance to which the applicant is entitled under section 39A of the SSCBA.

8

£15 of any widowed mother's allowance to which the applicant is entitled under section 37 of the SSCBA.

9

Where the applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and he provides in that dwelling board and lodging accommodation, an amount, in respect of each person for whom such accommodation is provided for the whole or any part of a week, equal to--

(a) where the aggregate of any payments made in respect of any one week in respect of such accommodation provided to such person does not exceed £20, 100 per cent. of such payments; or

(b) where the aggregate of any such payments exceeds £20, £20 and 50 per cent. of the excess over £20.

10

If the applicant--

(a) owns the freehold or leasehold interest in any property or is a tenant of any property; and

(b) occupies a part of that property; and

(c) has an agreement with another person allowing that person to occupy another part of that property on payment of rent and--

(i) the amount paid by that person is less than £20 per week, the whole of that amount; or

(ii) the amount paid is £20 or more per week, £20.

11

Where an applicant receives income under an annuity purchased with a loan, which satisfies the following conditions--

- (a) that the loan was made as part of a scheme under which not less than 90 per cent. of the proceeds of the loan were applied to the purchase by the person to whom it was made of an annuity ending with his life or with the life of the survivor of two or more persons (in this paragraph referred to as "the annuitants") who include the person to whom the loan was made;
- (b) that at the time the loan was made the person to whom it was made or each of the annuitants had attained the age of 65, or, if it was higher at the time, pensionable age;
- (c) that the loan was secured on a dwelling in Great Britain and the person to whom the loan was made or one of the annuitants owns an estate or interest in that dwelling;
- (d) that the person to whom the loan was made or one of the annuitants occupies the dwelling on which it was secured as his home at the time the interest is paid; and
- (e) that the interest payable on the loan is paid by the person to whom the loan was made or by one of the annuitants,

the amount, calculated on a weekly basis, equal to--

- (i) where, or insofar as, section 369 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (mortgage interest payable under deduction of tax) applies to the payments of interest on the loan, the interest which is payable after deduction of a sum equal to income tax on such payments at the applicable percentage of income tax within the meaning of section 369(1A) of that Act;
- (ii) in any other case, the interest which is payable on the loan without deduction of such a sum.

12

(1) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (2) applies, made to the applicant by Trustees in exercise of a discretion exercisable by them.

(2) This sub-paragraph applies to payments made to the applicant by Trustees in exercise of a discretion exercisable by them for the purpose of--

- (a) obtaining food, ordinary clothing or footwear or household fuel;
- (b) the payment of rent, council tax or water charges for which that applicant or his partner is liable;
- (c) meeting housing costs of a kind specified in Schedule 2 to the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002.

(3) In a case to which sub-paragraph (2) applies, £20 or--

- (a) if the payment is less than £20, the whole payment;
- (b) if, in the applicant's case, £10 is disregarded in accordance with paragraph 1(a) to (g), £10 or the whole payment if it is less than £10; or
- (c) if, in the applicant's case, £15 is disregarded under paragraph 7 or paragraph 8 and--
 - (i) he has no disregard under paragraph 1(a) to (g), £5 or the whole payment if it is less than £5;
 - (ii) he has a disregard under paragraph 1(a) to (g), nil.

(4) For the purposes of this paragraph, "ordinary clothing or footwear" means clothing or footwear for normal daily use, but does not include school uniforms, or clothing and footwear used solely for sporting activities.

13

Any increase in pension or allowance under Part 2 or 3 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 paid in respect of a dependent other than the pensioner's partner.

14

Any payment ordered by a court to be made to the applicant or the applicant's partner in consequence of any accident, injury or disease suffered by the person or a child of the person to or in respect of whom the payments are made.

15

Periodic payments made to the applicant or the applicant's partner under an agreement entered into in settlement of a claim made by the applicant or, as the case may be, the applicant's partner for an injury suffered by him.

16

Any income which is payable outside the United Kingdom for such period during which there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of that income.

17

Any banking charges or commission payable in converting to Sterling payments of income made in a currency other than Sterling.

18

Where the applicant makes a parental contribution in respect of a student attending a course at an establishment in the United Kingdom or undergoing education in the United Kingdom, which contribution has been assessed for the purposes of calculating--

- (a) under, or pursuant to regulations made under powers conferred by, section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, that student's award;
- (b) under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, that student's bursary, scholarship, or other allowance under that section or under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of that Act of 1980, any payment to that student under that section; or
- (c) the student's student loan,

an amount equal to the weekly amount of that parental contribution, but only in respect of the period for which that contribution is assessed as being payable.

19

- (1) Where the applicant is the parent of a student aged under 25 in advanced education who either--

- (a) is not in receipt of any award, grant or student loan in respect of that education; or
- (b) is in receipt of an award bestowed by virtue of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, or regulations made thereunder, or a bursary, scholarship or other allowance under section 49(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, or a payment under section 73 of that Act of 1980,

and the applicant makes payments by way of a contribution towards the student's maintenance, other than a parental contribution falling within paragraph 18, an amount specified in sub-paragraph (2) in respect of each week during the student's term.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), the amount is to be equal to--

- (a) the weekly amount of the payments; or
- (b) £72.90 less the weekly amount of any award, bursary, scholarship, allowance or payment referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(b),

whichever is less.

20

(1) Where an applicant's family includes at least one child or young person, £15 of any payment of maintenance, whether under a court order or not, which is made or due to be made by the applicant's spouse, civil partner, former spouse or former civil partner or the applicant's partner's spouse, civil partner, former spouse, or former civil partner.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), where more than one maintenance payment falls to be taken into account in any week, all such payments must be aggregated and treated as if they were a single payment.

21

Except in a case which falls under paragraph 10 of Schedule 5, where the applicant is a person who satisfies any of the conditions of sub-paragraph (2) of that paragraph, any amount of working tax credit up to £17.10.

22

Where the total value of any capital specified in Part 2 (capital disregarded only for the purposes of determining deemed income) of Schedule 9 does not exceed £10,000, any income actually derived from such capital.

23

Except in the case of income from capital specified in Part 2 of Schedule 9, any actual income from capital.

24

Where the applicant, or the person who was the partner of the applicant on 31st March 2003, was entitled on that date to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance but ceased to be so entitled on or before 5th April 2003 by virtue only of regulation 13 of the Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No 3) Regulations 1999 as in force at that date, the whole of his income.

25

Any victims' payment under the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020.

26

Any amount of carer support payment that is in excess of the amount the claimant would receive if they had an entitlement to carer's allowance under section 70 of the SSCBA.

SCHEDULE 7
SUMS DISREGARDED IN THE CALCULATION OF EARNINGS: PERSONS WHO ARE NOT PENSIONERS

Paragraph 53

1

In the case of an applicant who has been engaged in remunerative work as an employed earner or, had the employment been in Great Britain, would have been so engaged--

(a) where--

- (i) the employment has been terminated because of retirement; and
- (ii) on retirement he is entitled to a retirement pension under the Act or a state pension under Part 1 of the Pensions Act 2014, or is not so entitled solely because of his failure to satisfy the contribution conditions or to have the minimum number of qualifying years,

any earnings paid or due to be paid in respect of that employment, but only for a period commencing on the day immediately after the date on which the employment was terminated;

(b) where before the first day of entitlement to a reduction under this scheme the employment has been terminated otherwise than because of retirement, any earnings paid or due to be paid in respect of that employment except--

(i) any payment of the nature described in--

- (aa) paragraph 51(1)(e) (retainer), or
- (bb) section 28, 64 or 68 of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (guarantee payments, suspension from work on medical or maternity grounds); and

(ii) any award, sum or payment of the nature described in--

- (aa) paragraph 51(1)(g) or (i) (compensation etc relating to employment), or
- (bb) section 34 or 70 of the Employment Rights Act 1996 (guarantee payments and suspension from work: complaints to employment tribunals),

including any payment made following the settlement of a complaint to an employment tribunal or of court proceedings;

(c) where before the first day of entitlement to a reduction under this scheme--

- (i) the employment has not been terminated, but
- (ii) the applicant is not engaged in remunerative work,

any earnings paid or due to be paid in respect of that employment except any payment or remuneration of the nature described in paragraph (b)(i) or (ii)(bb) or paragraph 51(1)(j) (statutory sick pay etc).

2

In the case of an applicant who, before the first day of entitlement to a reduction under this scheme--

- (a) has been engaged in part-time employment as an employed earner or, where the employment has been outside Great Britain, would have been so engaged had the employment been in Great Britain; and

(b) has ceased to be engaged in that employment, whether or not that employment has been terminated,

any earnings paid or due to be paid in respect of that employment except--

- (i) where that employment has been terminated, any payment of the nature described in paragraph 1(b)(i) or (ii)(bb);
- (ii) where that employment has not been terminated, any payment or remuneration of the nature described in paragraph 1(b)(i) or (ii)(bb) or paragraph 51(1)(j) (statutory sick pay etc).

3

In the case of an applicant who has been engaged in remunerative work or part-time employment as a self-employed earner or, had the employment been in Great Britain, would have been so engaged and who has ceased to be so employed, from the date of the cessation of his employment, any earnings derived from that employment except earnings to which paragraph 53(3) and (4) (earnings of self-employed earners) apply.

4

(1) In a case to which this paragraph applies and paragraph 5 does not apply, £20; but notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members of an applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage) if this paragraph applies to an applicant it does not apply to his partner except where, and to the extent that, the earnings of the applicant which are to be disregarded under this paragraph are less than £20.

(2) This paragraph applies where the applicant's applicable amount includes an amount by way of the disability premium, severe disability premium, or support component under Schedule 3 (applicable amounts: persons who are not pensioners) or where the applicant or the applicant's partner is a member of the work-related activity group.

(3) This paragraph applies where--

- (a) the applicant is a member of a couple and his applicable amount includes an amount by way of the disability premium under Schedule 3; and
- (b) he or his partner has not attained the qualifying age for state pension credit and at least one is engaged in employment.

5

In a case where the applicant is a lone parent, £25.

6

(1) In a case to which neither paragraph 4 nor paragraph 5 applies to the applicant and, subject to sub-paragraph (2), where the applicant's applicable amount includes an amount by way of the carer premium under Schedule 3 (applicable amounts: persons who are not pensioners), £20 of the earnings of the person who is, or at any time in the preceding eight weeks was, in receipt of carer's allowance or treated in accordance with paragraph 14(2) of that Schedule as being in receipt of carer's allowance.

(2) Where the carer premium is awarded in respect of the applicant and of any partner of his, their earnings must for the purposes of this paragraph be aggregated, but the amount to be disregarded in accordance with sub-paragraph (1) must not exceed £20 of the aggregated amount.

7

Where the carer premium is awarded in respect of an applicant who is a member of a couple and

whose earnings are less than £20, but is not awarded in respect of the other member of the couple, and that other member is engaged in an employment--

- (a) specified in paragraph 9(1), so much of the other member's earnings as would not when aggregated with the amount disregarded under paragraph 6 exceed £20;
- (b) other than one specified in paragraph 9(1), so much of the other member's earnings from such other employment up to £10 as would not when aggregated with the amount disregarded under paragraph 5 exceed £20.

8

In a case where paragraphs 4, 6, 7 and 9 do not apply to the applicant and he is one of a couple and a member of that couple is in employment, £10; but, notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), if this paragraph applies to an applicant it must not apply to his partner except where, and to the extent that, the earnings of the applicant which are to be disregarded under this paragraph are less than £10.

9

(1) In a case where paragraphs 4, 6, 7 and 9 do not apply to the applicant, £20 of earnings derived from one or more employments as--

- (aa) a part-time fire-fighter employed by a fire and rescue authority constituted by a scheme under section 2 of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004 or a scheme to which section 4 of that Act applies;
- (ab) a part-time fire-fighter employed by a fire and rescue authority (as defined in section 1 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005) or a joint fire and rescue board constituted by an amalgamation scheme made under section 2(1) of that Act;
- (ac) a part-time fire-fighter employed by a fire and rescue authority created by an order under section 4A of the Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004;
- (ad) a part-time firefighter employed by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service established under section 1A of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005;
- (a) an auxiliary coastguard in respect of coast rescue activities;
- (b) a person engaged part-time in the manning or launching of a life boat;
- (c) a member of any territorial or reserve force prescribed in Part I of Schedule 6 to the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001;

but, notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), if this paragraph applies to an applicant it must not apply to his partner except to the extent specified in sub-paragraph (2).

(2) If the applicant's partner is engaged in employment--

- (a) specified in sub-paragraph (1), so much of his earnings as would not in aggregate with the amount of the applicant's earnings disregarded under this paragraph exceed £20;
- (b) other than one specified in sub-paragraph (1), so much of his earnings from that employment up to £10 as would not in aggregate with the applicant's earnings disregarded under this paragraph exceed £20.

10

Where the applicant is engaged in one or more employments specified in paragraph 9(1), but his earnings derived from such employments are less than £20 in any week and he is also engaged in any other employment, so much of his earnings from that other employment, up to £5 if he is a single

applicant, or up to £10 if he has a partner, as would not in aggregate with the amount of his earnings disregarded under paragraph 9 exceed £20.

11

In a case to which none of the paragraphs 4 to 10 applies, £5.

12

(1) Where--

- (a) the applicant (or if the applicant is a member of a couple, at least one member of that couple) is a person to whom sub-paragraph (5) applies;
- (b) the Secretary of State is satisfied that that person is undertaking exempt work as defined in sub-paragraph (6); and
- (c) paragraph 14 does not apply,

the amount specified in sub-paragraph (7) ("the specified amount").

(2) Where this paragraph applies, paragraphs 4 to 11 do not apply; but in any case where the applicant is a lone parent, and the specified amount would be less than the amount specified in paragraph 5, then paragraph 5 applies instead of this paragraph.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), if sub-paragraph (1) applies to one member of a couple ("A") it does not apply to the other member of that couple ("B") except to the extent provided in sub-paragraph (4).

(4) Where A's earnings are less than the specified amount, there must also be disregarded so much of B's earnings as would not when aggregated with A's earnings exceed the specified amount; but the amount of B's earnings which may be disregarded under this sub-paragraph is limited to a maximum of £20 unless the Secretary of State is satisfied that B is also undertaking exempt work.

(5) This sub-paragraph applies to a person who is--

- (a) in receipt of a contributory employment and support allowance;
- (b) in receipt of incapacity benefit;
- (c) in receipt of severe disablement allowance; or
- (d) being credited with earnings on the grounds of incapacity for work or limited capability for work under regulation 8B of the Social Security (Credits) Regulations 1975.

(6) "Exempt work" means work of the kind described in--

- (a) regulation 45(2), (3) or (4) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008; or Regulation 39(1)(a), (b) or (c) of the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2013; or (as the case may be)
- (b) regulation 17(2), (3) or (4) of the Social Security (Incapacity for Work) (General) Regulations 1995,

and, in determining for the purposes of this paragraph whether an applicant or a member of a couple is undertaking any type of exempt work, it is immaterial whether that person or their partner is also undertaking other work.

(7) The specified amount is the amount of money from time to time mentioned in any provision referred to in sub-paragraph (6) by virtue of which the work referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is exempt (or, where more than one such provision is relevant and those provisions mention different amounts of money, the highest of those amounts).

13

Any amount or the balance of any amount which would fall to be disregarded under paragraph 23 or 24 of Schedule 8 had the applicant's income which does not consist of earnings been sufficient to entitle him to the full disregard thereunder.

14

Where an applicant is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, his earnings.

15

Any earnings derived from employment which are payable in a country outside the United Kingdom for such period during which there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of those earnings.

16

Where a payment of earnings is made in a currency other than Sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into Sterling.

17

Any earnings of a child or young person.

18

(1) In a case where the applicant is a person who satisfies at least one of the conditions set out in sub-paragraph (2), and his net earnings equal or exceed the total of the amounts set out in sub-paragraph (3), the amount of his earnings that falls to be disregarded under paragraphs 4 to 12 must be increased by £17.10.

(2) The conditions of this sub-paragraph are that--

(a) the applicant, or if he is a member of a couple, either the applicant or his partner, is a person to whom regulation 20(1)(c) of the Working Tax Credit (Entitlement and Maximum Rate) Regulations 2002 applies; or

(b) the applicant--

(i) is, or if he is a member of a couple, at least one member of that couple is aged at least 25 and is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 30 hours per week; or

(ii) is a member of a couple and--

(aa) at least one member of that couple, is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week; and

(bb) Where an applicant's family includes at least one child or young person; or

(iii) is a lone parent who is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week; or

(iv) is, or if he is a member of a couple, at least one member of that couple is engaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week; and--

(aa) the applicant's applicable amount includes a disability premium under paragraph 9, the support component under paragraph 22 of Schedule 3 respectively;

(bb) where he is a member of a couple, at least one member of that couple satisfies the qualifying conditions for the disability premium or the support component above and is en-

gaged in remunerative work for on average not less than 16 hours per week;

(cc) is a member of the work-related activity group; or

(c) the applicant is, or if he has a partner, one of them is, a person to whom regulation 18(3) of the Working Tax Credit (Entitlement and Maximum Rate) Regulations 2002 (eligibility for 50 plus element) applies, or would apply if an application for working tax credit were to be made in his case.

(3) The following are the amounts referred to in sub-paragraph (1)--

(a) the amount calculated as disregardable from the applicant's earnings under paragraphs 4 to 12;

(b) the amount of child care charges calculated as deductible under paragraph 57(1)(c); and

(c) £17.10.

(4) The provisions of paragraph 10 (remunerative work) apply in determining whether or not a person works for on average not less than 30 hours per week, but as if the reference to 16 hours in sub-paragraph (1) of that paragraph were a reference to 30 hours.

19

In this Schedule "part-time employment" means employment in which the person is engaged on average for less than 16 hours a week.

SCHEDULE 8
SUMS DISREGARDED IN THE CALCULATION OF INCOME OTHER THAN EARNINGS: PERSONS WHO ARE NOT PENSIONERS

Paragraph 54

1

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any child care, travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Work for Your Benefit Pilot Scheme.

2

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme.

3

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme.

4

Any amount paid by way of tax on income which is to be taken into account under regulation 30 (calculation of income other than earnings).

5

Any payment in respect of any expenses incurred or to be incurred by an applicant who is--

- (a) engaged by a charitable or voluntary organisation, or
- (b) a volunteer,

if he otherwise derives no remuneration or profit from the employment and is not to be treated as possessing any earnings under paragraph 56(5) (notional income: persons who are not pensioners).

6

Any payment in respect of expenses arising out of the applicant participating as a service user.

7

In the case of employment as an employed earner, any payment in respect of expenses wholly, exclusively and necessarily incurred in the performance of the duties of the employment.

8

Where an applicant is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, the whole of his income.

9

Where the applicant is a member of a joint-claim couple for the purposes of the Jobseekers Act and his partner is on an income-based jobseeker's allowance, the whole of the applicant's income.

10

Where the applicant, or the person who was the partner of the applicant on 31st March 2003, was entitled on that date to income support or an income-based jobseeker's allowance but ceased to be so entitled on or before 5th April 2003 by virtue only of regulation 13 of the Housing Benefit (General) Amendment (No 3) Regulations 1999 as in force at that date, the whole of his income.

11

Any disability living allowance, personal independence payment, adult disability payment, or an AFIP.

12

Any concessionary payment made to compensate for the non-payment of--

- (a) any payment specified in paragraph 11 or 14;
- (b) income support;
- (c) an income-based jobseeker's allowance;
- (d) an income-related employment and support allowance.

13

Any mobility supplement under article 20 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (including such a supplement by virtue of any other scheme or order) or under article 25A of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 or any payment intended to compensate for the non-payment of such a supplement.

14

Any attendance allowance.

15

Any payment to the applicant as holder of the Victoria Cross or of the George Cross or any analogous payment.

16

(1) Any payment--

- (a) by way of an education maintenance allowance made pursuant to--
 - (i) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996 (payment of school expenses; grant of scholarships etc);
 - (ii) regulations made under section 49 or 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (power to assist persons to take advantage of educational facilities);
 - (iii) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;
- (b) corresponding to such an education maintenance allowance, made pursuant to--
 - (i) section 14 or section 181 of the Education Act 2002 (power of Secretary of State and the

Welsh Ministers to give financial assistance for purposes related to education or childcare, and allowances in respect of education or training); or

- (ii) regulations made under section 181 of that Act; or
- (c) in England, by way of financial assistance made pursuant to section 14 of the Education Act 2002.

(2) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (1) applies, made pursuant to--

- (a) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;
- (b) regulations made under section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980; or
- (c) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992,

in respect of a course of study attended by a child or a young person or a person who is in receipt of an education maintenance allowance or other payment made pursuant to any provision specified in sub-paragraph (1).

17

Any payment made to the applicant by way of a repayment under regulation 11(2) of the Education (Teacher Student Loans) (Repayment etc) Regulations 2002.

18

(1) Any payment made pursuant to section 2 of the 1973 Act or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 except a payment--

- (a) made as a substitute for income support, a jobseeker's allowance, incapacity benefit, severe disablement allowance or an employment and support allowance;
- (b) of an allowance referred to in section 2(3) of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2(5) of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990; or
- (c) intended to meet the cost of living expenses which relate to any one or more of the items specified in sub-paragraph (2) whilst an applicant is participating in an education, training or other scheme to help him enhance his employment prospects unless the payment is a Career Development Loan paid pursuant to section 2 of the 1973 Act and the period of education or training or the scheme, which is supported by that loan, has been completed.

(2) The items specified in this sub-paragraph for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1)(c) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or, where the applicant is a member of a family, any other member of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

19

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any of the following payments--

- (a) a charitable payment;
- (b) a voluntary payment;
- (c) a payment (not falling within paragraph (a) or (b) above) from a trust whose funds are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant;
- (d) a payment under an annuity purchased--
 - (i) pursuant to any agreement or court order to make payments to the applicant; or

- (ii) from funds derived from a payment made,

in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant; or

- (e) a payment (not falling within paragraphs (a) to (d)) received by virtue of any agreement or court order to make payments to the applicant in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply to a payment which is made or due to be made by--

- (a) a former partner of the applicant, or a former partner of any member of the applicant's family; or
- (b) the parent of a child or young person where that child or young person is a member of the applicant's family.

19A

The whole of any amount of the following--

- (a) a war disablement pension;
- (b) a war widow's pension or war widower's pension.

20

Subject to paragraph 40, £10 of any of the following, namely--

- (a) a pension payable to a person as a widow, widower or surviving civil partner under any power of Her Majesty otherwise than under an enactment to make provision about pensions for or in respect of persons who have been disabled or have died in consequence of service as members of the armed forces of the Crown;
- (b) a guaranteed income payment and, if the amount of that payment has been abated to less than £10 by a pension or payment falling within article 31(1)(a) or (b) of the Armed Forces and Reserve Forces (Compensation Scheme) Order 2005, so much of that pension or payment as would not, in aggregate with the amount of any guaranteed income payment disregarded, exceed £10;
- (c) a payment made to compensate for the non-payment of such a pension or payment as is mentioned in any of the preceding sub-paragraphs;
- (d) a pension paid by the government of a country outside Great Britain which is analogous to any of the pensions or payments mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (d) above;
- (e) pension paid to victims of National Socialist persecution under any special provision made by the law of the Federal Republic of Germany, or any part of it, or of the Republic of Austria.

21

Subject to paragraph 40, £15 of any--

- (a) widowed mother's allowance paid pursuant to section 37 of the SSCBA;
- (b) widowed parent's allowance paid pursuant to section 39A of the SSCBA.

22

(1) Any income derived from capital to which the applicant is or is treated under paragraph 70 (capital jointly held) as beneficially entitled but, subject to sub-paragraph (2), not income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 4, 5, 7, 11, 17 or 30 to 33 of Schedule 10.

(2) Income derived from capital disregarded under paragraphs 5, 7 or 30 to 33 of Schedule 10 but

only to the extent of--

- (a) any mortgage repayments made in respect of the dwelling or premises in the period during which that income accrued; or
- (b) any council tax or water charges which the applicant is liable to pay in respect of the dwelling or premises and which are paid in the period during which that income accrued.

(3) The definition of "water charges" in paragraph 2(1) (interpretation) applies to sub-paragraph (2) of this paragraph with the omission of the words "in so far as such charges are in respect of the dwelling which a person occupies as his home".

23

Where the applicant makes a parental contribution in respect of a student attending a course at an establishment in the United Kingdom or undergoing education in the United Kingdom, which contribution has been assessed for the purposes of calculating--

- (a) under, or pursuant to regulations made under powers conferred by, section 22 of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, that student's award;
- (b) under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, that student's bursary, scholarship, or other allowance under that section or under regulations made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 73 of that Act of 1980, any payment to that student under that section; or
- (c) the student's student loan,

an amount equal to the weekly amount of that parental contribution, but only in respect of the period for which that contribution is assessed as being payable.

24

(1) Where the applicant is the parent of a student aged under 25 in advanced education who either--

- (a) is not in receipt of any award, grant or student loan in respect of that education; or
- (b) is in receipt of an award bestowed by virtue of the Teaching and Higher Education Act 1998, or regulations made thereunder, or a bursary, scholarship or other allowance under section 49(1) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980, or a payment under section 73 of that Act of 1980,

and the applicant makes payments by way of a contribution towards the student's maintenance, other than a parental contribution falling within paragraph 23, an amount specified in sub-paragraph (2) in respect of each week during the student's term.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1), the amount must be equal to--

- (a) the weekly amount of the payments; or
- (b) the amount by way of a personal allowance for a single applicant under 25 less the weekly amount of any award, bursary, scholarship, allowance or payment referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(b),

whichever is less.

25

Any payment made to the applicant by a child or young person or a non-dependant.

26

Where the applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and the dwelling is also occupied by a person other than one to whom paragraph 25 or 27 refers and there is a contractual liability to make payments to the applicant in respect of the occupation of the dwelling by that person or a member of his family--

- (a) where the aggregate of any payments made in respect of any one week in respect of the occupation of the dwelling by that person or a member of his family, or by that person and a member of his family, is less than £20, the whole of that amount; or
- (b) where the aggregate of any such payments is £20 or more per week, £20.

27

Where the applicant occupies a dwelling as his home and he provides in that dwelling board and lodging accommodation, an amount, in respect of each person for which such accommodation is provided for the whole or any part of a week, equal to--

- (a) where the aggregate of any payments made in respect of any one week in respect of such accommodation provided to such person does not exceed £20, 100 per cent of such payments;
- (b) where the aggregate of any such payments exceeds £20, £20 and 50 per cent of the excess over £20.

28

- (1) Any income in kind, except where paragraph 54(10)(b) (provision of support under section 95 or 98 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 in the calculation of income other than earnings) applies.
- (2) The reference in sub-paragraph (1) to "income in kind" does not include a payment to a third party made in respect of the applicant which is used by the third party to provide benefits in kind to the applicant.

29

Any income which is payable in a country outside the United Kingdom for such period during which there is a prohibition against the transfer to the United Kingdom of that income.

30

- (1) Any payment made to the applicant in respect of a person who is a member of his family--
 - (a) pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or in accordance or with a scheme approved by the Scottish Ministers under section 51A of the Adoption (Scotland) Act 1978 (schemes for payments of allowances to adopters) or in accordance with an adoption allowance scheme made under section 71 of the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007 (adoption allowances schemes);
 - (b) which is a payment made by a local authority in pursuance of section 15(1) of, and paragraph 15 of Schedule 1 to, the Children Act 1989 (local authority contribution to a child's maintenance where the child is living with a person as a result of a residence order) or in Scotland section 50 of the Children Act 1975 (payments towards maintenance of children);
 - (c) which is a payment made by an authority, as defined in Article 2 of the Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, in pursuance of Article 15 of, and paragraph 17 of Schedule 1 to, that Order (contribution by an authority to child's maintenance);
 - (d) in accordance with regulations made pursuant to section 14F of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship support services);

(2) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (1)(a) applies, made to the applicant pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

31

Any payment made to the applicant with whom a person is accommodated by virtue of arrangements made--

- (a) by a local authority under--
 - (i) section 23(2)(a) of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation and maintenance for a child whom they are looking after),
 - (ii) section 26 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (manner of provision of accommodation to child looked after by local authority), or
 - (iii) regulations 33 or 51 of the Looked After Children (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (fostering and kinship care allowances and fostering allowances); or
- (b) by a voluntary organisation under section 59(1)(a) of the Children Act 1989 (provision of accommodation by voluntary organisations).

32

Any payment made to the applicant or his partner for a person ("the person concerned"), who is not normally a member of the applicant's household but is temporarily in his care, by--

- (a) a health authority;
- (b) a local authority but excluding payments of housing benefit made in respect of the person concerned;
- (c) a voluntary organisation;
- (d) the person concerned pursuant to section 26(3A) of the National Assistance Act 1948;
- (e) a primary care trust established under section 16A of the National Health Service Act 1977 or established by an order made under section 18(2)(c) of the National Health Service Act 2006; or
- (f) a Local Health Board established under section 11 of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006.
- (g) the persons concerned where the payment is for the care and support under section 35 or 36 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (respectively, duty and power to meet care and support needs of an adult);
- (h) the person concerned where the payment is for the provision of accommodation in respect of the meeting of that person's needs under section 18 or 19 of the Care Act 2014 (duty and power to meet needs for care and support).

32A

Any payment or part of a payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 26A of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (duty to provide continuing care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant where A-

- (i) was formerly in the applicant's care;
- (ii) is aged 16 or over; and
- (iii) continues to live with the applicant.

33

Any payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 17, 23B, 23C or 24A of the Children Act 1989 or, as the case may be, section 12 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 or section 22, 29 or 30 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (provision of services for children and their families and advice and assistance to certain children).

34

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any payment (or part of a payment) made by a local authority in accordance with section 23C of the Children Act 1989 or section 29 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (local authorities' duty to promote welfare of children and powers to grant financial assistance to persons in, or formerly in, their care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies only where A--

- (a) was formerly in the applicant's care, and
- (b) is aged 18 or over, and
- (c) continues to live with the applicant.

35

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any payment received under an insurance policy taken out to insure against the risk of being unable to maintain repayments--

- (a) on a loan which is secured on the dwelling which the applicant occupies as his home; or
- (b) under a regulated agreement as defined for the purposes of the Consumer Credit Act 1974 or under a hire-purchase agreement or a conditional sale agreement as defined for the purposes of Part 3 of the Hire-Purchase Act 1964.

(2) A payment referred to in sub-paragraph (1) is only to be disregarded to the extent that the payment received under that policy does not exceed the amounts, calculated on a weekly basis, which are used to--

- (a) maintain the repayments referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a) or, as the case may be, (1)(b); and
- (b) meet any amount due by way of premiums on--
 - (i) that policy; or
 - (ii) in a case to which sub-paragraph (1)(a) applies, an insurance policy taken out to insure against loss or damage to any building or part of a building which is occupied by the applicant as his home and which is required as a condition of the loan referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a).

36

Any payment of income which by virtue of paragraph 64 (income treated as capital: persons who are not pensioners) is to be treated as capital.

37

Any--

- (a) social fund payment made pursuant to Part 8 of the SSCBA (the social fund); or
- (b) occasional assistance.

38

Any payment under Part 10 of the SSCBA (Christmas bonus for pensioners).

39

Where a payment of income is made in a currency other than sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into sterling.

40

The total of an applicant's income or, if he is a member of a family, the family's income and the income of any person which he is treated as possessing under paragraph 33(3) (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage) to be disregarded under paragraph 77(2)(b) and paragraph 78(1)(d) (calculation of covenant income where a contribution assessed, covenant income where no grant income or no contribution is assessed), paragraph 81(2) (treatment of student loans), paragraph 82(3) (treatment of payments from access funds) and paragraphs 20 and 21 must in no case exceed £20 per week.

41

(1) Any payment made under or by any of the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation or the Independent Living Fund (2006).

(2) Any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers and which is made to or for the benefit of--

- (a) that person's partner or former partner from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death;
- (b) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
- (c) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.

(3) Any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person provided that the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced or, where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers and which is made to or for the benefit of--

- (a) the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person;
- (b) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
- (c) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.

(4) Any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers, where--

- (a) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who is or had been a member of that person's family; and
- (b) the payment is made either--

- (i) to that person's parent or step-parent, or
- (ii) where that person at the date of the payment is a child, a young person or a student who has not completed his education and has no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,

but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death.

(5) Any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers, where--

- (a) that person at the date of his death (the relevant date) had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who was or had been a member of his family; and
- (b) the payment is made either--
 - (i) to that person's parent or step-parent, or
 - (ii) where that person at the relevant date was a child, a young person or a student who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,

but only for a period of two years from the relevant date.

(6) In the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this paragraph is made, any income which derives from any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts.

(7) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (2) to (6), any reference to the Trusts is to be construed as including a reference to the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation and the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.

42

Any housing benefit.

43

Any payment made by the Secretary of State to compensate for the loss (in whole or in part) of entitlement to housing benefit.

44

Any payment to a juror or witness in respect of attendance at a court other than compensation for loss of earnings or for the loss of a benefit payable under the benefit Acts.

45

Any payment in consequence of a reduction of council tax under section 13 of the 1992 Act (reduction of liability for council tax).

46

(1) Any payment or repayment made--

- (a) as respects England, under regulation 5, 6 or 12 of the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);
- (b) as respects Wales, under regulation 5, 6 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling

Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);

(c) as respects Scotland, under regulation 3, 5 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies).

(2) Any payment or repayment made by the Secretary of State for Health, the Scottish Ministers or the Welsh Ministers which is analogous to a payment or repayment mentioned in sub-paragraph (1).

47

Any payment made to such persons entitled to receive benefits as may be determined by or under a scheme made pursuant to section 13 of the Social Security Act 1988 in lieu of vouchers or similar arrangements in connection with the provision of those benefits (including payments made in place of healthy start vouchers, milk tokens or the supply of vitamins).

48

Any payment made by either the Secretary of State for Justice or by the Scottish Ministers under a scheme established to assist relatives and other persons to visit persons in custody.

49

(1) Where an applicant's family includes at least one child or young person, £15 of any payment of maintenance, other than child maintenance, whether under a court order or not, which is made or due to be made by the applicant's former partner, or the applicant's partner's former partner.

(2) For the purpose of sub-paragraph (1) where more than one maintenance payment falls to be taken into account in any week, all such payments must be aggregated and treated as if they were a single payment.

(3) A payment made by the Secretary of State in lieu of maintenance must, for the purpose of sub-paragraph (1), be treated as a payment of maintenance made by a person specified in sub-paragraph (1).

50

(1) Any payment of child maintenance made or derived from a liable relative where the child or young person in respect of whom the payment is made is a member of the applicant's family, except where the person making the payment is the applicant or the applicant's partner.

(2) In sub-paragraph (1)--

"child maintenance" means any payment towards the maintenance of a child or young person, including any payment made voluntarily and payments made under--

- (a) the Child Support Act 1991;
- (b) the Child Support (Northern Ireland) Order 1991;
- (c) a court order;
- (d) a consent order;
- (e) a maintenance agreement registered for execution in the Books of Council and Session or the sheriff court books;

"liable relative" means a person listed in regulation 54 (interpretation) of the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987, other than a person falling within sub-paragraph (d) of that definition.

51

Any payment (other than a training allowance) made, whether by the Secretary of State or any other person, under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 to assist disabled persons to obtain or retain employment despite their disability.

52

Any guardian's allowance.

53

(1) If the applicant is in receipt of any benefit under Part 2, 3 or 5 of the SSCBA, any increase in the rate of that benefit arising under Part 4 (increases for dependants) or section 106(a) (unemployability supplement) of that Act, where the dependant in respect of whom the increase is paid is not a member of the applicant's family.

(2) If the applicant is in receipt of any pension or allowance under Part 2 or 3 of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006, any increase in the rate of that pension or allowance under that Order, where the dependant in respect of whom the increase is paid is not a member of the applicant's family.

54

Any supplementary pension under article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006 (pensions to surviving spouses and surviving civil partners) and any analogous payment made by the Secretary of State for Defence to any person who is not a person entitled under that Order.

55

In the case of a pension awarded at the supplementary rate under article 27(3) of the Personal Injuries (Civilians) Scheme 1983 (pensions to widows, widowers or surviving civil partners), the sum specified in paragraph 1(c) of Schedule 4 to that Scheme.

56

(1) Any payment which is--

(a) made under any of the Dispensing Instruments to a widow, widower or surviving civil partner of a person--

(i) whose death was attributable to service in a capacity analogous to service as a member of the armed forces of the Crown; and

(ii) whose service in such capacity terminated before 31st March 1973; and

(b) equal to the amount specified in article 23(2) of the Naval, Military and Air Forces Etc (Disablement and Death) Service Pensions Order 2006.

(2) In this paragraph "the Dispensing Instruments" means the Order in Council of 19th December 1881, the Royal Warrant of 27th October 1884 and the Order by His Majesty of 14th January 1922 (exceptional grants of pay, non-effective pay and allowances).

57

Any council tax benefit to which the applicant is entitled.

58

Except in a case which falls under sub-paragraph (1) of paragraph 18 of Schedule 7, where the applicant is a person who satisfies any of the conditions of sub-paragraph (2) of that paragraph, any amount of working tax credit up to £17.10.

59

Any payment made under section 12B of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968, or as a direct payment as defined in section 4(2) of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, or under sections 12A to 12D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (direct payments for health care) or under regulations made under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (direct payments).

60

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), in respect of a person who is receiving, or who has received, assistance under the self-employment route, any payment to that person--

- (a) to meet expenses wholly and necessarily incurred whilst carrying on the commercial activity;
- (b) which is used or intended to be used to maintain repayments on a loan taken out by that person for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity,

in respect of which such assistance is or was received.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies only in respect of payments which are paid to that person from the special account.

61

(1) Any payment of a sports award except to the extent that it has been made in respect of any one or more of the items specified in sub-paragraph (2).

(2) The items specified for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or where the applicant is a member of a family, any other member of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) "food" does not include vitamins, minerals or other special dietary supplements intended to enhance the performance of the person in the sport in respect of which the award was made.

62

Where the amount of subsistence allowance paid to a person in a reduction week exceeds the amount of income-based jobseeker's allowance that person would have received in that reduction week had it been payable to him, less 50p, that excess amount.

63

In the case of an applicant participating in an employment zone programme, any discretionary payment made by an employment zone contractor to the applicant, being a fee, grant, loan or otherwise.

64

Any discretionary housing payment paid pursuant to regulation 2(1) of the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001.

65

(1) Any payment made by a local authority or by the Welsh Ministers, to or on behalf of the applicant

or his partner relating to a service which is provided to develop or sustain the capacity of the applicant or his partner to live independently in his accommodation.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) "local authority" includes, in England, a county council.

66

Any payment of child benefit.

67

Any payments made under sections 31 to 33 of the Care Act 2014 (direct payments).

68

Any victim's payments under the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020.

SCHEDULE 9
CAPITAL DISREGARDS: PENSIONERS

Paragraph 63

Part 1
Capital to be Disregarded

1

Any premises acquired for occupation by the applicant which he intends to occupy as his home within 26 weeks of the date of acquisition or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to obtain possession and commence occupation of the premises.

2

Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home, and in respect of which he is taking steps to obtain possession and has sought legal advice, or has commenced legal proceedings, with a view to obtaining possession, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first sought such advice or first commenced such proceedings whichever is the earlier, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to obtain possession and commence occupation of those premises.

3

Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home to which essential repairs or alterations are required in order to render them fit for such occupation, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the applicant first takes steps to effect those repairs or alterations, or such longer period as is necessary to enable those repairs or alterations to be carried out.

4

Any premises occupied in whole or in part--

- (a) by a person who is a relative of the applicant or his partner as his home where that person has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit or is incapacitated;
- (b) by the former partner of the applicant as his home; but this provision does not apply where the former partner is a person from whom the applicant is estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that has been dissolved.

5

Any future interest in property of any kind, other than land or premises in respect of which the applicant has granted a subsisting lease or tenancy, including sub-leases or sub-tenancies.

6

Where an applicant has ceased to occupy what was formerly the dwelling occupied as the home following his estrangement or divorce from his former partner or the dissolution of a civil partnership with his former partner, that dwelling for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he ceased to occupy that dwelling or, where the dwelling is occupied as the home by the former partner who is a lone parent, for so long as it is so occupied.

7

Any premises where the applicant is taking reasonable steps to dispose of the whole of his interest in those premises, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first took such steps, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to dispose of those premises.

8

All personal possessions.

9

The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant and for the purposes of which he is engaged as a self-employed earner or, if he has ceased to be so engaged, for such period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to allow for disposal of those assets.

10

The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant if--

- (a) he is not engaged as a self-employed earner in that business by reason of some disease or bodily or mental disablement; but
- (b) he intends to become engaged (or, as the case may be, re-engaged) as a self-employed earner in that business as soon as he recovers or is able to become engaged, or re-engaged, in that business,

for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme is made or, if it is unreasonable to expect him to become engaged or re-engaged in that business within that period, for such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to become so engaged or re-engaged.

11

The surrender value of any policy of life insurance.

12

The value of any funeral plan contract; and for this purpose, "funeral plan contract" means a contract under which--

- (a) the applicant makes one or more payments to another person ("the provider");
- (b) the provider undertakes to provide, or secure the provision of, a funeral in the United Kingdom for the applicant on his death; and
- (c) the sole purpose of the plan is to provide or secure the provision of a funeral for the applicant on his death.

13

Where an ex-gratia payment has been made by the Secretary of State on or after 1st February 2001 in consequence of the imprisonment or internment of--

- (a) the applicant;
- (b) the applicant's partner;
- (c) the applicant's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner; or
- (d) the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner,

by the Japanese during the Second World War, an amount equal to that payment.

14

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the amount of any trust payment made to an applicant or an applicant's partner who is--

- (a) a diagnosed person;
- (b) a diagnosed person's partner or was a diagnosed person's partner at the time of the diagnosed person's death; or
- (c) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death.

(2) Where a trust payment is made to--

- (a) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a) or (b), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;
- (b) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(c), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending two years after that date.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), the amount of any payment by a person to whom a trust payment has been made or of any payment out of the estate of a person to whom a trust payment has been made, which is made to an applicant or an applicant's partner who is--

- (a) the diagnosed person;
- (b) a diagnosed person's partner or was a diagnosed person's partner at the date of the diagnosed person's death; or
- (c) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death.

(4) Where a payment such as referred to in sub-paragraph (3) is made to--

- (a) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(a) or (b), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;
- (b) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(c), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the payment is made and ending two years after that date.

(5) In this paragraph, a reference to a person--

- (a) being the diagnosed person's partner;
- (b) acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents,

at the date of the diagnosed person's death includes a person who would have been such a person or a person who would have been so acting, but for the diagnosed person residing in a care home or an independent hospital.

(6) In this paragraph--

"diagnosed person" means a person who has been diagnosed as suffering from, or who, after his death, has been diagnosed as having suffered from, variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease;

"relevant trust" means a trust established out of funds provided by the Secretary of State in respect of persons who suffered, or who are suffering, from variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease for the benefit of persons eligible for payments in accordance with its provisions;

"trust payment" means a payment under a relevant trust.

15

The amount of any payment, other than a war pension, to compensate for the fact that the applicant, the applicant's partner, the applicant's deceased spouse or civil partner or the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or civil partner--

- (a) was a slave labourer or a forced labourer;
- (b) had suffered property loss or had suffered personal injury; or
- (c) was a parent of a child who had died,

during the Second World War.

16

(1) Any payment made under or by--

- (a) the Macfarlane Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) Trust, the Macfarlane (Special Payments) (No 2) Trust, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, the We Love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, the Victims of Overseas Terrorism Compensation Scheme or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund (collectively referred to in this paragraph as "the Trusts"); or
- (b) the Independent Living Fund (2006).

(1A) Any Grenfell Tower support payment.

(1B) Any payment made by the Child Migrants Trust (registered charity number 1171479) under the scheme for former British child migrants.

(1C) Any historical child abuse payment.

(1D) Any Windrush payment.

(1E) Any Post Office compensation payment.

(1F) Any vaccine damage payment.

(1G) Any payment out of the estate of a person, which derives from a payment to meet the recommendation of the Infected Blood Inquiry in its interim report published on 29th July 2022 made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood support scheme to the estate of the person, where the payment is made to the person's son, daughter, step-son or step-daughter.

(1H) Any payment out of the estate of a person, which derives from a payment made under or by the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme or an approved blood scheme to the estate of the person as a result of that person having been infected from contaminated blood products.

(2) Any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment and which is made to or for the benefit of that person's partner or former partner--

- (a) from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced, or

- (b) with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death.
- (3) Any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who

suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment and which is made to or for the benefit of the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person.

(4) Sub-paragraph (3) does not apply if--

- (a) the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced, or
- (b) where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death.

(5) Any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment, where--

- (a) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child who is or had been a member of that person's household; and
- (b) the payment is made either--
 - (i) to that person's parent or step-parent; or
 - (ii) where that person at the date of the payment is a child or a student who has not completed his full-time education and has no parent or step-parent, to any person standing in the place of his parent,

but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death.

(6) Any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment, where--

- (a) that person at the date of his death ("the relevant date") had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that had not been dissolved, nor any child who was or had been a member of his household; and
- (b) the payment is made either--
 - (i) to that person's parent or step-parent; or
 - (ii) where that person at the relevant date was a child or a student who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to any person standing in place of his parent,

but only for a period of two years from the relevant date.

(7) In the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this paragraph is made, any capital resource which derives from—

- (a) any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts; or
- (b) a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment, a Windrush payment, a Post Office compensation payment or a vaccine damage payment.

Any payment made under, or by, a trust which is approved by the Secretary of State and which is established for the purpose of giving relief and assistance to a disabled person whose disabilities were caused by their mother having taken a preparation containing the drug known as Thalidomide during her pregnancy.

17

- (1) An amount equal to the amount of any payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant or, if the applicant has a partner, to the partner.
- (2) Where the whole or part of the payment is administered--
 - (a) by the High Court or the County Court under Rule 21.11(1) of the Civil Procedure Rules 1998, or the Court of Protection, or on behalf of a person where the payment can only be disposed of by order or direction of any such court;
 - (b) in accordance with an order made under Rule 36.14 of the Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 or under Rule 128 of those Rules; or
 - (c) in accordance with the terms of a trust established for the benefit of the applicant or his partner,

the whole of the amount so administered.

18

Any amount specified in paragraph 19, 20, 21 or 25 for a period of one year beginning with the date of receipt.

19

Amounts paid under a policy of insurance in connection with the loss of or damage to the property occupied by the applicant as his home and to his personal possessions.

20

So much of any amounts paid to the applicant or deposited in the applicant's name for the sole purpose of--

- (a) purchasing premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home; or
- (b) effecting essential repairs or alterations to the premises occupied or intended to be occupied by the applicant as his home.

21

- (1) Subject to paragraph 22 any amount paid--
 - (a) by way of arrears of benefit;
 - (b) by way of compensation for the late payment of benefit;
 - (c) in lieu of the payment of benefit;
 - (d) to rectify, or compensate for, an official error, as defined for the purposes of paragraph 22, being an amount to which that paragraph does not apply;
 - (e) by a local authority out of funds provided under either section 93 of the Local Government Act 2000 under a scheme known as "Supporting People" or section 91 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 2001;

- (f) by way of occasional assistance including arrears and payments in lieu of occasional assistance (and in this paragraph "occasional assistance" has the same meaning as in paragraph 16 of Schedule 1).
 - (g) to rectify, or compensate for, an error made by an officer of the Department for Work and Pensions which was not caused or materially contributed to by any person outside the Department and which prevented or delayed an assessment of the applicant's entitlement to contributory employment and support allowance, being an amount to which paragraph 22(1A) does not apply.
- (2) In sub-paragraph (1), "benefit" means--
- (a) attendance allowance under section 64 of the Act;
 - (b) disability living allowance;
 - (c) personal independence payment;
 - (d) an AFIP;
 - (e) income support;
 - (f) income-based jobseeker's allowance;
 - (g) state pension credit;
 - (h) housing benefit;
 - (i) council tax benefit;
 - (j) child tax credit;
 - (k) an increase of a disablement pension under section 104 of the SSCBA (increase where constant attendance is needed), and any further increase of such a pension under section 105 of the Act (increase for exceptionally severe disablement);
 - (l) any amount included on account of the applicant's exceptionally severe disablement or need for constant attendance in a war disablement pension or a war widow's or widower's pension;
 - (m) any discretionary housing payment paid pursuant to regulation 2(1) of the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001;
 - (n) working tax credit;
 - (o) income-related employment and support allowance;
 - (p) social fund payments under Part 8 of the SSCBA;
 - (q) universal credit.
 - (r) maternity allowance under section 35 of the SSCBA1 (state maternity allowance for employed or self-employed earner);
 - (s) early years assistance given in accordance with section 32 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
 - (t) funeral expense assistance given in accordance with section 34 of that Act.
 - (u) any Scottish child payment assistance given in accordance with section 79 of that Act;
 - (v) any assistance given in accordance with the Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2019;
 - (w) short-term assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 36 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
 - (x) winter heating assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 30 of that Act; or
 - (y) bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014.

- (3) In sub-paragraph (1) "contributory employment and support allowance" means an allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012 that remove references to an income-related allowance.

22

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment of £5,000 or more which has been made to rectify, or to compensate for, an official error or an error on a point of law relating to a relevant benefit and which has been received by the applicant in full on or after the day on which he became entitled to a reduction under this scheme.

(1A) Subject to paragraph (3), any payment of £5,000 or more received by the applicant in full on or after the day on which the applicant became entitled to a reduction under an authority's scheme which has been made to rectify, or compensate for, an error made by an officer of the Department for Work and Pensions which was not caused or materially contributed to by any person outside the Department and which prevented or delayed an assessment of the applicant's entitlement to contributory employment and support allowance.

(1B) In sub-paragraph (1A) "contributory employment and support allowance" means an allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012 that remove references to an income-related allowance.

- (2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the total amount of any payments disregarded under--

- (a) paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 10 to the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987;
- (b) paragraph 12(2) of Schedule 8 to the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;
- (c) paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 5 to the Council Tax Benefit Regulations 2006;
- (d) paragraph 20A of Schedule 5 to the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002,
- (e) paragraph 11(2) of Schedule 9 to the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008,
- (f) paragraph 18 of Schedule 10 to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013;
- (g) regulations 10A to 10C of the Universal Credit (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2014.

where the award in respect of which the payments last fell to be disregarded under those Regulations either terminated immediately before the relevant date or is still in existence at that date.

- (3) Any disregard which applies under sub-paragraph (1), (1A) or (2) has effect until the award comes to an end.

- (4) In this paragraph--

"the award", except in sub-paragraph (2), means--

- (a) the award of a reduction under the authority's scheme during which the relevant sum or, where it is paid in more than one instalment, the first instalment of that sum is received; and
- (b) where that award is followed by one or more further awards which, or each of which, begins immediately after the previous award ends, such further awards until the end of the last such award, provided that, for such further awards, the applicant--
 - (i) is the person who received the relevant sum;
 - (ii) is the partner of that person; or
 - (iii) was the partner of that person at the date of his death;

"official error"--

- (a) where the error relates to housing benefit, or council tax benefit (in respect of any period before 1st April 2013), has the meaning given by regulation 1(2) of the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 2001; and

(b) where the error relates to any other relevant benefit, has the meaning given by regulation 1(3) of the Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999;

"the relevant date" means the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme was made;

"relevant benefit" means any benefit specified in paragraph 21(2); and

"the relevant sum" means the total amount referred to in sub-paragraph (1).

22A

Any payment of a widowed parent's allowance made pursuant to section 39A of the SSCBA (widowed parent's allowance)—

(a) to the survivor of a cohabiting partnership (within the meaning in section 39A(7) of the SSCBA) who is entitled to a widowed parent's allowance for a period before 9th February 2023; and

(b) in respect of any period of time during the period ending with the day before the survivor makes the claim for a widowed parent's allowance,

but only for a period of 2 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment or 1st April 2024, whichever is later.

22B

(1) A payment of bereavement support payment in respect of the rate set out in regulation 3(2) or (5) of the Bereavement Support Payment Regulations 2017 (rate of bereavement support payment) 3, but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

(2) Where bereavement support payment under section 30 of the Pensions Act 2014 is paid to the survivor of a cohabiting partnership (within the meaning of section 30(6B) of that Act) in respect of a death occurring before 9th February 2023, any amount of that payment which is—

(a) in respect of the rate set out in regulation 3(1) of the Bereavement Support Payment Regulations 2017, and

(b) paid as a lump sum for more than one monthly recurrence of the day of the month on which their cohabiting partner died,

but only for a period of 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment or 1st April 2024, whichever is later.

23

Where a capital asset is held in a currency other than Sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that capital into Sterling.

24

The value of the right to receive income from an occupational pension scheme or a personal pension scheme.

25

Any arrears of supplementary pension which is disregarded under paragraph 4 of Schedule 6 (amounts to be disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings) or of any amount which is

disregarded under paragraph 5 or 6 of that Schedule.

26

The dwelling occupied as the home; but only one dwelling is to be disregarded under this paragraph.

27

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where an applicant falls within class C (alternative maximum council tax reduction: pensioners), the whole of his capital.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply where an applicant falls within class B and class C.

28

Where a person elects to be entitled to a lump sum under Schedule 5 or 5A to SSCBA or under Schedule 1 to the Social Security (Graduated Retirement Benefit) Regulations 2005, or is treated as having made such an election, and a payment has been made pursuant to that election, an amount equal to--

(a) except where sub-paragraph (b) applies, the amount of any payment or payments made on account of that lump sum;

(b) the amount of that lump sum,

but only for so long as that person does not change that election in favour of an increase of pension or benefit.

28A

Where a person chooses a lump sum under section 8(2) of the Pensions Act 2014 or in accordance with Regulations made under section 10 of that Act which include provision corresponding or similar to section 8(2) of that Act, or fails to make a choice, and a lump sum payment has been made, an amount equal to—

(a) except where sub-paragraph (b) applies, the amount of any payment or payments made on account of that lump sum; or

(b) the amount of that lump sum,

but only for so long as that person does not alter that choice in favour of an increase of pension.

29

Any payments made --

(a) by virtue of regulations made under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001 (direct payments);

(b) ...

(c) by virtue of regulations made under sections 12A to 12C of the National Health Service Act 2006 (direct payments for health care);

(d) by virtue of regulations made under Article 15 of the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972 (general social welfare); or

(e) by virtue of regulations made under section 8 of the Carers and Direct Payments Act (Northern Ireland) 2002 (direct payments);

(f) under sections 31 to 33 of the Care Act 2014 (direct payments); or

- (g) by virtue of regulations made under section 50 or 52 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (direct payments).

29ZA

Any payment made as a direct payment as defined in section 4(2) of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013.

29A

A payment made under the Age-Related Payments Regulations 2013.

29B

Any payments to an applicant made under section 49 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (personal budgets and direct payments).

29C

- (1) Any payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 26A of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (duty to provide continuing care).
- (2) Any payment or part of a payment made by a local authority in accordance with that section to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant where A—
- (a) was formerly in the applicant's care;
 - (b) is aged 16 or over; and
 - (c) continues to live with the applicant.

29D

Any lump sum payment made in accordance with regulation 24 of the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020.

29E

Any sum paid by means of assistance in accordance with the Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2019.

29F

Any sum paid by means of winter heating assistance in accordance with regulations under section 30 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018.

Part 2
Capital Disregarded Only for the Purposes of Determining Deemed Income

30

The value of the right to receive any income under a life interest or from a life rent.

31

The value of the right to receive any rent except where the applicant has a reversionary interest in the property in respect of which rent is due.

32

The value of the right to receive any income under an annuity or the surrender value (if any) of such an annuity.

33

Where property is held under a trust, other than--

- (a) a charitable trust within the meaning of the Charities Act 1993; or
- (b) a trust set up with any payment to which paragraph 16 applies,

and under the terms of the trust, payments fall to be made, or the trustees have a discretion to make payments, to or for the benefit of the applicant or the applicant's partner, or both, that property.

SCHEDULE 10
CAPITAL DISREGARDS: PERSONS WHO ARE NOT PENSIONERS

Paragraph 63

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any child care, travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Work for Your Benefit Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

2

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Mandatory Work Activity Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

3

Any payment made to the applicant in respect of any travel or other expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by him in respect of his participation in the Employment, Skills and Enterprise Scheme but only for 52 weeks beginning with the date of receipt of the payment.

4

The dwelling together with any garage, garden and outbuildings, normally occupied by the applicant as his home including any premises not so occupied which it is impracticable or unreasonable to sell separately, but, notwithstanding paragraph 33 (calculation of income and capital of members of applicant's family and of a polygamous marriage), only one dwelling is to be disregarded under this paragraph.

5

Any premises acquired for occupation by the applicant which he intends to occupy as his home within 26 weeks of the date of acquisition or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to obtain possession and commence occupation of the premises.

6

Any sum directly attributable to the proceeds of sale of any premises formerly occupied by the applicant as his home which is to be used for the purchase of other premises intended for such occupation within 26 weeks of the date of sale or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to complete the purchase.

7

Any premises occupied in whole or in part--

- (a) by a partner or relative of a single applicant or any member of the family as his home where that person has attained the qualifying age for state pension credit or is incapacitated;
- (b) by the former partner of the applicant as his home; but this provision does not apply where the former partner is a person from whom the applicant is estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that has been dissolved.

8

Where an applicant is on income support, an income-based jobseeker's allowance or an income-related employment and support allowance, the whole of his capital.

9

Where the applicant is a member of a joint-claim couple for the purposes of the Jobseekers Act 1995

and his partner is on income-based jobseeker's allowance, the whole of the applicant's capital.

10

Any future interest in property of any kind, other than land or premises in respect of which the applicant has granted a subsisting lease or tenancy, including sub-leases or sub-tenancies.

11

(1) The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant and for the purposes of which he is engaged as a self-employed earner, or if he has ceased to be so engaged, for such period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to allow for disposal of any such asset.

(2) The assets of any business owned in whole or in part by the applicant where--

(a) he is not engaged as a self-employed earner in that business by reason of some disease or bodily or mental disablement; but

(b) he intends to become engaged or, as the case may be, re-engaged as a self-employed earner in that business as soon as he recovers or is able to become engaged or re-engaged in that business,

for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme is made, or is treated as made, or, if it is unreasonable to expect him to become engaged or re-engaged in that business within that period, for such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to become so engaged or re-engaged.

(3) In the case of a person who is receiving assistance under the self-employment route, the assets acquired by that person for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which such assistance is being received.

(4) In the case of a person who has ceased carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which assistance was received as specified in sub-paragraph (3), the assets relating to that activity for such period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to allow for disposal of any such asset.

12

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any arrears of, or any concessionary payment made to compensate for arrears due to the non-payment of--

(a) any payment specified in paragraphs 11, 13 or 14 of Schedule 8;

(b) an income-related benefit under Part 7 of the SSCBA;

(c) an income-based jobseeker's allowance;

(d) any discretionary housing payment paid pursuant to regulation 2(1) of the Discretionary Financial Assistance Regulations 2001;

(e) working tax credit and child tax credit;

(f) an income-related employment and support allowance,

but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of arrears or of the concessionary payment.

(2) In a case where the total of any arrears and, if appropriate, any concessionary payment referred to in sub-paragraph (1) relating to one of the specified payments, benefits or allowances amounts to £5,000 or more (referred to in this sub-paragraph and in sub-paragraph (3) as "the relevant sum") and is--

(a) paid in order to rectify or to compensate for, an official error as defined in regulation 1(2) of the

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 2001; and

(b) received by the applicant in full on or after 14th October 2001,

sub-paragraph (1) has effect in relation to such arrears or concessionary payment either for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt, or, if the relevant sum is received in its entirety during the period of an award of a reduction under this scheme, for the remainder of that period if that is a longer period.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2), "the period of an award of a reduction under this scheme" means--

(a) the award in which the relevant sum is first received (or the first part thereof where it is paid in more than one instalment); and

(b) where that award is followed by one or more further awards which, or each of which, begins immediately after the end of the previous award, such further award provided that for that further award the applicant--

(i) is the person who received the relevant sum; or

(ii) is the partner of the person who received the relevant sum, or was that person's partner at the date of his death.

12A

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), any payment of £5,000 or more which has been made to rectify, or to compensate for, an official error or an error on a point of law relating to a relevant benefit and which has been received by the applicant in full on or after the day on which he became entitled to a reduction under this scheme.

(1A) Subject to paragraph (3), any payment of £5,000 or more received by the applicant in full on or after the day on which the applicant became entitled to a reduction under an authority's scheme which has been made to rectify, or compensate for, an error made by an officer of the Department for Work and Pensions which was not caused or materially contributed to by any person outside the Department and which prevented or delayed an assessment of the applicant's entitlement to contributory employment and support allowance.

(1B) In sub-paragraph (1A) "contributory employment and support allowance" means an allowance under Part 1 of the Welfare Reform Act 2007 as amended by the provisions of Schedule 3, and Part 1 of Schedule 14, to the Welfare Reform Act 2012 that remove references to an income-related allowance.

(2) Subject to sub-paragraph (3), the total amount of any payments disregarded under--

(a) paragraph 7(2) of Schedule 10 to the Income Support (General) Regulations 1987;

(b) paragraph 12(2) of Schedule 8 to the Jobseeker's Allowance Regulations 1996;

(c) paragraph 9(2) of Schedule 5 to the Council Tax Benefit Regulations 2006;

(d) paragraph 20A of Schedule 5 to the State Pension Credit Regulations 2002,

(e) paragraph 11(2) of Schedule 9 to the Employment and Support Allowance Regulations 2008,

(f) paragraph 18 of Schedule 10 to the Universal Credit Regulations 2013;

(g) regulations 10A to 10C of the Universal Credit (Transitional Provisions) Regulations 2014.

where the award in respect of which the payments last fell to be disregarded under those Regulations either terminated immediately before the relevant date or is still in existence at that date.

(3) Any disregard which applies under sub-paragraph (1), (1A) or (2) has effect until the award comes to an end.

(4) In this paragraph--

"the award", except in sub-paragraph (2), means--

(a) the award of a reduction under the authority's scheme during which the relevant sum or,

where it is paid in more than one instalment, the first instalment of that sum is received; and

(b) where that award is followed by one or more further awards which, or each of which, begins immediately after the previous award ends, such further awards until the end of the last such award, provided that, for such further awards, the applicant--

- (i) is the person who received the relevant sum;
- (ii) is the partner of that person; or
- (iii) was the partner of that person at the date of his death;

"official error"--

(a) where the error relates to housing benefit, or council tax benefit (in respect of any period before 1st April 2013), has the meaning given by regulation 1(2) of the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 2001; and

(b) where the error relates to any other relevant benefit, has the meaning given by regulation 1(3) of the Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999;

"the relevant date" means the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme was made;

"relevant benefit" means any benefit specified in paragraph 21(2); and

"the relevant sum" means the total amount referred to in sub-paragraph (1).

where the award in respect of which the payments last fell to be disregarded under those Regulations either terminated immediately before the relevant date or is still in existence at that date.

(1) Any disregard which applies under sub-paragraph (1), (1A) or (2) has effect until the award comes to an end.

(2) In this paragraph--

"the award", except in sub-paragraph (2), means--

(a) the award of a reduction under the authority's scheme during which the relevant sum or, where it is paid in more than one instalment, the first instalment of that sum is received; and

(b) where that award is followed by one or more further awards which, or each of which, begins immediately after the previous award ends, such further awards until the end of the last such award, provided that, for such further awards, the applicant--

- i. is the person who received the relevant sum;
- ii. is the partner of that person; or
- iii. was the partner of that person at the date of his death;

"official error"—

(a) where the error relates to housing benefit, or council tax benefit (in respect of any period before 1st April 2013), has the meaning given by regulation 1(2) of the Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 2001; and

(b) where the error relates to any other relevant benefit, has the meaning given by regulation 1(3) of the Social Security and Child Support (Decisions and Appeals) Regulations 1999;

"the relevant date" means the date on which the application for a reduction under this scheme was made;

"relevant benefit" means any benefit specified in paragraph 21(2); and

"the relevant sum" means the total amount referred to in sub-paragraph (1).

13

Any sum--

- (a) paid to the applicant in consequence of damage to, or loss of the home or any personal possession and intended for its repair or replacement; or
- (b) acquired by the applicant (whether as a loan or otherwise) on the express condition that it is to be used for effecting essential repairs or improvement to the home,

which is to be used for the intended purpose, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which it was so paid or acquired or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to effect the repairs, replacement or improvement.

14

Any sum--

- (a) deposited with a housing association as defined in section 1(1) of the Housing Associations Act 1985 as a condition of occupying the home;
- (b) which was so deposited and which is to be used for the purchase of another home,

for the period of 26 weeks or such longer period as may be reasonable in the circumstances to enable the applicant to complete the purchase.

15

Any personal possessions except those which have been acquired by the applicant with the intention of reducing his capital in order to secure entitlement to a reduction under this scheme or to increase the amount of that reduction.

16

The value of the right to receive any income under an annuity or the surrender value (if any) of such an annuity.

17

Where the funds of a trust are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant or applicant's partner, the value of the trust fund and the value of the right to receive any payment under that trust.

18

(1) Any payment made to the applicant or the applicant's partner in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant or, as the case may be, the applicant's partner.

(2) But sub-paragraph (1)--

- (a) applies only for the period of 52 weeks beginning with the day on which the applicant first receives any payment in consequence of that personal injury;
- (b) does not apply to any subsequent payment made to him in consequence of that injury

(whether it is made by the same person or another);

(c) ceases to apply to the payment or any part of the payment from the day on which the applicant no longer possesses it;

(d) does not apply to any payment from a trust where the funds of the trust are derived from a payment made in consequence of any personal injury to the applicant.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2)(c), the circumstances in which an applicant no longer possesses a payment or a part of it include where the applicant has used a payment or part of it to purchase an asset.

(4) References in sub-paragraphs (2) and (3) to the applicant are to be construed as including references to his partner (where applicable).

19

The value of the right to receive any income under a life interest or from a life rent.

20

The value of the right to receive any income which is disregarded under paragraph 15 of Schedule 7 or paragraph 29 of Schedule 8.

21

The surrender value of any policy of life insurance.

22

Where any payment of capital falls to be made by instalments, the value of the right to receive any outstanding instalments.

23

Any payment made by a local authority in accordance with section 17, 23B, 23C or 24A of the Children Act 1989 or, as the case may be, section 12 of the Social Work (Scotland) Act 1968 or sections 22, 29 or 30 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (provision of services for children and their families and advice and assistance to certain children).

24

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), any payment (or part of a payment) made by a local authority in accordance with section 23C of the Children Act 1989 or section 29 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 (local authorities' duty to promote welfare of children and powers to grant financial assistance to persons in, or formerly in, their care) to a person ("A") which A passes on to the applicant.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies only where A--

- (a) was formerly in the applicant's care, and
- (b) is aged 18 or over, and
- (c) continues to live with the applicant.

25

Any--

- (a) social fund payment made pursuant to Part 8 of the SSCBA (the social fund); or
- (b) occasional assistance.

26

Any refund of tax which falls to be deducted under section 369 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988 (deduction of tax from certain loan interest) on a payment of relevant loan interest for the purpose of acquiring an interest in the home or carrying out repairs or improvements to the home.

27

Any capital which by virtue of paragraph 55 or 81 (capital treated as income: persons who are not pensioners, treatment of student loans) is to be treated as income.

28

Where any payment of capital is made in a currency other than sterling, any banking charge or commission payable in converting that payment into sterling.

29

(1) Any payment made under or by the Trusts, the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Independent

Living Fund (2006), the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, We love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, or the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.

- (1A) Any Grenfell Tower support payment.
- (1B) Any payment made by the Child Migrants Trust (registered charity number 1171479) under the scheme for former British child migrants.
- (1C) Any historical child abuse payment.
- (1D) Any Windrush payment.
- (2) (Any payment by or on behalf of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment and which is made to or for the benefit of--
 - (a) that person's partner or former partner from whom he is not, or where that person has died was not, estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved or, where that person has died, had not been dissolved at the time of that person's death;
 - (b) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
 - (c) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.
- (3) Any payment by or on behalf of the partner or former partner of a person who is suffering or who suffered from haemophilia or who is or was a qualifying person which derives from a payment made under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment and which is made to or for the benefit of--
 - (d) the person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person;
 - (e) any child who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family; or
 - (f) any young person who is a member of that person's family or who was such a member and who is a member of the applicant's family.
- (4) Sub-paragraph (3) does not apply if--
 - (g) the partner or former partner and that person are not, or if either of them has died were not, estranged or divorced, or
 - (h) where the partner or former partner and that person have formed a civil partnership, the civil partnership has not been dissolved or, if either of them has died, had not been dissolved at the time of the death.
- (5) Any payment by a person who is suffering from haemophilia or who is a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, where--
 - (i) that person has no partner or former partner from whom he is not estranged or divorced or with whom he has formed a civil partnership that has not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who is or had been a member of that person's family; and
 - (j) the payment is made either--
 - (i) to that person's parent or step-parent; or
 - (ii) where that person at the date of the payment is a child, a young person or a student who has not completed his full-time education and has no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,

but only for a period from the date of the payment until the end of two years from that person's death.

- (6) Any payment out of the estate of a person who suffered from haemophilia or who was a qualifying person, which derives from a payment under or by any of the Trusts to which sub-paragraph (1) refers or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment, where--
- (k) that person at the date of his death (the relevant date) had no partner or former partner from whom he was not estranged or divorced or with whom he had formed a civil partnership that had not been dissolved, nor any child or young person who was or had been a member of his family; and
- (l) the payment is made either--
- (i) to that person's parent or step-parent; or
- (ii) where that person at the relevant date was a child, a young person or a student who had not completed his full-time education and had no parent or step-parent, to his guardian,
- but only for a period of two years from the relevant date.
- (7) In the case of a person to whom or for whose benefit a payment referred to in this paragraph is made, any capital resource which derives from any payment of income or capital made under or deriving from any of the Trusts or from a Grenfell Tower support payment, a historical child abuse payment or a Windrush payment.
- (8) For the purposes of sub-paragraphs (2) to (6), any reference to the Trusts is to be construed as including a reference to the Fund, the Eileen Trust, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation, the Windrush Compensation Scheme, the National Emergencies Trust, We love Manchester Emergency Fund, the Scottish Infected Blood Support Scheme, an approved blood scheme, the London Emergencies Trust, and the London Bombings Relief Charitable Fund.

29A

Any payment made under, or by, a trust which is approved by the Secretary of State and which is established for the purpose of giving relief and assistance to a disabled person whose disabilities were caused by their mother having taken a preparation containing the drug known as Thalidomide during her pregnancy.

30

(1) Where an applicant has ceased to occupy what was formerly the dwelling occupied as the home following his estrangement or divorce from, or dissolution of his civil partnership with, his former partner, that dwelling for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he ceased to occupy that dwelling or, where the dwelling is occupied as the home by the former partner who is a lone parent, for so long as it is so occupied.

(2) In this paragraph "dwelling" includes any garage, garden and outbuildings, which were formerly occupied by the applicant as his home and any premises not so occupied which it is impracticable or unreasonable to sell separately, in particular, in Scotland, any croft land on which the dwelling is situated.

31

Any premises where the applicant is taking reasonable steps to dispose of those premises, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first took such steps, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to dispose of those premises.

32

Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home, and in respect of which he is taking

steps to obtain possession and has sought legal advice, or has commenced legal proceedings, with a view to obtaining possession, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he first sought such advice or first commenced such proceedings whichever is the earlier, or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable him to obtain possession and commence occupation of those premises.

33

Any premises which the applicant intends to occupy as his home to which essential repairs or alterations are required in order to render them fit for such occupation, for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which the applicant first takes steps to effect those repairs or alterations, or such longer period as is necessary to enable those repairs or alterations to be carried out.

34

Any payment made by the Secretary of State to compensate for the loss (in whole or in part) of entitlement to housing benefit.

35

The value of the right to receive an occupational or personal pension.

36

The value of any funds held under a personal pension scheme.

37

The value of the right to receive any rent except where the applicant has a reversionary interest in the property in respect of which rent is due.

38

Any payment in kind made by a charity or under or by the Trusts, the Fund, MFET Limited, the Skipton Fund, the Caxton Foundation or the Independent Living Fund (2006).

39

Any payment made pursuant to section 2 of the Employment and Training Act 1973 or section 2 of the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990, but only for the period of 52 weeks beginning on the date of receipt of the payment.

40

Any payment in consequence of a reduction of council tax under section 13 of the 1992 Act (reduction of liability for council tax), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of the payment.

41

Any grant made in accordance with a scheme made under section 129 of the Housing Act 1988 or section 66 of the Housing (Scotland) Act 1988 (schemes for payments to assist local housing authority and local authority tenants to obtain other accommodation) which is to be used--

- (a) to purchase premises intended for occupation as his home; or
- (b) to carry out repairs or alterations which are required to render premises fit for occupation as his home,

for a period of 26 weeks from the date on which he received such a grant or such longer period as is reasonable in the circumstances to enable the purchase, repairs or alterations to be completed and the applicant to commence occupation of those premises as his home.

42

Any arrears of supplementary pension which is disregarded under paragraph 54 of Schedule 8 (sums to be disregarded in the calculation of income other than earnings) or of any amount which is disregarded under paragraph 55 or 56 of that Schedule, but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the arrears.

43

(1) Any payment or repayment made--

- (a) as respects England, under regulation 5, 6 or 12 of the National Health Service (Travel Expenses and Remission of Charges) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);
- (b) as respects Wales, under regulation 5, 6 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Wales) Regulations 2007 (travelling expenses and health service supplies);
- (c) as respects Scotland, under regulation 3, 5 or 11 of the National Health Service (Travelling Expenses and Remission of Charges) (Scotland) (No 2) Regulations 2003 (travelling expenses and health service supplies),

but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment or repayment.

(2) Any payment or repayment made by the Secretary of State for Health, the Scottish Ministers or the Welsh Ministers which is analogous to a payment or repayment mentioned in sub-paragraph (1), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment or repayment.

44

Any payment made to such persons entitled to receive benefits as may be determined by or under a scheme made pursuant to section 13 of the Social Security Act 1988 in lieu of vouchers or similar arrangements in connection with the provision of those benefits (including payments made in place of healthy start vouchers, milk tokens or the supply of vitamins), but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

45

Any payment made under Part 8A of the SSCBA (entitlement to health in pregnancy grant).

46

Any payment made either by the Secretary of State for Justice or by Scottish Ministers under a scheme established to assist relatives and other persons to visit persons in custody, but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date of the receipt of the payment.

47

Any payment (other than a training allowance) made, whether by the Secretary of State or any other person, under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 to assist disabled persons to obtain or retain employment despite their disability.

48

Any payment made by a local authority under section 3 of the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1958 to homeworkers assisted under the Blind Homeworkers' Scheme.

49

- (1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), where an applicant falls within class F (alternative maximum council reduction: persons who are not pensioners), the whole of his capital.
- (2) Sub-paragraph (1) does not apply where an applicant falls within class E and class F.

50

- (1) Any sum of capital to which sub-paragraph (2) applies and--
 - (a) which is administered on behalf of a person by the High Court or the County Court under Rule 21.11(1) of the Civil Procedure Rules 1998 or by the Court of Protection;
 - (b) which can only be disposed of by order or direction of any such court; or
 - (c) where the person concerned is under the age of 18, which can only be disposed of by order or direction prior to that person attaining age 18.
- (2) This sub-paragraph applies to a sum of capital which is derived from--
 - (a) an award of damages for a personal injury to that person; or
 - (b) compensation for the death of one or both parents where the person concerned is under the age of 18.

51

Any sum of capital administered on behalf of a person in accordance with an order made under section 13 of the Children (Scotland) Act 1995, or under Rule 36.14 of the Ordinary Cause Rules 1993 or under Rule 128 of those Rules, where such sum derives from--

- (a) award of damages for a personal injury to that person; or
- (b) compensation for the death of one or both parents where the person concerned is under the age of 18.

52

Any payment to the applicant as holder of the Victoria Cross or George Cross.

53

In the case of a person who is receiving, or who has received, assistance under the self-employment route, any sum of capital which is acquired by that person for the purpose of establishing or carrying on the commercial activity in respect of which such assistance is or was received but only for a period of 52 weeks from the date on which that sum was acquired.

54

- (1) Any payment of a sports award for a period of 26 weeks from the date of receipt of that payment except to the extent that it has been made in respect of any one or more of the items specified in sub-paragraph (2).
- (2) The items specified for the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) are food, ordinary clothing or footwear, household fuel or rent of the applicant or, where the applicant is a member of a family, any other mem-

ber of his family, or any council tax or water charges for which that applicant or member is liable.

(3) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (2) "food" does not include vitamins, minerals or other special dietary supplements intended to enhance the performance of the person in the sport in respect of which the award was made.

55

(1) Any payment--

(a) by way of an education maintenance allowance made pursuant to--

- (i) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;
- (ii) regulations made under section 49 or 73(f) of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980;
- (iii) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992;

(b) corresponding to such an education maintenance allowance, made pursuant to--

- (i) section 14 or section 181 of the Education Act 2002 (power of Secretary of State and the Welsh Ministers to give financial assistance for purposes related to education or childcare, and allowances in respect of education or training); or
- (ii) regulations made under section 181 of that Act; or

(c) in England, by way of financial assistance made pursuant to section 14 of the Education Act 2002.

(2) Any payment, other than a payment to which sub-paragraph (1) applies, made pursuant to--

- (a) regulations made under section 518 of the Education Act 1996;
- (b) regulations made under section 49 of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980; or
- (c) directions made under section 73ZA of the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 and paid under section 12(2)(c) of the Further and Higher Education (Scotland) Act 1992,

in respect of a course of study attended by a child or a young person or a person who is in receipt of an education maintenance allowance or other payment made pursuant to any provision specified in sub-paragraph (1).

56

In the case of an applicant participating in an employment zone programme, any discretionary payment made by an employment zone contractor to the applicant, being a fee, grant, loan or otherwise, but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

57

Any arrears of subsistence allowance paid as a lump sum but only for the period of 52 weeks from the date of receipt of the payment.

58

Where an ex-gratia payment of £10,000 has been made by the Secretary of State on or after 1st February 2001 in consequence of the imprisonment or internment of--

- (a) the applicant;

- (b) the applicant's partner;
- (c) the applicant's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner; or
- (d) the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner,

by the Japanese during the Second World War, £10,000.

59

(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), the amount of any trust payment made to an applicant or a member of an applicant's family who is--

- (a) a diagnosed person;
- (b) the diagnosed person's partner or the person who was the diagnosed person's partner at the date of the diagnosed person's death;
- (c) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death; or
- (d) a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) or a person who was a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) at the date of the diagnosed person's death.

(2) Where a trust payment is made to--

- (a) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(a) or (b), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;
- (b) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(c), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending two years after that date;
- (c) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (1)(d), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which the trust payment is made and ending--
 - (i) two years after that date; or
 - (ii) on the day before the day on which that person--
 - (aa) ceases receiving full-time education; or
 - (bb) attains the age of 20,

whichever is the latest.

(3) Subject to sub-paragraph (4), the amount of any payment by a person to whom a trust payment has been made or of any payment out of the estate of a person to whom a trust payment has been made, which is made to an applicant or a member of an applicant's family who is--

- (a) the diagnosed person's partner or the person who was the diagnosed person's partner at the date of the diagnosed person's death;
- (b) a parent of a diagnosed person, a person acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents or a person who was so acting at the date of the diagnosed person's death; or
- (c) a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) or a person who was a member of the diagnosed person's family (other than his partner) at the date of the diagnosed person's death,

but only to the extent that such payments do not exceed the total amount of any trust payments made to that person.

(4) Where a payment as referred to in sub-paragraph (3) is made to--

- (a) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(a), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending on the date on which that person dies;
- (b) a person referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(b), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending two years after that date; or
- (c) person referred to in sub-paragraph (3)(c), that sub-paragraph applies for the period beginning on the date on which that payment is made and ending--
 - (i) two years after that date; or
 - (ii) on the day before the day on which that person--
 - (aa) ceases receiving full-time education; or
 - (bb) attains the age of 20,

whichever is the latest.

(5) In this paragraph, a reference to a person--

- (a) being the diagnosed person's partner;
- (b) being a member of a diagnosed person's family;
- (c) acting in place of the diagnosed person's parents,

at the date of the diagnosed person's death includes a person who would have been such a person or a person who would have been so acting, but for the diagnosed person residing in a care home, an Abbeyfield Home or an independent hospital on that date.

(6) In this paragraph--

"diagnosed person" means a person who has been diagnosed as suffering from, or who, after his death, has been diagnosed as having suffered from, variant Creutzfeld-Jakob disease;

"relevant trust" means a trust established out of funds provided by the Secretary of State in respect of persons who suffered, or who are suffering, from variant Creutzfeld-Jakob disease for the benefit of persons eligible for payments in accordance with its provisions;

"trust payment" means a payment under a relevant trust.

60

The amount of any payment, other than a war pension, to compensate for the fact that the applicant, the applicant's partner, the applicant's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner or the applicant's partner's deceased spouse or deceased civil partner--

- (a) was a slave labourer or a forced labourer;
- (b) had suffered property loss or had suffered personal injury; or
- (c) was a parent of a child who had died,

during the Second World War.

61

(1) Any payment made by a local authority, or by the Welsh Ministers, to or on behalf of the applicant or his partner relating to a service which is provided to develop or sustain the capacity of the applicant or his partner to live independently in his accommodation.

(2) For the purposes of sub-paragraph (1) "local authority" includes in England a county council.

62

Any payment made under regulations made under section 57 of the Health and Social Care Act 2001, as a direct payment as defined in section 4(2) of the Social Care (Self-directed Support) (Scotland) Act 2013, or under sections 12A to 12D of the National Health Service Act 2006 (direct payments for health care).

63

Any payment made to the applicant pursuant to regulations under section 2(6)(b), 3 or 4 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

64

Any payment made to the applicant in accordance with regulations made pursuant to section 14F of the Children Act 1989 (special guardianship support services).

64A

Any amount paid for:

- (a) early years assistance given in accordance with section 32 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018;
- (b) funeral expense assistance given in accordance with section 34 of that Act.
- (c) any Scottish child payment assistance given in accordance with section 79 of that Act;
- (d) any assistance given in accordance with the Carer's Assistance (Young Carer Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2019;
- (e) short-term assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 36 of the Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018; or
- (f) winter heating assistance given in accordance with regulations under section 30 of that Act.

64B

Any sum paid to rectify, or compensate for, an error made by an officer of the Department for Work and Pensions which was not caused or materially contributed to by any person outside the Department and which prevented or delayed assessment of the applicant's entitlement to contributory employment and support allowance. Where such a payment amounts to £5,000 or more received by the applicant in full on or after the day on which the applicant became entitled to a reduction under an authority's scheme, any disregard has effect until the award comes to an end.

64C

Any lump sum payment made in accordance with regulation 24 of the Victims' Payments Regulations 2020.

64D

Any payments to an applicant made under section 49 of the Children and Families Act 2014 (personal budgets and direct payments).

64E

Any payments made under sections 31 to 33 of the Care Act 2014 (direct payments).

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Scheme)

Section 13A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("the 1992 Act"), substituted by section 10 of the Local Government Finance Act 2012 ("the 2012 Act"), requires each billing authority in England to make a scheme specifying the reductions which are to apply to amounts of council tax payable by persons, or classes of person, whom the authority considers are in financial need.

Haringey Council's Scheme as set out above was approved by the authority. It is based upon the default scheme prescribed by the Secretary of State, with local amendment.

The Scheme

Parts 1 and 2 contain introductory provisions and definitions of key words and phrases. Part 3 and Schedule 1 contains the procedure for reduction applications and appeals. Parts 4 and 5 specify the classes of person entitled and not entitled to a reduction under the scheme, respectively. At Part 4 a minimum weekly Council Tax Support award of £1 has been introduced.

Parts 6 to 9 and Schedules 2 to 4 set out matters relevant to determining eligibility for a reduction and the amount of reduction under the scheme. Part 7 provides for applicants of working-age to have their Council Tax support assessed against 80.2% of their council tax liability, save for those in receipt of defined disability benefits or responsible for a child in the same household.

Part 10 and Schedules 5 to 10 set out how income and capital of the applicant and others is treated in calculating eligibility for a reduction, including in cases where an applicant or partner has an award of universal credit. Schedules 6 and 8 provide for war pensions to be fully disregarded for the purposes of calculating income for all claimants. Part 11 provides for the application of the scheme to students. Part 12 provides for extended reductions in certain circumstances and Part 13 sets out when entitlement begins and how a change in circumstances affects any reduction.

Part 14 of the scheme provides for the making of an application for a reduction. Part 15 sets out the time within which an authority must make its decision on the application and provides for notification of the decision. Part 16 makes provisions about the payment of a reduction in certain circumstances.

REPORT OF CABINET No. 3, 2024/25**FULL COUNCIL 3 March 2025**

Chair: Councillor Peray Ahmet

Deputy Chair: Cllr Sarah Williams

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) covers income and expenditure relating to the Council's own housing stock. It is an account that is ring-fenced from the Council's general fund as required by the Local Government Act 1989.
- 1.2 This report provides an update on the aims and ambitions across the medium and long term and proposals for the 2025/26 budget. It provides details of the assumptions for forecast income and therefore planned expenditure for next year as well as an update on the future financial outlook for the HRA. It additionally notes the Cabinet discussion on 11 February 2025 relating to the Housing Revenue Account 2025/26 - 2029/30.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2025/26 - 2029/30

We discussed the Housing Revenue Account for 2025/26 – 2029/2030, and the details that were within it. It was explained that Haringey was committed to fairer housing, explaining that means making sure residents had safe, stable, warm and comfortable homes. It was noted that the Council invested the HRA (Housing Revenue Account) into repairing and renovating existing Council homes and into building new homes for people on the waiting list. It was explained that the Council wanted both existing Council tenants and new Council tenants to live in high quality homes and that more families and individuals in the borough who needed the security of social housing to be able to set down roots and thrive. It was explained that key investments made in existing council homes included: improving kitchens and bathrooms; keeping estates safer and keeping homes warm and dry – and making homes cheaper to heat.

We discussed that investment in new Council homes and renovation work to existing council homes would help reduce the need for future expenditure on repairs.

We discussed that, as well as capital investment, the HRA delivered important services to tenants and leaseholders, including tenancy services, income services (including the financial inclusion service), estates and neighbourhood services. It was noted that that residents that need support would be able to live well in their homes and communities utilising these services.

We stressed that setting a sustainable HRA had become significantly more challenging in recent years. It was noted that higher interest rates and inflation were driving up costs across the board and that construction costs had been rising for

some years, increasing the cost of repairs and important building safety works. It was explained that, at times, Council rent rises were kept below inflation, either by national government or by local councils, with a series of 1% rent cuts between 2016 and 2020 and a sub-inflation rise in 2023-24. The Council were able to continue to provide services to tenants and leaseholders, to invest in their homes and to build thousands of new council homes over time, a major programme that is delivering genuinely affordable homes that local people need.

We additionally discussed:

- That new builds go through a value engineering process to ensure that development contracts offer the best value for money at the time.
- That Long-Term Voids, those that required major structural works, had work nearly completed, and that the Voids team has been exceeding targets. It was noted that there was an impetus to continue and expand this work.
- Officers explained that the business plan had reduced the cost of the housing delivery programme by 14% through good procurement and forward planning.
- Officers explained that they had increased the budget in the Housing Revenue Account to support target of delivery of additional homelessness discharge acquisitions and that the Council had also applied to the Greater London Authority (GLA) for additional funding for acquisition of Council homes to discharge this duty.

We continued to approve:

The proposed increases in rent of 2.7% to existing tenancies and noted that rents on other forms of tenancies would continue as approved in prior years by Cabinet.

The proposed average service charge increases. However, noting that the increases in service charges to individual tenants would vary depending on the service they receive.

WE RECOMMEND

Approval of the HRA 2025/26 Budget and 2025/26-29/30 MTFS, which included the proposed revenue and capital spend over the period as attached to agenda item 13 2025-26 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2025/29 at Annex 3.

**REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
No. 1, 2024-25**

FULL COUNCIL – 3 MARCH 2025

Chair: Councillor Cressida Johnson

1. INTRODUCTION

The Council is required to produce an annual Pay Policy Statement to comply with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011. This report from the General Purposes Committee meeting on DATE recommends that Full Council approves the Pay Policy Statement 2024/25 (attached) for publication in April 2025.

2. PAY POLICY STATEMENT 2025-26

We considered the report on the Pay Policy Statement 2025/26 and noted that this was a statutory report that the Council was required to produce annually, in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

We noted that the report had not been modified substantially from the previous year, but expressed that there needed to be clarification on some key areas, including: contracted services, market allowance criteria utilisation, and market supplements. These clarifications were delegated to the Chief People Officer to explain within the report.

We agreed to approve the draft Pay Policy Statement 2025/26 and delegated authority to the Chief People Officer to make such amendments as considered minor.

Clerk's note - Using this delegation, the Pay Policy Statement at paragraph 9.3 was amended to more accurately reflect the process of utilising market allowances to reflect their limited nature and clarified that paragraph 3.5 of the Pay Policy Statement was amended to clarify that the stipulation there was aimed at those who are engaged under contracted services and not employees.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Full Council is recommended:

To approve the Pay Policy Statement 2025/26, attached at Appendix A.

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Pay Policy Statement 2025/26

Published
April 2025

1 Background

Localism Act 2011 - Openness and accountability in local pay

- 1.1 Section 38(1) of the Localism Act requires local authorities to produce an annual pay policy statement.
- 1.2 The provisions in the Act do not seek to change the right of each local authority to have autonomy on pay decisions, however, it emphasises the need to deliver value for money for local taxpayers.
- 1.3 This statement has been approved by Full Council on 24th March 2025 in accordance with the legislation, and any changes during the year will be brought back to Full Council for adoption at the earliest opportunity.
- 1.4 This statement does not apply to Council employees based in schools.
- 1.5 The Council follows the transparency requirements on remuneration as set out in the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 (“the Code”), published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in February 2015, and the Local Transparency Guidance issued on 30 November 2015 by the Local Government Association.
- 1.6 Part of the Code includes publishing information relating to senior salaries within a local authority. A full list of all posts that are paid £50,000 or more per year that fall within the scope of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 is published on the Council’s website.

2 Governance arrangements for pay and conditions of service within Haringey

- 2.1 The General Purposes Committee as referred to in the Council’s constitution Part three, section B under its Terms of Reference has responsibility for the terms and conditions of service for all employees. The General Purposes Committee is a Committee of Full Council.
- 2.2 The General Purposes Committee is accountable for the remuneration of Corporate Directors, Directors and specified Statutory Officers as detailed in the Council’s Constitution and pay in general and will ensure that remuneration is set within the wider pay context giving due consideration to the relationship between the highest and lowest paid in the organisation. Job titles may vary. This Committee will remit the Pay Policy Statement for approval by Full Council.

3 Remuneration arrangements of the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors, Directors and Heads of Service/Senior Professional III graded employees

- 3.1 The Council benchmarks its pay rates with other London Boroughs to ensure that it is able to recruit and retain qualified and competent employees. Changes to pay bands for the Chief Executive, Corporate Directors, Directors and Heads of Service/Senior Professional III graded employees are approved by the General Purposes Committee, other than for annual nationally and/or regionally agreed increases. The pay bands can be found at Appendix A.

- 3.2 Where it is proposed to appoint to a Corporate Director or Director post or other Statutory Officer post that comes within the remit of the Committee in the Constitution, the Appointments Panel must consider and approve the proposed salary.
- 3.3 The salary applicable to Corporate Director and Director graded posts are published on the Council's website.
- 3.4 Pay scales are increased in line with national and regional pay agreements. Progression through the applicable pay band will be contribution led based on individual, team and/or organisation performance. It will not be automatic, and the process will be overseen by the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive may decide not to authorise pay progression for any senior managers in any given year.
- 3.5 The Council may in exceptional circumstances, engage contractors under contracts for services. The Council publishes in accordance with the Code details of all payments made under contracts for services in excess of £500 per day on the Council website.

4 Remuneration of other employees

- 4.1 Pay scales are increased in line with national and regional pay agreements.
- 4.2 For a majority of its employees who are not covered by local arrangements, the Council supports the National Joint Council (NJC) and regional (Greater London Provincial Council – GLPC) collective bargaining arrangements for pay and conditions of service and utilises the GLPC outer London pay spine. The exceptions to this are a small number of employees who are subject to the Soulbury, Teachers, Craft (Red Book), NHS and Fusion terms and conditions
- 4.3 The Council considers it important to be able to locally determine pay rates for some employees where this is necessary. This enables it to respond to regional and local labour market conditions. The Council benchmarks its pay rates with other London Boroughs to ensure that it is able to recruit and retain qualified and competent employees.
- 4.4 The Council employs a small number of employees who are Educational Psychologists and Education Advisers/Inspectors and uses the pay scales recommended by the Soulbury Committee for these employees.
- 4.5 The Council also employs a small number of centrally employed Teachers and uses the national Teachers Pay and Conditions (TPAC) pay scales for these employees.
- 4.6 As a result of a Transfer of Undertakings, Protection of Employment (TUPE), the Council employs a small number of employees on JNC Craftworkers (Red Book) terms and conditions. A productivity payment scheme is part of the TUPE terms and conditions for these employees.

- 4.7 Public Health employees who transferred from the NHS into the Council from 1 April 2013 continue to be paid in accordance with NHS terms and conditions of employment.
- 4.8 Employees subject to NHS conditions are able to progress through the steps in their pay band subject to the principles set out in the Framework Agreement on the reform of Agenda for Change.
- 4.9 Employees subject to NJC conditions are able to incrementally progress through the pay spine column points for their job evaluated grade. Progression will normally be one increment (pay spine column point) on the 1st of April each year until they reach the top of their grade.
- 4.10 Employees subject to STPAC and Soulbury conditions can incrementally progress through the pay spine column points subject to satisfactory performance normally on the 1st of September each year until they reach the top of their grade/ range.
- 4.11 The Council also operates other terms and conditions, as required by law, for employees who have transferred in under TUPE legislation.

5 Remuneration of the lowest-paid employees

- 5.1 The Council approved with effect from May 2011 that in future the pay of Council employees at the lower ends of the pay spine receive a level of pay in line with the London Living Wage rate as determined from time to time by the Greater London Authority. This will be by way of an hourly pay supplement as appropriate to ensure that the London Living Wage rate is achieved.
- 5.2 In November 2018 the Council became an accredited Living Wage Employer.

6 Job Evaluation

- 6.1 The pay grades and therefore remuneration levels of employees (except for centrally employed Teachers who are subject to the Teachers Pay and Conditions documents) are determined by the use of a job evaluation scheme. Job Evaluation is a systematic process used to determine the relative worth of jobs within the organisation. It creates a rank order from the smallest to the largest job and ensures that consistent decisions in grades and rates of pay are made.
- 6.2 The table at Appendix B outlines the job evaluation schemes used for each group of employees.

7 Pay Multiple

- 7.1 The 'pay multiple' is the ratio between the highest paid taxable earnings and the median earnings figure of the whole of the Council's workforce. The Council's highest paid employee is the Chief Executive and the current pay multiple is shown in the table below.

- 7.2 Earnings for the purpose of calculating the 'pay multiple' are defined covering all elements of remuneration that can be valued (i.e. all taxable earnings for including base salary, variable pay, bonuses, allowances and the cash value of any benefits in kind). The calculation of earnings excludes the cash value of pension provision.
- 7.3 The Council defines its lowest paid employees as those paid on the lowest pay spine point of 2 on the GLPC outer London pay spine. The reason for this definition is that this is the lowest pay spine point in the Council in line with the job evaluation scheme and pay scales agreed with the unions. This excludes trainees, apprentices and interns. However, an hourly pay supplement is added when necessary to ensure that the London Living Wage rate is achieved as outlined at section 5.1.

| Description | 2024/25 |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Highest Paid | £229,962 |
| Median | £41,442 |
| Lowest | £25,998 |
| Highest to median ratio | 5.5 |
| Highest to Lowest ratio | 8.8 |

*The salary for the highest paid employee (Chief Executive) includes an allowance paid for Returning Officer duties as outlined in paragraph 10.2

8 Pay on Appointment

- 8.1 All employees are normally appointed on the lower half of the pay range appropriate for their grade.
- 8.2 The Council delegates authority to the Chief Executive and Corporate Directors as appropriate to appoint employees above this part of the pay range.

9 Market Allowance Payments

- 9.1 The Council acknowledges that our workforce is our most valuable asset when it comes to enabling and delivering services for those who live, work, study or visit the borough. Due to external market factors, allowances may need to be paid to some posts in order to attract and retain employees of the appropriate calibre.
- 9.2 Market allowances are linked to the post, not the person. They cannot be paid to someone because of their level of skill or experience.
- 9.3 A market allowance is deemed suitable where the post has been advertised on more than one occasion and a suitable applicant could not be recruited and there is evidence of one or more of the following:
- Pay benchmarking exercises show that similar local authorities offer market allowances or a higher salary for the same work.

- A national / local skills shortage where the Council is competing with a number of other employers for applicants.
- The post is highly specialised with a limited number of potential applicants

9.4 If the post does not meet the suitability criteria the payment of a market allowance is unjustified and may be in breach of equal pay legislation contained in the Equality Act 2010.

10 Fees for Election Duties

10.1 Council employees may be engaged on election duties of varying types. The fees paid to Council employees for undertaking these election duties vary according to the type of election they participate in, and the nature of the duties they undertake.

10.2 Fees paid for Returning Officer duties (and those of the Deputy Returning Officers) are paid in accordance with the appropriate Fees and Charges Order and are paid by the body responsible for the conduct of the election.

11 Pension

11.1 There are two pension schemes covering the Council's employees.

11.2 A majority of its employees are entitled to join the Local Government Pension Scheme and receive benefits in accordance with the provisions of that Scheme as applied by the Council. Details of the Council's policy and decisions in respect of discretionary elements of the Scheme are published on the Council's website.

11.3 Centrally employed Teachers are entitled to join the Teachers' Pension Scheme and receive benefits in accordance with the provisions of that Scheme.

12 Other Terms and Conditions of Employment

12.1 The Council's employment policies and procedures are reviewed on a regular basis in the light of service delivery needs and any changes in legislation etc.

12.2 The Council and Trade Union agreement, Equal Pay Review 2008, outlined the working arrangements and the payments to be made to the majority of employees below senior manager level. This included arrangements for working outside normal working hours including overtime and call out payments.

13 Payments on Termination of Employment

13.1 In the event that the Council terminates the employment of an employee on the grounds of redundancy they will receive compensation and benefits in accordance with the Council's Redundancy scheme, which is published on the Council's website. Variations to this are employees who have TUPE transferred into the Council with different contractual entitlements.

- 13.2 Severance payments of £100,000 or more must be considered and approved by the Disciplinary, Grievance and Dismissal Panel.
- 13.3 The Council has agreed a process for the approval of special severance payments in line with the statutory guidance from the Government.
- 13.4 Details of redundancy compensation payments paid to senior management are published on the Council's website.

14 Re-employment of Employees

- 14.1 Section 7 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 requires that every appointment to paid office or employment in a local authority shall be made on merit.
- 14.2 Should a successful candidate be in receipt of a redundancy payment the Council will apply the provisions of the Redundancy Payments (Continuity of Employment in Local Government etc.) (Modification) Order 1999 (as amended) regarding the recovery of redundancy payments. The rules of the Local Government Pension Scheme also have provisions to reduce pension payments in certain circumstances to those who return to work within local government service.

15 Further Information

For further information on the Council's Pay Policy Statement please contact the Council's Head of Employee Relations, Business Partners and Reward.

Senior Leadership Pay Bands - 1st April 2024

| Level | Category | Step | Point 1 (Minimum Pay Band) | Point 2 | Point 3 | Point 4 | Point 5 | Point 6 (Maximum Pay Band) |
|----------|---|------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------------|
| A | Chief Executive | HA2 | £201,897 | £207,174 | £212,454 | £217,731 | £223,005 | £228,279 |
| B | Corporate Directors / Directors | HB3 | £159,687 | £164,856 | £169,920 | £175,089 | £180,147 | £185,316 |
| | | HB2 | £130,401 | £134,598 | £138,801 | £142,998 | £147,198 | £151,395 |
| | | HB1 | £112,203 | £115,755 | £119,415 | £122,967 | £126,633 | £130,185 |
| C | Heads of Service/ Senior Professional III | HC3 | £95,403 | £98,634 | £101,865 | £105,204 | £108,435 | £111,663 |
| | | HC2 | £81,729 | £84,423 | £87,114 | £89,910 | £92,604 | £95,295 |
| | | HC1 | £70,854 | £73,008 | £75,162 | £77,313 | £79,470 | £81,621 |

Appendix B

| Employee Group | Job Evaluation Scheme | Last Pay Award Implemented | Next Pay Award Due |
|---|--|---|------------------------------|
| National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services - Green Book (the majority of the Council's employees) | Greater London Provincial Council (GLPC) (with local variations) | With effect from 1 st April 2024: A consolidated increase of £1,491 on Outer London pay points up to pay point 48 and 2.5% on pay points above this. Allowances, including overtime rates, increased by 2.50%. | 1 April 2025 |
| Chief Executive | The Local Government Employers' (LGE) Senior Manager Evaluation Scheme | With effect from 1 April 2024: A consolidated increase on all full-time spinal points of 2.5% | 1 April 2025 |
| Chief Officers | The Local Government Employers' (LGE) Senior Manager Evaluation Scheme | With effect from 1 st April 2024: A consolidated on all full-time spinal points of 2.5%. | 1 April 2025 |
| Schools Teachers Pay & Conditions - STPAC (centrally employed Teachers) | Teachers Pay and conditions documents | With effect from 1 st September 2024: The government accepted to fully implement the recommendations contained in the School Teachers' Review Body's (STRB) Report. a) 5.5% uplift to all pay points and allowances for both teachers and leaders. | 1 September 2025 |
| Soulbury (Education Psychologists & Education Advisers/ Inspectors) | Soulbury | With effect from September 2023: a) An increase of 4.0% on all spinal column points with effect from 1 September 2023. b) An increase of 3.88% on all allowances with effect from 1 September 2023. c) Changes to the Soulbury pay spines with effect from 1 September 2023. | 1 September 2024 |
| Public Health (ex-NHS employees) | The Agenda for Change NHS Job Evaluation Scheme (GLPC or LGA scheme for those whose roles have been reviewed since the transfer date to the Council) | With effect from 1 April 2024: A consolidated 5.5 % increase in basic pay for all pay points. | 1 April 2025 |
| Craft workers | Joint Negotiating Committee (JNC) | With effect from 1 April 2024: £1,290 on basic salary and 2.50%on allowances | 1 April 2025 |
| Fusion (TUPE) | N/A (GLPC or LGE scheme for those whose roles have been reviewed since the transfer date to the Council) | With effect from 1 November 2024: All pay points are at least the LLW (London Living Wage) hourly rate, adjusted annually as needed. | 1 November 2025 (LLW uplift) |

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REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE No. 3, 2024/25

FULL COUNCIL 3 March 2024

Chair: Councillor Erdal Dogan

Deputy Chair: Councillor Cathy Brennan

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year. This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to the CIPFA Code.

1.2. The CIPFA Code requires the Committee responsible for monitoring treasury management activities to formulate the Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS). The TMSS is then subject to scrutiny before being approved by Full Council.

1.3. This report presents Council with the updated TMSS for 2025/26, subject to its scrutiny at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 20 January 2025, and subject to consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services

TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2025/26

We considered the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26 and discussed the following:

- A query was raised regarding the figure outlined on Table 3 on page 11 of the agenda papers which stated an estimate raise of new borrowing from 79.9 to 399.9. In response, the meeting heard that it was driven by the capital financing requirements which was driven by the capital programme. The figure of 79.9 was capturing the last quarter of the financial year whereas the 399.9 was for the whole of the following year. The figures were basically one quarter against a whole year. It was both for the general fund and for the HRA.
- The increase of the new borrowing was to just to cover the capital expenditure that was projected for the coming years. The total was a cumulative total.
- The Council had applied for exceptional financial support on 13 December 2024, the draft budget report was published for the upcoming Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report showed that in order to set a balanced budget or to recommend a balanced budget for 2025/26, the exceptional financial support was estimated at £37

million. When the Treasury Management Strategy statement was published for the Audit Committee, the estimate that could be seen in the report was £20 million (in Table 1 of the report). As a local authority, the Council were not currently allowed to borrow or use capital receipts for revenue spend which was a day to-day running cost. The exceptional financial support would, if approved, at the end of February 2024, would give the Council a special permission called a capitalisation direction. The Council's capital programme within the budget report included the figure of £37 million as exceptional financial support could be seen listed. This was not earmarked around particular services. The Council approached its budget by recognising all of the pressures it was facing particularly around social care, temporary accommodation and across every single service. It was important for the Council to set a budget that it felt was realistic. This would give the Council a budget gap position, then it would later identify any savings. The £37 million was similar to the Council identifying the budget gap that remained after the assumed savings. The figure was an outline of what the Council would need in order to deliver all of the services that it wanted to deliver in Haringey next year and still recognise all the spending pressures. The Council's income was £37 million short from where it needed to be. The Council may be setting a budget at this stage with an assumed £37 million of exceptional financial support. This did not mean that it needed to use £37 million worth of support. The work that the Council would continue to do into next year would be to reduce the amount that needed to be drawn down. Any increased reliance on borrowing with interest rates still high was challenging and was not sustainable. The Council had factored in some use of capital receipts, but the remainder would be through borrowing. Exceptional Financial Support was not a long-term solution. There was one amendment already to the treasury management strategy statement in that the exceptional financial support was now estimated at £37 million. The Council was not expecting any other significant changes. The Council could share with the Committee any changes before a recommendation was made to Full Council.

- The meeting agreed that Audit Committee would be updated before any recommendation was made to Council.
- The Committee noted how problematic some of the issues were and full transparency was necessary. Councillors would be asked in their local areas to explain to residents what was happening and what accountability they were taking.
- Although there was economic pressure, the labour market had been quite robust, so although unemployment was rising, it was at a fairly low level historically. In terms of borrowing costs, the main problem was going to be inflation and whether inflation came down to or stayed at an adequate level for the Bank of England to be able to cut interest rates. There were fears that some of President Trump's policies would

prove to be inflationary such as trade tariffs which could lead to higher inflation and higher borrowing costs across the globe. This had been factored into the borrowing forecast as part of the 5% borrowing assumption in the report. The country was in a low growth economy with higher interest rates.

- In terms of the funding of exceptional financial support, as reported in the budget report published in the prior week, it was £37 million and the working assumption for the budget was that £10 million of it that was funded by capital receipts and £27 million was funded through borrowing. The £10 million was based on capital receipts already received and those planned during 2025/26. The Council had a pipeline of already planned capital receipts. This was not because of the financial position, but capital receipts that were going to be generated anyway. The Council had taken a prudent view and only assumed £2 million from the capital receipts expected to come through in 2025/26. There was no assumption around immediate urgent sales. The Council had a duty of best value and therefore any sale of any asset needed to demonstrate best value. If the Council took the planned capital receipts in 2025/26, the estimated value would be more than £2 million. If generated, it was better to use it than to borrow, otherwise there would be a borrowing cost for a very long period of time. The Council would need to take a view if more capital receipts could be used. Setting the budget was a working assumption, but effective use of capital receipts was required. There was no assumption around emergency sales from any assets.
- Exceptional financial support should be a last resort. It was not a long-term solution. External support had been acquired to help the Council go through every single budget line to make sure that it was as efficient as it could be. The Council also had an exercise looking at its general financial resilience. That included reserve balances, the Council's levels of debt compared to others, governance arrangements, setting of budget and delivery of savings. It was important to get this right.
- There would be regular contact with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) who was supporting the exceptional financial support process. The Council would want to demonstrate that it was doing everything it could to reduce the reliance on the £37 million.
- In terms of the treasury management strategy, the Council's approach to both investment and borrowing was largely in line with previous years. There was an option to expand or look at opportunities within commercial activity. The Council would not necessarily rule anything out and the strategy provided an opportunity to explore options if needed. Given the Council's financial position and its low levels of balances and reserves available for investment, it was highly likely that the Council would continue to take a very risk averse approach.

However, if an opportunity arose, expert opinion would be taken and reported through to the Committee. Income generation was equally as important as cost reductions for balancing the Council's budget.

- The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) was part of one of the Council's funding streams for the capital program. The full budget report also included a capital strategy which was a separate document and the draft was published for an upcoming Overview and Scrutiny Committee and it clearly set out some key funding streams that the Council would consider whether there were any appropriate schemes within the capital programme that met the requirements of the community infrastructure levy that the Council had received.
- A query was raised regarding whether CIL should be reviewed as the Council was undercharging for development in the west of the borough. This would be a query taken up outside of the meeting and explored.
- There were three options for exceptional financial support. One was the use of capital receipts, one was borrowing and one was to request the ability to increase council tax above the 4.99% threshold which was currently the referendum threshold. The Council had not put forward an option to increase council tax above the 4.99%. It was an option and could have been part of the application. However, it would require a very significant increase in council tax to address the £37 million shortfall.
- To set a realistic budget, the Council had to look at all of the pressures it would be facing next year and one of those pressures was the increase in National Insurance. The Council was expecting to get fully funded for direct employees, but was possibly expecting an increase in the cost of contracts, particularly within social care and children's services. The budget in terms of pressures amounted to £56 million. This included an assumption around increased costs as a result of the National Insurance increase. This was not the only driver for the £37 million shortfall, but was one of them.
- The CIL was very low on some developers and not only the west of the borough as more building was done in the east.
- The strategy set out the Council's approach to borrowing and investment. There would not be any change in terms of the strategy itself. There would be £37 million in exceptional financial support of which £10 million was from capital receipts and £27 million was from borrowing. The figures would be re-run, but the Council could not go over its borrowing limit.
- The £27 million would be borrowed from the Public Works Loans Board (PWLb) and would be at the PWLB rate. There would be no premium incurred. The Council would still only borrow at the point it needed to. Rates would be tracked to make sure that the borrowing would be done at the best rates possible.

- The PWLB had different loan margins. Different rates were applicable depending on the expenditure. This was the Government cost of borrowing plus 0.4% for housing expenditure, for general fund expenditure it was Government's cost of borrowing plus 0.8%.
- Treasury management investments basically covered all regular treasury management activities, but non treasury management investments would be things like commercial property, such as buying commercial assets for returns.

The Committee felt that it was not clear that the exceptional financial support did not imply exceeding the current capital receipts. This had not been written into the report. In response, the meeting heard that the update was probably more appropriate for the capital strategy which was a separate document that was part of the budget report, but efforts would be made to see if clarification for this could be made into the treasury management report which was about the borrowing aspect of the exceptional financial support as opposed to the capital receipts.

The meeting reconfirmed that any changes or updates would be subject to notification to members by email. The email would be sent in the coming week in case the Committee felt that an extraordinary meeting was required.

Clerk's Note: The Committee were duly informed and no extraordinary meeting was held.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

Full Council is recommended:

To agree the proposed updated Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2025-26 as attached to agenda item 13, 2024-25 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2024/28 at Annex 4.

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Report for: Full Council 3 March 2025

Item number: 13

Title: 2025/26 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2025/30

Report

authorised by: Taryn Eves – Director of Finance – (Chief Finance Officer and Section 151 Officer)

Lead Officer: Frances Palopoli – Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring

Ward(s) affected: ALL

Report for Key/

Non-Key Decision: Key.

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 Cabinet considered the 2025/26 Budget and 2025/30 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) report at their meeting held on 11th February 2025 and resolved to propose that report for consideration and approval of the final Budget, MTFS and Council Tax for 2025/26 by Full Council in accordance with the Council's constitution.
- 1.2 The 2025/26 Budget & 2025/30 MTFS Cabinet report of 11th February included Cabinet's response to feedback from the budget consultation, the views of Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 20 and 30 January and also the outcome of the overall equalities assessment. Relevant provisional budgetary allocations announced in the Provisional Local Government Finance settlement on 18th December 2024 were also included along with final estimates for council tax and business rates income.
- 1.3 Although the provisional settlement did provide £15.4m additional funding for 2025/26, the impact of the estimated budget pressures is significantly higher than this. Even before the provisional settlement announcement, the council took action to commission a time-limited external review. This took the form of scrutiny of existing budgets to identify additional opportunities to reduce spend or increase income and to test the robustness of the existing savings programme. This work has been focussed on identifying immediate changes that will support the budget for 2025/26 but also in reducing the overspend position in the current year. It has included looking at all options to achieve best value for money and outcomes for residents and maximising income opportunities, including the best use of physical assets.
- 1.4 The outcome of this intensive piece of work has led to the identification of £3.3m of new budget reduction proposals to date and these are included in the proposed budget for 2025/26.
- 1.5 Despite this, the gap between forecast income and expenditure is £37m and on 14 December 2024, the Council submitted an application to Government for

Exceptional Financial Support. On 20 February 2025, the Council received confirmation through a letter from Jim McMahon MP confirming that *‘with respect to the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26, the Deputy Prime Minister is minded to approve a capitalisation direction of a total not exceeding £65 million’*. A copy of the letter is attached in Annex 7 and allows a balanced budget to be recommended to Council. In order for Government to provide a final capitalisation direction, the council is required to undergo an external assurance review which is expected to take place over the summer.

- 1.6 The Capitalisation Direction will mean that the Council will be given special permission from Government to allow for the use of capital receipts and borrowing (referred to as Exceptional Financial Support) of £37m next financial year for its day to day running costs and supporting the borough's most vulnerable residents.
- 1.7 The reliance on exceptional Government support is not sustainable and must be considered a short-term solution. A financial response and recovery plan is being produced which is drawing on insight received from the external review commissioned over the Winter. The plan will necessitate additional spend controls being introduced, sharper focus and reporting on agreed savings delivery and compliance with corporate processes and financial regulations. All services within the Council will need to prioritise moving the organisation onto a sound and sustainable financial footing, delivering on the recovery plan and reducing the Council's reliance on Exceptional Financial Support in the longer term.
- 1.8 The Medium-Term Financial Strategy includes current best estimates of expenditure and income levels across the subsequent four years, 2026-2030. This is based on a number of key assumptions such as government funding levels and council tax thresholds; economic factors such as inflation and interest rates; service demand pressures; delivery of agreed savings and an allowance for replenishment of reserves.
- 1.9 The outcome of this is a forecast budget gap of £35.1m for 2026/27 rising to a cumulative gap of £121.5m by 2029/30. Given that the proposed 2025/26 budget assumes up to £37m of EFS, which is a one off funding source for the year, the realistic gap for 2026/27 at this point is close to £70m.
- 1.10 Work has already begun on financial planning for 2026/27, and it is hoped that this may also generate proposals that can be introduced early, during 2025/26 reducing down the actual EFS required for 2025/26 as well as addressing the longer term shortfall in funding needed to continue delivering services across the borough. Progress will be tightly monitored and updates provided to Cabinet through regular budget monitoring update reports. The financial response and recovery plans will drive an increase in the regularity and scope of the internal monitoring and control.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Haringey is a borough rich in diversity, creativity and talent. It is also a borough where life expectancy drops 8 years from west to east and where levels of deprivation are amongst the highest in the country. Our driving ambition is to create a fairer and greener borough, where everyone can belong and thrive.

- 2.2 It is within those parameters that our budget is set. After successive changes to the funding formulae from 2010, Haringey has lost circa £143m to our budget. Haringey is also still considered an outer London borough for funding purposes (although an inner London borough for statistical ones) and receives less funding than our inner London neighbours. In the current financial year, like other boroughs, we have seen significant increases in the demand for and cost of local services – primarily in adult social care and temporary accommodation. The cost of temporary accommodation went up 68% in London last year.
- 2.3 While significant savings are proposed, we have worked very hard to protect the local services that our residents rely on and need.
- 2.4 In 2025/26 will invest almost £1bn to deliver our many local public services. We will build hundreds of new council homes, help hundreds of people into work, fix hundreds of roads and pavements, plant hundreds of street trees – among many other key actions to make this borough fairer and greener.
- 2.5 This is not only because it is the right thing to do, in a borough such as ours, but because many of our local services are preventative. Further cuts to frontline services (with many already made in the previous 15 years) can result in increased costs to our statutory services, with our residents and council less resilient in the face of increased need.
- 2.6 We have applied and received in principle agreement from government for a maximum of £37m in Exceptional Financial Support (EFS). While this is required in order for us to set a balanced budget, we appreciate that this is not a sustainable position. We will continue to work, across the council, to reduce costs and to make every penny count – and minimise use of EFS as much as possible.
- 2.7 In the longer term we need fair funding reform from the government. The government is reviewing funding allocations to local government and is due to have proposals for 2026/27. We are pressing for changes that make sure that funding is driven by local need.
- 2.8 We are grateful for the funding allocated to us by the new government from the Recovery Grant, which was based on levels of deprivation and Haringey's relatively low council tax base. While insufficient to close our budget gap, this indicates a willingness to reverse the short sighted and harmful decisions that saw Haringey lose so much funding post 2010.
- 2.9 There are very real challenges at the moment, but there's also a real opportunity to reset the foundations – locally and nationally. This year and in future years our council budget will start with local priorities, focus on the needs of local people and build towards our shared ambition of a fairer and greener borough.

3. Recommendations

3.1 Council are asked:

- (a) To approve the proposed 2025/26 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (2025/30) agreed by Cabinet on 11th February 2025 as set out in Annex 1;
- (b) To approve the increase of 2.99% in Haringey's element of the Council tax and an additional 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept and subsequent band rates as set out in Annex 6;
- (c) To approve the General Fund budget requirement for 2025/26 of £314.383m, net of Dedicated Schools Budget, and the Directorate cash limits for 2025/26 as set out in Annex 2 of this report;
- (d) To approve the 2025/30 General Fund Capital Programme set out in Appendix 8 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (e) To approve the strategy on the flexible use of capital receipts as set out in Appendix 8 of Annex 1 to this report and the further update on planned use in 2025/26 as set out in Section 7.21 of this report;
- (f) To approve the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2025/30 as set out in Table 6 of Annex 3 to this report;
- (g) To approve the 2025/30 HRA Capital Programme set out in Table 7 of Annex 3 to this report;
- (h) To note the Greater London Authority (GLA) precept (para. 7.20);
- (i) To approve the budgeted level of non-earmarked General Fund balance and the specific and other reserves as set out in Section 9 of Annex 1;
- (j) To approve the reserves policy including the Chief Finance Officer's (CFO) assessment of risk and the assessment of the adequacy of reserves, as set out in Annex 1 sections 9 and 13;
- (k) To note the report of the Chief Finance Officer under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of proposed reserves set out in Annex 1 Section 13;
- (l) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26 set out in Annex 4; and
- (m) To pass the budget resolution including the level of Council Tax, in the specified format, and to determine that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year is not excessive as set out in Annex 6.
- (n) To note the results of the budget consultation as set out in Appendix 5 of Annex 1.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced budget by 11 March each year.

4.2 The report and recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 11th February 2025, were agreed in full and are attached as Annex 1.

4.3 The Budget now proposed has been updated to reflect the final funding allocations announced in the Final Local Government Finance Settlement and the outcome of the Council's application for Exceptional Financial Support. Taking all relevant factors into account, this report sets out Cabinet's 2025/26 Budget and 2025/30 MTFS proposals, including the level of Council tax for 2025/26, for the Council to consider and approve.

5 Alternative options considered

5.1 The Council has a statutory duty to set a balanced budget for 2025/26 by 11 March 2025, accordingly, no other options have been considered.

5.2 Therefore, in accordance with legislation and the Council's constitution, this report recommends that the Council should approve the proposed 2025/26 Budget and 2025/30 Medium Term Financial Strategy agreed by Cabinet on 11th February 2025, including the outcomes from the budget consultation exercise, budget scrutiny and equalities review, which is attached as Annex 1 and approve the Council tax for 2025/26.

6 Background information

6.1 On 11th February 2025 Cabinet agreed a proposed 2025/26 Budget and 2025/30 MTFS for submission to this meeting of the Council, including: a General Fund revenue budget for 2025/26; the Dedicated Schools Budget and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) revenue budget for 2025/26; and the 2025/30 Capital Programmes for both the General Fund and HRA. Cabinet agreement to these proposals was subject to the decisions of levying and precepting authorities, not available at that time.

6.2 The Cabinet report of 11th February 2025 (attached as Annex 1 to this report), and the proposed Budget/MTFS recommended to Full Council by Cabinet are the subjects of discussion at this meeting.

6.3 This report also addresses:

- The final Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26, published on 3 February 2025;
- The decisions of levying bodies and precepting authorities;
- Considerations in setting the Council Tax;
- The outcome of the Council's application for Exceptional Financial Support; and
- The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26 which was considered by Audit Committee on 27 January 2025.

6.4 The report concludes by presenting the Budget Resolution to set the Council Tax for 2025/26.

7 Key Developments and Updates

Final Local Government Finance Settlement and Other Grant Announcements

- 7.1 The Final Local Government Settlement (FLGFS) was published on 3 February and was mainly in line with the budgetary assumptions built into the 11 February Cabinet report. It did confirm an additional £106,000 for the new children's social care prevention grant so the total grant for 2025/26 is £1.44m. At this point it is unclear if there are any expectations on how this grant is spent.
- 7.2 The FLGFS also included confirmation of the grant in relation to the 1.2% increase in employer national insurance contribution which commences on 1 April 2025. For Haringey this equates to £2.54m however, based on the current pay bill for staff funded from the General Fund and the HRA, this will be insufficient to cover the forecast additional cost of £3.6m. This shortfall places an additional pressure on both accounts which will need to be managed within the cash limits set out in Annex 2 and the HRA revenue budget set out in Annex 3.
- 7.3 Government has also confirmed an additional £488,000 grant for the current, 2024/25, financial year to address the agreed pay award for these staff. Final Public Health grant allocations for 2025/26 have also been published. Haringey will receive £24.464m (£23.214m 2024/25) which represents £1.249m more than had previously been assumed in the 11 February Cabinet report. The Public Health grant is ringfenced with clear parameters on how it is applied and an annual performance and reporting regime. Given the late notification and the size of the budget increase, the expenditure and grant budgets will be adjusted in the new financial year to align to the agreed 2025/26 spend programme but has no impact on the overall net budget for the Council.

Greater London Authority (GLA) Free School Meals Support

- 7.4 The GLA 2025/26 draft Budget includes a proposal to continue to fully fund the Universal Free School Meals programme in 2025/26. Further funds are provisionally allocated to support Universal Free School Meals in later years.
- 7.5 The final decision on the budget will not take place until the London Assembly meeting on 25 February 2025. If agreed as proposed, final Borough allocations for the free school meals programme will not be known until after that date and will be reported in the regular budget update reports to Cabinet.

Household Support Fund

- 7.6 The Government's Household Support Fund was first launched on 11th October 2021 during the COVID19 pandemic and has been extended several times. The grant was provided to support the most vulnerable households in the local area. The latest extension lasts until 31st March 2025 and Haringey's allocation for 2024/25 was £4.8m.
- 7.7 The provisional local government finance settlement announced that this grant would continue in 2025/26 with £742m available across English authorities, a reduction of £100m compared with 2024/25. Confirmation of the 2025/26

authority levels have not yet been received, and it isn't clear if the £742m will also need to cover the discretionary housing payment grant. An update will be provided through the budget monitoring reports to Cabinet when allocations are known.

Levying Bodies

North London Waste Authority

- 7.8 The Council is one of seven constituent boroughs of the North London Waste Authority (NLWA). NLWA handles waste disposal on the Council's behalf and recovers the costs from the Council by way of a levy. Borough levies are apportioned between the constituent boroughs in accordance with an Inter-Authority Agreement entered in 2015.
- 7.9 The Board of the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) met on 13 February 2025 and agreed a net expenditure budget of £98.512m an improvement from the figure of £104.208m provided to Members in December 2024. This change is predominantly due to confirmation that the NLWA will receive income from the packaging Extended Producer Responsibility Funding (pEPR). This is on top of the pEPR allocated directly to boroughs.
- 7.10 In December 2024, the levy was forecast to increase by 10.6% before balances were taken into account. The inclusion of the pEPR funding reduces the levy before balances to an increase of 4.7%.
- 7.11 The balances available to reduce the levy are lower than in previous years mainly due to tonnage being delivered to the Authority being close to the budget in 2024/25 which is largely due to a stable year, unaffected by external factors such as COVID-19 or the cost of living crisis that have affected recent years. This has resulted in lower balances in 2024/25. After these balances are taken into account, the headline levy is an increase of 11.3%.
- 7.12 The impact of these decisions on the 2025/26 levy for Haringey is an 11.6% increase to £11.274m (10.098m 2024/25).
- 7.13 The NLWA medium-term forecast allows for RPI inflation at 3.2% year on year. Although prudent provision has been made for these costs, the Authority's budget is exposed to a number of factors outside its control. The approach to the medium term budgeting aims to reduce variability in levy increases year-on-year; alleviate cost pressures on boroughs and ensure adequate reserves for future risks.
- 7.14 The impact for Haringey of these forecasts is a projected 2026/27 levy of £12.5m increasing to £13.1m in 2027/28.
- 7.15 The forecast operational start for the new Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) is now 2030 and there are significant uncertainties over how the actual costs will compare to the current forecasts.

- 7.16 In summary, the final 2025/26 levy for Haringey is £700,000 less than assumed in the draft budget reported to Cabinet on 11 February. However, given the forecast step up in 2026/27 it is not proposed to adjust the budget but utilise the in-year underspend to offset the in year call on Exceptional Finance Support (EFS).
- 7.17 The Council's MTFS assumes an allowance for year-on-year increases in the levy. Given the risks and uncertainties associated with the new ERF and future legislative changes around recycling and disposal, this will be kept under close scrutiny and the MTFS adjusted when more up to date figures are available.

Other Levies

- 7.18 The levies payable to all other bodies are forecast to remain relatively stable and can be accommodated within the current proposed budget.
- 7.19 Table 1 below provides a summary of levy charges to Haringey Council in 2024/25 and estimated for 2025/26.

Table 1: Summary of 2024/25 and 2025/26 Levies

| | Amount Due 2024/25 £'000 | Amount Due 2025/26 £'000 |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Environment Agency | 195 | 197 |
| Lee Valley Regional Park Authority | 212 | 215 |
| London Borough Grants Scheme | 197 | 197 |
| London Pensions Fund Authority | 26 | 26 |
| North London Waste Authority (NLWA) | 10,098 | 11,274 |
| Total Paid/ To Pay | 10,728 | 11,909 |

The Greater London Authority (GLA) Precept

- 7.20 The Mayor's final draft budget and proposed council tax precept for 2025/26 will be considered by the London Assembly on Tuesday 25 February 2025. On the assumption that this is agreed, the Band D precept is £490.38, a £18.98 or 4% increase compared to 2024/25 (£471.40). This increase comprises £14 for MOPAC (Met Police) and £4.98 for the London Fire Brigade. This is in line with the maximum increase permitted under the GLA referendum limit.

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts 2025/26

- 7.21 The policy for the use of flexible use of capital receipts into transformation and invest to save is set out in Appendix 8 of Annex 1. Since the update to Cabinet

on 11 February 2025, the Council's planned use has been reviewed and revised down to up to £4m. This will be targeted at supporting the delivery of the Council's £29m of planned savings next year and a full breakdown of use will be reported as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy in July 2025 and through quarterly reports to Cabinet.

Final 2025/26 General Fund Budget and MTFS Position 2025-2029

- 7.21 After considering all of this, the General Fund budget requirement for 2025/26 is £314.383m. The final summary budget position for the General Fund across the whole period of the MTFS is set out in Annex 2.

8 Considerations in setting the Council Tax

- 8.1 The Localism Act 2011 gave electors the right to veto excessive Council tax rises. Councils that set 'excessive' council tax increases above a ceiling approved by Parliament each year would automatically trigger a referendum in their area.
- 8.2 The final Local Government Finance Settlement Government confirmed that those authorities with Adult Social Care functions could implement a 2% Adult Social Care (ASC) precept for 2025/26. The ASC precept must be allocated entirely towards Adults Social Care costs.
- 8.3 The final Local Government Finance Settlement confirmed the general Council Tax referendum principle for 2025/26 as 3%.
- 8.4 The relevant basic amount of council tax is excessive if the authority's relevant basic amount of council tax for 2025/26 is 5.00% or more than 5% (comprising 2% for expenditure on adult social care, and 3.0% or more for other expenditure) greater than its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2024/25. The Budget now proposed assumes that both allowable elements will be charged to residents i.e. a 2.99% increase in basic Council Tax and a 2% increase in the Adult Social Care element. These proposals are below the levels that would trigger a referendum.
- 8.5 Council is therefore recommended to resolve the relevant basic amount as not excessive at paragraph 6 of the Formal Budget Resolution (Annex 6).
- 8.6 The projected income from Council tax in 2025/26 is £141.852m (£133.9m in 2024/25) based on 82,589 Band D equivalent dwellings (the Tax Base) (81,875 in 2024/25), a collection rate of 95.75% (97% in 2024/25) and the proposed Band D Council tax rate of £ 1,717.56 (£1,635.92 in 2024/25).

9 Statements of the Designated Chief Finance Officer

- 9.1 The Local Government Act 2003 (Section 25) requires that the chief financial officer reports the following matters to members when agreeing its annual budget and precept:
- the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the budget calculations, and

- the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves

9.2 The statement of the designated Chief Finance Officer is set out in Section 13 of Annex1.

10 Treasury Management

10.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2025/26 in Annex 4 sets out the proposed strategy with regard to borrowing and investment of cash balances and the associated monitoring arrangements. It was considered by Audit Committee on 27 January 2025 which recommended it for approval by Full Council.

10.2 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee also considered the TMSS on 20 January 2025 as part of the budget scrutiny process and in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.

10.3 The proposed prudential indicators are based on the proposed Capital Programme as reported to Cabinet on 11th February 2025. It should be noted that any future decision by the Council to undertake further debt financed capital expenditure outside of the total of the programme, including, in particular, any changes associated with the Capital Strategy will require a review of the prudential indicators and further approval by full Council.

11 Summary and Conclusions

11.1 This report finalises the Budget process for 2025/26 and proposes that Council Tax is increased by 2.99% with an additional 2% increase in relation to Adult Social Care precept.

11.2 The Council is required to determine whether its increase in Council Tax for 2025/26 is 'excessive' and, if so, would trigger a referendum. The proposal in this report is not an "excessive" increase.

11.3 The recommendations of the Cabinet are reflected in the formal Council tax Resolution in Annex 6.

11.4 The Medium-Term Financial Strategy includes current best estimates of expenditure and income levels across the four years 2026/2030. This is based on a number of key assumptions such as government funding levels and council tax thresholds; economic factors such as inflation and interest rates; service demand pressures; delivery of agreed savings and an allowance for replenishment of reserves.

11.5 The outcome of this is a forecast budget gap of £35.1m for 2026/27 rising to a cumulative gap of £121.5m by 2029/30. Furthermore, as the proposed 2025/26 budget is based on £37m of EFS, the real gap for 2026/27 is closer to £70m.

11.6 In the face of this profound challenge, it is critical that the whole organisation, including all officers and elected members, engage with and prioritise the Financial Recovery arrangements that have been put in place. Financial discipline and control must be adhered to, supported by effective and regular

monitoring and reporting. Focus must be on the agreed highest priorities and look to deliver maximum value for money from the Council's limited resources.

- 11.7 The Council's reserves policy is attached as Annex 5. The level of financial reserves is reported in Annex 1 Section 9.21-9.38 along with the Robustness of Estimates, Adequacy of Reserves and the Management of Risk (Section 25 Statement) (Section 13). These make clear the low levels of reserves currently available to the Council and stress the need to replenish balances over the medium-long term. It is further recommended that the General Fund reserve should not be reduced below £15m.

12 Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

- 12.1 As the report is primarily financial in its nature, comments of the Chief Finance Officer are contained throughout the report.

Assistant Director for Legal & Governance

- 12.2 The Assistant Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report and makes the following comments.
- 12.3 In accordance with section 67 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the '1992 Act'), the functions of agreeing the budget and the calculation of Council tax are to be discharged by the Full Council.
- 12.4 The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Regulations) 2001 and the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules at Part 4 Section E of the Constitution, set out the process that must be followed when the Council sets its budget. Accordingly, it is for the Cabinet to approve the proposals and submit the same to the Full Council for adoption in order to set the budget. In reaching a decision Full Council may adopt the Cabinet's proposals, amend them, refer them back to Cabinet for further consideration, or substitute its own proposals in their place.
- 12.5 Under section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, where the Council is making calculations for the purposes of setting council tax, the Director of Finance (section 151 Officer) must report to it on (a) the robustness of the estimates made for the purposes of the calculations, and (b) the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves. The Council shall have regard to the report when making decisions about the calculations of council tax. The Council may take decisions which are at variance with this advice provided there are reasonable grounds so to do. However, Members must take into consideration their exposure to personal risk if they disregard clearly expressed advice.
- 12.6 In accordance with section 31A of the 1992 Act, Full Council is required to calculate the Council tax chargeable by way of a Council tax requirement. The Council must calculate its expected outgoings and income for the year. Where the expected outgoings exceed the expected income, the difference is the Council's Council tax requirement for the year. The relevant basic amount of Council tax for the year is calculated by dividing the Council tax requirement after the deduction of levies by the Council tax base.

- 12.7 Under section 52ZB of the 1992 Act the Council is required to determine whether its proposed relevant basic amount of Council tax is excessive on the basis of criteria set by the Secretary of State. It has been confirmed by the Referendums Relating to Council tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2025/26, that for 2025/26 an increase is excessive if the authority's relevant basic amount of Council tax for 2025/26 is 5% (comprising 2% for expenditure on adult social care and 3% for other expenditure), or more than 5%, greater than its relevant basic amount of Council tax for 2023/24. In such circumstances such an increase would be regarded as excessive and automatically trigger a referendum in the borough. The 'relevant basic amount' of Council tax was redefined by section 41 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, which amended section 52ZX of the 1992 Act. Essentially an authority's relevant basic amount of Council tax is the authority's own level of Band D Council tax. With the proposal of a 4.99% increase, the Council is entitled to conclude in accordance with the Direction issued by the Secretary of State, that the relevant basic amount of Council tax is not excessive.
- 12.8 In accordance with section 30 of the 1992 Act, the Council is required to set the Council tax for the next financial year on or before 11 March. Under section 106 of the 1992 Act, any Member who is in arrears of two months or more Council tax must declare it at the meeting and abstain from voting upon this report.
- 12.9 Member's fiduciary duty (i.e. legal duty as trustee of the public purse) is a material consideration to reflect upon. In making its decisions, the Council must act rationally and reasonably and should balance the nature, quality and level of services which it considers should be provided against the costs of providing those services. In addition, the Council must ensure that it has due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 in considering whether to adopt the recommendations set out in this report.
- 12.10 The government requested local authorities struggling to match forecast expenditure with forecast income to liaise with them over access to Exceptional Financial Support. Haringey submitted an application for Exceptional Financial Support and the government has indicated that they are minded to approve the application. This support is usually provided in the form of a capitalisation direction which permits a local authority to meet revenue costs through capital resources. There is a clear expectation that authorities continue to manage and mitigate their financial pressures. Support is provided on condition that each local authority is subject to an external assurance review.
- 12.11 Full Council has a legal duty to set a lawfully balanced budget. Given the contents of the section 25 report of the s151 Officer, it is considered that adoption of the recommendations in this report would fulfil the Council's statutory obligations in this regard.

Equality

12.12 Equality comments are included in the report to Cabinet dated 11th February 2025, attached as Annex 1.

13 Use of Appendices

Annex 1 – 2025-26 Budget and 2025-2030 Medium Term Financial Strategy Report to Cabinet 11th February 2025 including Appendices 1 - 9

Annex 2 - Summary of Final revenue Budget 2025/26 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2025-2029

Annex 3 - Housing Revenue Account 2025/26 - 2029/30 report to Cabinet 11th February 2025

Annex 4 – The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26

Annex 5 - Reserves Policy 2025/26

Annex 6 – The Formal Council Tax Resolution 2025/26

Annex 7 – MHCLG Exceptional Financial Support Letter dated 20th February 2025

14 Background Papers

14.1 The following background papers were used in the preparation of this Report.

- Final Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/final-local-government-finance-settlement-england-2025-to-2026>
- NLWA Budget Proposals report agreed 13 February 2025.
[Reports for Authority Meeting on 13/02/2025 | NLWA](#)
- GLA Budget proposals report agreed 25 February 2025.
www.london.gov.uk/budget

For access to the background papers or any further information please contact Frances Palopoli – Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring ext. 3896

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Report for: Cabinet

Item number: 9

Title: Draft 2025-26 Budget and 2025-2030 Medium Term Financial Strategy Report

Report authorised by : Taryn Eves, Director of Finance

Lead Officer: Frances Palopoli, Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring

Ward(s) affected: All

**Report for Key/
Non Key Decision:** Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1. This report sets out details of the proposed General Fund (GF) Budget for 2025/26; the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2025/30, as well as the capital programme. It also includes the proposed dedicated school's budgets for 2025/26. The proposed budget and capital programme for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is included as a separate agenda item.

1.2. The proposed budget and capital programme is set within the context of the Corporate Delivery Plan (CDP) which covers the activity the Council will focus on delivering during the second half of the cycle between April 2024 and April 2026, before the local elections that are set to take place in May 2026. The Corporate Delivery Plan outlines the Council's strategic objectives, priorities, and initiatives aimed at creating a fairer, greener borough.

1.3. The plan is set out in eight themes:

- Resident experience and enabling success
- Responding to the climate emergency
- Children and young people
- Adults, health and welfare
- Homes for the future
- Safer Haringey
- Culturally rich borough
- Place and economy

These themes demonstrate how the Council is focussed on working collaboratively, in line with the Haringey Deal, with residents, businesses and partners to tackle the biggest issues affecting communities.

- 1.4. Despite the significant financial challenges, vital services will continue, and the Council is focusing on doing more for less and putting values into action to deliver for residents. Within a smaller financial envelope, it is prioritising services to protect those in most need while also continuing to deliver services that are valued by all residents.

General Fund Revenue Budget

- 1.5. In 2025/26, the Council is expected to spend in total £979m (net revenue and capital budgets) on services for the 294,000 residents within the borough. Of this, £499m is on general services and £480m on supporting over 20,000 households in Council housing. The latter is covered in detail in the Housing Revenue Account Business Plan which is a separate report on the agenda. The remainder of this report provides details of the £494m of spend on general services, of which £351m is spent on the day to day running of services and £148m (excluding EFS) on longer term capital investment. To enable this spending, the Council will need to increase Council Tax by the maximum allowable amount of 4.99% and seek special permission from Government to allow the Council to use capital receipts and borrowing (referred to as Exceptional Financial Support) of £37m for its day to day running costs and supporting the borough's most vulnerable residents.
- 1.6. The reliance on exceptional Government support is not sustainable and must be considered a short-term solution if it is agreed at the end of February. The Council continues to explore ways to improve its efficiency and maximise value for money to reduce costs and increase income which in turn can be used to fund vital services.
- 1.7. The last report, published on 12 November 2024 provided full details of the Council's budget pressures going into 2025/26, particularly within social care, and temporary accommodation and supporting those with education health and social care plans. This resulted in £39.6m of additional budget that would be needed compared to that reported in March 2024. Further budget was also built in for corporate pressures, notably for an increase in the council's corporate contingency from £7m to £10m which was felt prudent given the sizeable savings programme to be delivered and on-going extremely challenging financial landscape. A further update is provided in Section 9 of this report which shows additional budget totalling £83m will now be needed to manage services and risks.
- 1.8. The same report in November, included proposed new savings of £18.8m on top of the existing savings of £8.6m for 2025/26.
- 1.9. The external budget consultation on the draft budget proposals published in November ran from 28 November to 6 January and the specific responses and general feedback received are summarised in App 5. Cabinet have considered the feedback and although there are no changes to the draft budget as a result, the feedback provided has been extremely valuable and will be considered as part of the implementation of the proposals. The recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny Committee, together with the

responses from Cabinet Members is set out in Appendix 6. No changes have been made to the draft budget as a result of these recommendations.

- 1.10. Since this date, further work has continued to develop the draft budget. On 28 November 2024, Government published the Local Government Finance Policy Statement and on 18 December 2024 the provisional local government finance settlement. The later showed a 6.3% increase in core spending power for Haringey, which is higher than the London average of 4.9%. 'Core Spending Power (CSP)' is a headline figure used by government to represent the key revenue resources available to local authorities but includes an estimate of council tax (assuming the maximum increase and an estimated taxbase) and business rates (assuming authorities collect at their baseline level) income.
- 1.11. The provisional settlement announced £12.5m additional grant funding compared to what had been assumed in financial plans. Most of the increase was directed to addressing social care pressures (£6.2m) and homelessness prevention (£2.9m). Haringey will benefit from a new Recovery Grant that has been introduced, receiving £5.4m which has been allocated based on the borough's level of deprivation and relative ability to raise council tax. At the same time, the Council's allocation for Extended Producer Responsibility was announced at £2.9m - a total of £15.4m of additional funding.
- 1.12. Whilst Haringey benefited from the allocations at a regional level the relative shift in resources to the northern counties is noticeable. Full details of provisional allocations of Government funding are set out in Section 8.
- 1.13. Due to the size of the budget gap still to be bridged before a balanced budget could be set for next year, the Council commissioned a time-limited external review in the period leading to the publication of this report. This took the form of scrutiny of existing budgets to identify additional opportunities to reduce spend or increase income and to test the robustness of the existing savings programme. This work has been focussed on identifying immediate changes that will support the budget for 2025/26 but also in reducing the overspend position in the current year. It has included looking at all options to achieve best value for money and outcomes for residents and maximising income opportunities, including the best use of physical assets.
- 1.14. The outcome of this intensive piece of work has led to the identification of £3.3m of new budget reduction proposals to date. These new proposals were reviewed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 30 January 2025 and their recommendations, together with Cabinet Member responses is set out in Appendix 6. No changes to the draft budget have been made as a result of these recommendations.
- 1.15. In 2025/26, the Council Tax base across the borough is forecast to increase by 0.85% with an assumed collection rate of 95.75% and this has been assumed within the proposed budget for this report together with a 4.99% Council Tax increase.

- 1.16. The proposed budget for 2025/26 has been set based on the latest available information and assumptions but there are a number of inherent risks and uncertainties on service pressures, such as prevailing economic conditions, and the delivery of the total budget reductions of £29.5m and demand pressures outstripping those that have been assumed. Details are set out in Section 8, along with the Council's approach to risk management. The cumulative impact of funding austerity since 2020/11, increasing demand and more latterly, inflation, has reduced available reserve balances to an extremely low level and therefore any use of reserves to balance the budget for 2025/26 is no longer a viable option.
- 1.17. Therefore, despite, £29.5m of proposed budget reductions, the Council is not in a position to set a robust balanced budget for 2025/26 and as part of its contingency planning, on 13 December 2024, submitted an application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS). The proposed budget for 2025/26 assumes £37m of financial support will be required. The outcome of the Council's application will not be known until the end of February 2025 after the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26 is published.
- 1.18. It is the Section 151's view that any use of EFS must be a last resort and therefore, although the proposed budget for 2025/26 will be set based on this level of financial support from Government, the Council will continue to take the immediate actions to reduce spend and increase income so to reduce the final level of support that is needed to be drawn down and any reliance in future years. Further details are set out in Section 8 and in the Section 151's Section 25 Statement in Section 13.
- 1.19. Therefore, in summary, during 2025/26, the Council is expected to spend £351m (net) on day to day revenue services, an increase from £302m in 2024/25 and £148m through capital investment on regeneration, housing, schools, roads, the environment and the Council's operational and commercial estates. Full details are set out in Section 8 and Appendices 1, 4 and 8.
- 1.20. The five-year forecast of reserve balances is set out in Section 9 (Table 11) and includes details of all known commitments. It shows that reserves allocated for risks and uncertainties will reduce to zero by March 2026. As highlighted, any use of reserves for balancing the budget is not sustainable and replenishment of reserves for managing risks and uncertainties will commence from 2026/27.
- 1.21. The remainder of this budget report is largely focussed on the budget for 2025/26, but it is set within the context of the medium term over the next five years. A balanced budget is proposed for 2025/26 but there remains an estimated budget gap of £124m between 2026/27 and 2029/30. Further details are set out in Section 10. Before the end of the current financial year, work will start on developing a longer-term approach to balancing the budget. Efficiencies will continue to be explored but it will also require a deeper, structural and a cross organisation approach that considers how services are

provided and prioritised within the Council's limited financial resources, using the Corporate Delivery Plan as the foundations to these discussions.

- 1.22. Government has published their consultation on funding reforms from 2026/27 onwards and through the Council's response to the consultation, there will be a need to use data and evidence to make the case to Government that they must recognise the demand pressures facing the Council. There will be proactive engagement in all planned consultations on a refreshed funding allocation methodology. It is unlikely this will provide the full solution to the Council's longer term financial sustainability but together with a longer term approach to financial planning, an expectation to re-build reserve balances to a more sustainable level for managing risk, the transformation and re-design of services to ensure every pound spent is offering good value for money, it is expected to improve the financial sustainability of the Council and protect key services.

Dedicated Schools Budget

- 1.23. On 28 November 2024, the national figures for 2025/26 schools' budgets were announced. Overall, Haringey's National Funding Formula (NFF) allocation for 2025/26 is an increase of 7.2%. This is based on the December 2024 published allocations, with the final school finance settlement confirmed usually in July 2025 for the updated Early Years Block census. Full details are set out in Section 15.

Capital Strategy and Capital Programme

- 1.24. The Capital Strategy is set out in Appendix 8 and is presented alongside the budget report for approval by the Full Council. It sets out a high-level, long term overview of how capital expenditure and capital financing activity contribute to the Council's key priorities in the Borough Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan. It includes the full details of the proposed five-year capital programme which will see £148m (excluding EFS) of capital expenditure in 2025/26 and £617m across the five year period of 2025/26 to 2029/30.
- 1.25. The Council's ability to prudentially borrow to fund capital schemes is limited by the budgetary pressures the Council continues to face. The financing costs of delivering the capital programme in 2025/26 is expected to be £37.7m (£19.2m interest and £18.5m MRP) and has been reflected within the 2025/26 revenue proposed budget within this report.
- 1.26. The Capital Strategy includes the Council's Flexible use of Capital Receipts Strategy which, as confirmed in the Government's policy statement published on 28 November 2024, has been extended to 2030 to allow local authorities to fund the revenue costs of projects that result in ongoing cost savings or improved efficiency. It has also removed the restriction with respect to redundancy costs. The Capital Strategy includes details of the proposed use of capital receipts in 2025/26 of which a proportion will be for investment into transformation on an invest to save basis. The remaining balance of receipts

is assumed as a funding source of the Exceptional Financial Support that has been applied for by Government.

Treasury Management Strategy Statement

- 1.27. Treasury management and prudential borrowing are integral to the consideration of the Council's revenue budget. The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) 2025/26 was considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 January and by Audit Committee on 27 January 2025 before the final TMSS will be presented to Council on 3 March 2025 for approval. It sets out the Council's approach to Treasury Management activity.

Conclusion

- 1.28. In summary, this report presents the Council's draft General Fund revenue and capital 2025/26 budget and current medium-term financial position for 2025 to 2030.
- 1.29. The only items not confirmed at this stage are:
- Final 2025/26 Local Government Finance Settlement announcement (expected mid-February) and any other late grant notifications from government departments;
 - Notification of final levy sums. These are not expected to be significantly different to the sums already assumed within the proposed budget; and
 - Confirmation of the Greater London Authority (GLA) council tax element which will be agreed on 25 February 2025.
- 1.30. The unknowns are not expected to have material implications for the 2025/26 proposed budget presented in this report, but any changes will be highlighted and addressed in the final budget report presented to Full Council on 3 March 2025.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Haringey is a borough rich in diversity, creativity and talent. It is also a borough where life expectancy drops 8 years from west to east and where levels of deprivation are amongst the highest in the country. Our driving ambition is to create a fairer and greener borough, where everyone can belong and thrive.
- 2.2 It is within those parameters that our budget is set. After successive changes to the funding formulae from 2010, Haringey has lost circa £143m to our budget. Haringey is also still considered an outer London borough for funding purposes (although an inner London borough for statistical ones) and receives less funding than our inner London neighbours. In the current financial year, like other boroughs, we have seen significant increases in the demand for and cost of local services – primarily in adult social care and

temporary accommodation. The cost of temporary accommodation went up 68% in London last year.

- 2.3 While significant savings are proposed, we have worked very hard to protect the local services that our residents rely on and need.
- 2.4 In 2025/26 will invest almost £1bn to deliver our many local public services. We will build hundreds of new council homes, help hundreds of people into work, fix hundreds of roads and pavements, plant hundreds of street trees – among many other key actions to make this borough fairer and greener.
- 2.5 This is not only because it is the right thing to do, in a borough such as ours, but because many of our local services are preventative. Further cuts to frontline services (with many already made in the previous 15 years) can result in increased costs to our statutory services, with our residents and council less resilient in the face of increased need.
- 2.6 We have applied to the government for a maximum of £37m in Exceptional Financial Support (EFS). While this is required in order for us to set a balanced budget, we appreciate that this is not a sustainable position. We will continue to work, across the council, to reduce costs and to make every penny count – and minimise use of EFS as much as possible.
- 2.7 In the longer term we need fair funding reform from the government. The government is reviewing funding allocations to local government and is due to have proposals for 2026/27. We are pressing for changes that make sure that funding is driven by local need.
- 2.8 We are grateful for the funding allocated to us by the new government from the Recovery Grant, which was based on levels of deprivation and Haringey's relatively low council tax base. While insufficient to close our budget gap, this indicates a willingness to reverse the short sighted and harmful decisions that saw Haringey lose so much funding post 2010.
- 2.9 There are very real challenges at the moment, but there's also a real opportunity to reset the foundations – locally and nationally. This year and in future years our council budget will start with local priorities, focus on the needs of local people and build towards our shared ambition of a fairer and greener borough.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
 - a) Consider the outcome of the budget consultation as set out in Appendix 5, to be included in the report to Council.
 - b) Approve the responses made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations following their consideration of the draft budget proposals as set out in Appendix 6

- c) Propose approval to the Council of the 2025/26 Budget and MTFS 2025/30 Budget, new budget requirements and savings proposals as set out in Appendices 2 and 3.
- d) Propose approval to the Council of the 2025/26 General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Appendix 1, including specifically a General Fund budget requirement of £348.9m, but subject to final decisions of the levying and precepting bodies and the final local government finance Settlement.
- e) Propose approval to the Council of the General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2025/2030 as set out in Appendix 1.
- f) Propose approval to the Council that the overall Haringey element of Council Tax to be set by London Borough of Haringey for 2025/26 will be £1,717.56 per Band D property, which represents a 2.99% increase on the 2024/25 Haringey element and with an additional 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept amount.
- g) Note the Council Tax Base of the London Borough of Haringey, as agreed by the Section 151 Officer under delegated authority (Article 4.01(b), Part 2, of the Constitution), as 82,589 for the financial year 2025/26 (Appendix 7).
- h) Propose approval to the Council of the Capital Strategy 2025/26 to 2029/30 (Appendix 8), including the General Fund capital programme detailed in Annex 1 of the strategy.
- i) Propose approval to Council of the strategy on the use of flexible capital receipts to facilitate the delivery of efficiency savings including capitalisation of redundancy costs (Appendix 8, Annex 2).
- j) Propose approval to Council of the 2025/26 Minimum Revenue Policy (Appendix 8, Annex 3).
- k) Propose to the Council the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) allocations for 2025/26 of £253m as set out in Table 15.
- l) Note the funding to be distributed to primary and secondary schools for 2025/26 based on the figures advised to Schools Forum and submitted to the Education Funding Agency in January 2025 set out in Section 15.
- m) Note the budgets (including the use of brought forward DSG) for the Schools Block, Central Services Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block set out in Table 15.
- n) Delegate to the Director of Children Services, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families, authority to amend the Delegated Schools Budget to take account of any changes to Haringey's total schools funding allocation by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.
- o) Delegate to the Section 151 officer, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services, authority to make further changes to the 2025/26 draft budget to Full Council up to a maximum limit of £1.0m.

4. Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Council has a statutory obligation to set a balanced budget for 2025/26 and this report forms part of the budget setting process for setting out the forecast funding and expenditure for 2025/26 which will be presented to Full

Council on 3 March 2025. As part of good financial management and transparency, this report also sets out the current funding and expenditure assumptions for the following four years in the form of an updated Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). The final budget for 2025/26, Council Tax levels, Capital Programme, Treasury Management Strategy, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget and Business Plan will be recommended to Full Council on 3 March 2025 following consideration at Cabinet on 11 February 2025.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1 The Cabinet must consider how to deliver a balanced 2025/26 budget and sustainable MTFS over the five-year period 2025/30, to be reviewed and adopted at the meeting of Full Council on 3 March 2025.
- 5.2 The Council has developed the proposals contained in this report in light of its current forecasts for future income levels and service demand. These take account of the Council's priorities; the extent of the estimated funding shortfall; the estimated impact of wider environmental factors such as inflation, interest rates, household incomes and, in some service areas, the legacy of the Covid-19 pandemic.

6 External Context

Economic Factors

- 6.1 The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) published an update of national economic and fiscal outlook on 30 October 2024. That report estimated real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is forecast to be 1.1% in 2024, 2.0% in 2025 and 1.8% in 2026 before falling back to 1.5% thereafter.
- 6.2 Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation is forecast to be 2.6% in 2025 decreasing to around 2% per year for the remainder of the forecast. Interest rates are expected to fall from 5.0% to 3.5% but not until the final year of the forecast, 2029/30 and it remains unclear the pace of the reduction in the intermediate years. The unemployment rate is expected to fall from 4.3% in 2024/25 to 4.0% in 2026, before stabilising at 4.1% by 2028.
- 6.3 The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) sets monetary policy to meet the 2% inflation target, and in a way that helps to sustain growth and employment. The MPC adopts a medium-term and forward-looking approach to determine the monetary stance required to achieve the inflation target sustainably.
- 6.4 At its last meeting on 18 December 2024, the MPC voted to maintain the Bank Rate at 4.75%. Since the MPC's previous meeting, twelve-month Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation has increased to 2.5% in December 2024 from 1.7% in September. This was slightly higher than previous expectations and headline CPI inflation is expected to continue to rise slightly in the short term.

- 6.5 Most indicators of UK short term economic activity have declined. The Bank expects (GDP) growth to have been weaker at the end of the year than projected in the November Monetary Policy Report. The Committee now judges that the labour market is broadly in balance. Annual private sector regular average weekly earnings growth picked up quite sharply in the three months to October but has tended to be more volatile than other wage indicators. The latest intelligence suggests that average pay settlements in all sectors in 2025 will be within a range of 3 to 4%. There remains significant uncertainty around developments in the labour market.
- 6.6 The Government has confirmed that it will provide £515m to compensate local government for the increase in employer National Insurance (NI) contributions and is expected to fund the increased costs to the Council of its direct employees. However, the short to medium term impact of this increase on some of the Council's key social care provider contracts is unpredictable, particularly in a sector which has struggled to recruit and maintain staffing. Haringey's allocation of this total funding is unlikely to be known until the final Local Government Finance Settlement is published in February 2025.
- 6.7 The international outlook continues to be volatile which could impact negatively on the current inflation and bank rate forecasts which would directly impact on the current budget assumptions.

National Policy Developments

- 6.8 The Government published a Policy Statement on the 2025/26 local government finance settlement on 28 November 2024. This confirmed proposals for local government finance and is set within a broader context of reform, including enhanced devolution, increased housing development and a reset of the relationship between central and local government.
- 6.9 On finance reform, they will 'build on' the 'Fair Funding Review' (or 'Review of Relative Needs and Resources'), with 'a similar approach' to the previous Conservative administration, which ground to a halt with two consultation papers published in December 2018. This will be delivered through the promised multi-year settlement from 2026/27 onwards.
- 6.10 A long-overdue 'reset' of accumulated business rates growth is promised, allowing Ministers to reallocate some or all locally accumulated growth using revised and up-to-date relative needs formulas. (Freeports, Enterprise Zones and Investment Zones will be exempt.) A reset was first discussed in 2019.
- 6.11 The 2025/26 government proposals show clear evidence of the emerging short-term financial priorities of the new government - social care, deprivation, grant consolidation without bidding processes and supporting financial resilience through more efficient allocation of resources.
- 6.12 The longer-term proposals aim to make best (most efficient) use of available resources, through allocations based on relative needs and the resources

available locally to fund these needs. The likely main elements of the review are:

- Updating the relative needs formulas and the data utilised in the calculations.
- A reset of accumulated business rates growth (through the business rates retention system).
- Adjustment of allocations to take account of varying costs of delivery across the country (including rural and urban areas).
- Resources equalisation (levelling the playing field) of the council tax taxbase between authorities.
- An approach to transition from the current baseline to the new arrangements, perhaps based on a 'glidepath' over time.

6.13 As part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement published on 18 December 2024, two key consultations were confirmed.

Funding Reform (as per 28.11.2024 Policy Statement)

Alongside the settlement, the government launched its Local authority funding reform consultation. This consultation seeks views on the approach to determining new funding allocations for local authorities and fire and rescue authorities. The deadline is **12 February 2025** and covers:

- Objectives and principles.
- Measuring differences in demand for services and the cost of delivering them.
- Measuring differences in locally available resources
- The New Homes Bonus.
- Implementing changes and keeping allocations up to date.
- Ways to reduce demands on local government to empower them to deliver for communities.
- Sales, fees and charges reform.

Local Government Audit Reform

The government also launched a consultation of Local Government Audit Reform. Submissions were due **29 January 2025** and the scope of this consultation includes a series of measures to fix the local audit system, including:

- A new local audit vision.
- The creation of a new Local Audit Office and its proposed functions.
- Mandating audit committees.
- Simplifying reporting requirements.
- Initiatives to enhance audit capacity (i.e., public provision).

6.14 On 16 December 2024, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) [published its English Devolution White Paper](#). Key announcements include:

- The Government has stated its aim that all parts of England should have a Strategic Authority (a Combined Authority of some shape or form).
- The Government will facilitate a programme of reorganisation for two-tier areas and unitary councils where there is evidence of failure or where their size or boundaries may be hindering their ability to deliver sustainable and high-quality public services. This is a longer-term programme, with a target of an ambitious first wave in this Parliament. The target size of new unitaries is 500,000 residents or more but decisions will be taken on a case-by-case basis.
- The government will respond to the recommendations of multiple external reviews, including the Redmond and Kingman reviews that have called for much simpler leadership and regulation of local audit.
- MHCLG has recommitted to the English Devolution Bill, to be presented in this session of Parliament if time allows.

6.15 The closure of the Office for Local Government (Oflog) was announced during December 2024. MHCLG will continue to have a small function which will measure local government performance, with a focus on the government's key missions, objectives and outcomes.

7 Internal Context

Borough Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan

As a Council, Haringey delivers hundreds of different and diverse services to almost 294,000 residents.

7.1 On 15 October 2024, [Haringey's Borough Vision](#) was published with 'Making Haringey a place where everyone can belong and thrive and is at the heart of a new shared vision for the borough'. The aim of the vision is to galvanise the actions not just of the council but also of partners, residents and businesses behind a set of common objectives. Haringey 2035 identifies the six key areas for collaborative action over the next decade:

- Safe and affordable housing.
- Thriving places.
- Supporting children and young people's experiences and skills.
- Feeling safe and being safe.
- Tackling inequalities in health and wellbeing.
- Supporting greener choices.

7.2 This builds on the Haringey Deal which sets out the council's commitment to developing a different relationship with residents, alongside the Corporate Delivery Plan (CDP) which sets out the organisational priorities every two years.

- 7.3 The most recent CDP was approved by Cabinet in July 2024 and can be found here - [The Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 \(haringey.gov.uk\)](https://haringey.gov.uk). It outlines the strategic objectives, priorities, and initiatives aimed at creating a fairer, greener borough. The plan is set out in eight separate themes:
- Resident experience and enabling success.
 - Responding to the climate emergency.
 - Children and young people.
 - Adults, health and welfare.
 - Homes for the future.
 - Safer Haringey.
 - Culturally rich borough.
 - Place and economy.
- 7.4 The Haringey Deal is ‘how’ we do things. The Council is changing the way it works. This starts with foundational principles of Knowing Our Communities and Getting the Basics Right. Across all services the Council is striving to build stronger relationships with residents and hear more from those often overlooked; build on the borough’s incredible strengths, and work in partnership to solve challenges. Key metrics for each theme have been set to determine if activities are having the intended effect and are reported to Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee every six months.
- 7.5 The Budget and MTFs process is the way in which we seek to allocate financial resources to support the delivery of this plan alongside analysing and responding to changes in demand, costs and external factors.

Haringey as a Place

- 7.6 Haringey is an outer London borough – receiving outer London levels of funding but which exhibits many inner London characteristics including levels of deprivation, high housing costs and urban density. Unlike many other London boroughs, it also continues to have a growing population – with the number of over 65s being 24% higher in 2024 than it was in 2010 but also an 8% decrease in children under 15. Haringey has a population density of about 9,916 people per square kilometre, making it the 12th most densely populated borough in London.
- 7.7 The core grant funding available from government for Haringey to deliver services and meet the needs of residents is around £143m less in real terms than it was in 2010/11.
- 7.8 Haringey’s local population has been hit hard by the Covid pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis.
- 7.9 The most recently reported data shows that 22.5% of residents aged 16 to 65 were claiming Universal Credit in Haringey in Aug 2024 - over 42,000 people. The same data showed 8.1% of residents aged 16+ were claiming

unemployment-related benefits in Haringey in August 2024 - over 15,000 people and, one of the highest figures of the last 3 years and is the third highest in the UK. One in five households have an active mortgage so may be impacted by the continuing high interest rates.

- 7.10 For schools, falling rolls in primary classes are adding additional pressures on stretched budgets particularly as grant income is linked to pupil numbers. Even where numbers have been relatively stable, cost inflation on key items such as utilities and building maintenance, continues to provide challenges and increasing numbers of local schools are now carrying budget deficits. Further details are set out in Section 15.

8 Draft Budget 2025/26

- 8.1 Developing a draft budget for 2025/26, requires a set of budget principles to be adhered to and a number of factors to be taken into consideration which are set out in full throughout this section.

Budget Principles

- To support the delivery of the Council Plan and priorities.
- Financial Planning will cover at least a 4/5 year period.
- Revenue and capital of equal importance.
- Cost reductions and income generation required.
- Sustainable budget for future years (one off reductions are not the solution).
- No on-going reliance on reserves.
- Any use of reserves to balance the budget will need to be replenished.
- Estimates used for pay, price and demand should be based on data and evidence – referred to as pressures.
- Growth for increased or enhanced service provision will be exceptional and considered on case by case basis.
- Loss of Government grant will result in same reduction in expenditure.
- All services will ensure value for money and high levels of productivity.

Budget Factors

- Impact of macro-economic conditions, such as inflation and interest rates for 2025/26 will use the latest forecast published by OBR on 30 November 2024, as set out in Section 6.
- Government Funding and the allocations published in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on 18 December 2024 have been used.
- Estimates of other potential income sources, including Council Tax, Business Rates, fees and charges and other contributions.
- Forecast increase in demand and price pressures will be based on the latest data and trends and consider any risks in the estimates.

- Net budget reductions (savings) include both reducing costs and increasing income.

Draft Revenue Budget 2025/26 – Funding

8.2 As highlighted above, the Council is expected to spend net £351m on day to day services and this will be funded through a number of different sources such as:

- Council Tax
- Business Rates
- Government Grants (Core)
- Government Grants (Service Specific)
- Customer Receipts (including fees, charges, parking)
- Rental Income
- Investment Income

8.3 The main revenue sources are set out in Table 1.

Table 1 – Key Revenue Sources 2025/26

| Income Source | £'000 |
|---|------------------|
| Council Tax | (139,850) |
| SFA – (Business Rates baseline, S31 grants and top up, RSG) | (139,404) |
| Government Grants | (41,480) |
| Total | (320,734) |

Government Funding

Core Government Grants

8.4 On 18 December 2024, Government published the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (PLGFS) for 2025/26. This is subject to consultation and the Council submitted its response by the deadline. The final settlement is expected to be published mid-February 2025, and any changes will be reflected in the final report to Council on 3 March 2025. The proposed budget set out in this report assumes that there will be no further changes.

8.5 Much of the PLGFS is focused on 'Core Spending Power' (CSP) which is a Government measure of the resources available to local authorities to fund service delivery. It includes the following:

- Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and notional Business rates (both income retained locally and the top up received from Government). These are collectively known as 'Settlement Funding Assessment' (SFA). The Local

Government Finance Policy statement published in November 2024 confirms this will increase by September CPI of 1.7%.

- Section 31 grants (estimated) in relation to business rates to compensate authorities for government decisions on business rate reliefs and holding the multiplier below inflation (under indexation).
- Council Tax Requirement – a calculated notional figure based on national taxbase growth levels and an assumption that all authorities have and will apply the maximum council tax increase.
- Specific grants – including Social Care related grants, the new Children's Social Care Prevention grant, new Recovery Grant and New Homes Bonus.
- Adjustments for any discontinued, merged or rolled in grants and adjustments to deliver the funding guarantee which protects all local authorities from year-on-year reduction in CSP.

- 8.6 In 2025/26, the Council will receive additional Government funding of £15.9m compared to that received in 2024/25 as set out in Table 2.

Table 2 – Provisional Government Grants 2025/26

| Government Grant | 2025/26 £'000 | 2024/25 £'000 | Change £'000 |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| Improved Better Care Fund | (12,100) | (9,806) | (2,294) |
| Social Care Grant | (29,740) | (24,832) | (4,908) |
| Adult Social Care Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund | (5,023) | (5,023) | 0 |
| Discharge Fund (rolled into iBCF from 25/26) | 0 | (2,291) | 2,291 |
| Children's Social Care Prevention Grant - New | (1,330) | | (1,330) |
| New Homes Bonus | (320) | (1,790) | 1,470 |
| Recovery Grant - New | (5,360) | | (5,360) |
| Services Grant | | (573) | 573 |
| Total within Core Spending Power | (53,873) | (44,315) | (9,558) |
| Extended Producer responsibility - New | (2,889) | 0 | (2,889) |
| Total Homelessness Grants | (13,771) | (10,800) | (2,971) |
| Public Health Grant | (23,187) | (22,700) | (487) |
| Grand Total | (93,720) | (77,815) | (15,905) |

Service Specific Grants

- 8.7 In addition to the Government grants set out in Table 2, there are a number of other service specific grants which are included in the proposed service

budgets for 2025/26. For those grants that have not yet been confirmed, the 2025/26 value has been assumed at the 2024/25 level. In line with the Council's budget principle, any loss of service specific government grant will result in a corresponding reduction in expenditure unless otherwise agreed as part of the annual budget process.

Business Rates

- 8.8 Business Rates are set nationally. The value of business premises is determined by the Valuation Office and the Government set the multiplier which specifies the pence per pound paid in tax.
- 8.9 Government announced in the Autumn Statement on 30 October 2024, that business rates will increase by CPI at 1.7% but the small business multiplier (for those businesses with a rateable value of less than £51,000) will be frozen. This means that for 2025/26, the standard multiplier will be 55.5p – an increase from 54.6p and the small business rate multiplier will remain at 49.9p.
- 8.10 It was also announced that businesses within the retail, leisure and hospitality sector will receive a 40% reduction on their business rates bill for 2025/26, recognising the long term impact the pandemic has had on this sector and a change in consumer behaviour. Although the Council will be fully compensated for this loss of income through a Section 31 grant from Government, for this business sector having to pay 60% is a large step up from the level of relief provided over the last few years and may lead to some struggling to pay.
- 8.11 The number of hereditaments (business premises) in 2025/26 is forecast to remain broadly similar to the current year. Based on the collection rate achieved in 2023/24 (93.6%), the period 9 in year forecast of 93% and the potential impact of the reduction in relief for the retail, leisure and hospitality sector, a stretch target of 94% collection is currently assumed.

Business Rates Pooling

- 8.12 A business rates pool of eight Authorities was created for the 2022/23 financial year involving the City of London, and the London Boroughs of Tower Hamlets, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Enfield, Barnet, Brent and Haringey. This was because of the financial benefit to the eight authorities involved based on the levels of business rate growth in some of the boroughs. This Pool has continued each year since 2022/23 delivering on average a £2m per annum benefit to Haringey.
- 8.13 Modelling for the 2025/26 financial year suggests that the continuation of the pool will continue to deliver similar financial benefits.
- 8.14 This pool will continue to share the risks and rewards of pooling as follows:

- 40% of any growth or loss will be retained by the City of London.
- 60% of any growth or loss will be retained by the other 7 boroughs in equal shares.

8.15 For 2025/26, the authorities will pool once again and this was confirmed within the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement published on 18 December 2024 and has been agreed by the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services under delegated authority. A financial benefit of around £2m is expected and has been assumed within the proposed budget in this report. As in previous years, this is only assumed as a one-year benefit particularly in the light of expected business rate reset from 2026/27 which may impact on the viability of continuing the existing pool.

Council Tax

- 8.16 Income collected through Council Tax is determined by the level of tax and the Council tax base.
- 8.17 The proposed budget is based on a 4.99% increase in the level of Council Tax (2.99% general increase and 2% Adult Social Care Precept) and is in line with the referendum thresholds published by Government as part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.
- 8.18 The overall impact is that an average Band D property increase from £1,635.92 to £1,717.56, an increase of £81.64. The average Band C property will increase from £1,454.16 to £1,526.72. Full details are set out in Table 3.

Table 3 – Proposed Council Tax Levels – 2025/26

| Band | Haringey 2024/25 Council Tax £ | Haringey 2025/26 proposed Council Tax £ | Haringey Change £ |
|-------------|---|--|----------------------------------|
| A | 1090.62 | 1145.04 | 54.42 |
| B | 1272.39 | 1335.88 | 63.49 |
| C | 1454.16 | 1526.72 | 72.56 |
| D | 1635.92 | 1717.56 | 81.64 |
| E | 1999.47 | 2099.24 | 99.77 |
| F | 2363.01 | 2480.92 | 117.91 |
| G | 2726.55 | 2862.6 | 136.05 |
| H | 3271.86 | 3435.12 | 163.26 |

Council Tax Base

- 8.19 The Council tax base is the number of properties in Bands A to H in the borough but expressed as the number of equivalent band D's. In most areas, Band D is the average but for Haringey, the average is Band C. This is a notable point because Government, when calculating Core Spending Power use Band D as the average. The proposed budget assumes an increase in the tax base of 0.85% for 2025/26 based on the latest properties on the ratings list and those forecast for next year. The assumed Council Tax base increase is 82,589. This assumption will remain under review over the next few years to reflect house building ambitions in the borough.

Council Tax Reduction Scheme

- 8.20 In 2025/26, the Council will continue to fully fund the local Council Tax reduction (local Council Tax benefit) scheme and as the cost of living crisis continues to impact on many households, will protect vulnerable residents on low incomes who might otherwise pay more. Currently just under 25,000 households receive a Council Tax reduction. The total spend on the scheme is expected to be approximately £34.0m.
- 8.21 The Council has plans to improve the support offer for residents who are at risk of or experiencing financial crisis, including those who are in debt to the council. A new Tackling Inequality service will be established to bring together and strengthen existing work in this area, to provide timely, empathetic and practical support to help residents increase their income and reduce their debt. A reduction in the number of Council Tax Support claimants will be one of the ways to track the impact of this service on those with the lowest incomes.

Greater London Authority Precept

- 8.22 The draft Greater London Authority Band D Council Tax figure for 2025/26 was published on 15 January as £490.38, a 4% increase or £18.98. The final 2025/26 precept will be issued after the London Assembly meets on 25 February 2025. Any changes will be reported to Council on 3 March 2025. Full details of the draft rates by Bands A to H are set out in Table 4.

Table 4 – Proposed GLA Council Tax Levels 2025/26

| Band | GLA 2024/25 Council Tax £ | GLA 2025/26 proposed Council Tax £ | Change £ |
|-------------|--|---|---------------------|
| A | 314.27 | 326.92 | 12.65 |
| B | 366.64 | 381.41 | 14.77 |
| C | 419.02 | 435.89 | 16.87 |
| D | 471.40 | 490.38 | 18.98 |
| E | 576.16 | 599.35 | 23.19 |
| F | 680.91 | 708.33 | 27.42 |
| G | 785.67 | 817.30 | 31.63 |
| H | 942.80 | 980.76 | 37.96 |

- 8.23 Taking into account both the proposed increase in Haringey Council Tax and GLA increase, a summary is set out in Table 5.

Table 5 – Total Proposed Council Tax Level 2025/26

| Band | Haringey 2025/26 proposed Council Tax £ | GLA 2025/26 proposed Council Tax £ | Total £ | % of dwellings in each band |
|-------------|--|---|--------------------|--|
| A | 1145.04 | 326.92 | 1471.96 | 3% |
| B | 1335.88 | 381.41 | 1717.29 | 11% |
| C | 1526.72 | 435.89 | 1962.61 | 27% |
| D | 1717.56 | 490.38 | 2207.94 | 26% |
| E | 2099.24 | 599.35 | 2698.59 | 14% |
| F | 2480.92 | 708.33 | 3189.25 | 8% |
| G | 2862.60 | 817.30 | 3679.90 | 9% |
| H | 3435.12 | 980.76 | 4415.88 | 2% |

- 8.24 Cabinet is asked to recommend to Council on 3 March 2025, the final council tax and budget figures to enable the council tax resolution to be passed.

Collection Fund

- 8.25 The Collection fund is a separate account which receives the income collected from Council Tax and Business Rates payers and then makes payments to the Council, GLA and Government.
- 8.26 The Local Authorities (Funds) (England) Regulations 1992 (as amended) require an annual projection of the balance on 31 March each year. This is because precepting authorities share surpluses / deficits and need to take account of these when setting the budget.

- 8.27 The projected balance on the collection fund on 31 March 2025 is estimated at £4.081m. The business rates proportion of this is £1.785m. The Council Tax element is £2.296m.

Fees and Charges

- 8.28 Income from fees and charges (including rents from commercial and operational estates) is approximately 13.3% of the Council's income. On 12 December 2024, Cabinet approved the fees and charges for 2025/26 which was based on an average of 5% increase and the increased income has been assumed in the proposed budget set out in this report.

Draft Revenue Budget 2025/26 – Expenditure

- 8.29 The starting position of setting the budget for 2025/26 is the financial position in previous and current financial years.
- 8.30 Although the 2024/25 budget had undertaken analysis to derive realistic estimates of service demands and the cost of services, the Quarter 2 monitoring position (published on 10 December) estimates an overspend of £37m by the year end, of which 71% is driven by adult social care and demand for temporary accommodation. A copy of the full report is here [Q2 Finance Update Cabinet 10Dec24 Ver1.0.docx 17.54.pdf](#) and the pressures in the current year directly align with those forecast to continue into 2025/26.

Spending Pressures 2025/26

- 8.31 In March 2024, the estimated additional budget required in 2025/26 of service pressures was £11.90m. Based on the current in year position, benchmarking, population trends and inflation forecasts, an additional £45m will be required. Table 6 below is a summary of the total pressures required for 2025/26 and set out in full in Appendix 2.

Table 6 – Forecast Budget Pressures 2025/26

| Directorate | £'000 |
|---|--------------|
| Adult Social Care | 30,940 |
| Housing Demand (Temporary Accommodation) | 12,097 |
| Children and Young People Services (including Education) | 6,538 |
| Environment and Resident Experience (exc Housing Benefit) | 1,370 |
| Environment and Resident Experience (Housing Benefit) | 3,500 |

| Directorate | £'000 |
|---|---------------|
| Placemaking and Housing (excluding HRA) | 1,710 |
| Culture, Strategy and Engagement | 637 |
| Finance, Audit and Procurement (including CEO Office) | 0 |
| Total | 56,792 |

Pay and Prices

- 8.32 **Contract Inflation** - the additional budget for 2025/26 to fund increases in contract prices (excluding social care and temporary accommodation) is £1.85m. This is based on an average inflationary increase of 6.7% on non social care contracts. Any increase above this allocation will need to either be absorbed within individual service budgets by identifying alternative reductions or agreed to be funded through the corporate contingency allocation.
- 8.33 **Pay Award** – The pay award for 2024/25 has been agreed and is reflected within the current 2024/25 budgets but negotiations have not yet started for 2025/26 and therefore the outcome is unlikely to be known until part way through the next financial year. The proposed budget in this report has set aside £5m, equivalent to an average of a 3% increase. Any increase above this allocation will need to either be absorbed within individual service budgets by identifying alternative reductions or agreed to be funded through the corporate contingency allocation.

Other Corporate Pressures

- 8.34 **Pension** – the 12 November 2024 draft budget report included £813,000 increase to cover recent inflationary increases in pension payments to historic employees under previous scheme rules. This was on top of an already budgeted increase of £600,000 arising from the last triennial valuation.
- 8.35 **Redundancy costs** - the 12 November 2024 draft budget included the creation of a corporate redundancy provision of £750,000 partly to cover any costs not eligible to be funded via flexible capital receipt application but also in recognition of the potential implications of the council's financial position on the size of the establishment. This has now been increased by a further £500,000 to also recognise the potential costs arising from necessary school restructures on the back of falling roll numbers.
- 8.36 **Levies** – The Council contributes to some London wide services (referred to as levies). These are:

- North London Waste Authority (NLWA)
- London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA)
- Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA)
- Environment Agency

8.37 Confirmation of final levy figures are not yet known and will be reported to Council on 3 March 2025. However, for planning purposes most levy costs, with the exception of NLWA are forecast to remain broadly in line with the 2024/25 figures across the MTFs period. A 2% annual increase has been assumed.

8.38 The latest NLWA estimated levy for 2025/26 was received in mid November 2024 and indicated a levy of £12m. This is £2m more than the 2024/25 levy and has required an additional £1.4m to be built in over and above that which was assumed in the November report. NLWA has been informed that it will receive around £14m funding from Defra as part of the extended producer responsibly (EPR) scheme. Discussions on how to utilise this unbudgeted sum are on-going and the final decision will be made at the NLWA budget meeting on 13 February 2025 alongside confirmation of the 2025/26 borough levy.

8.39 Capital Financing – due to the considerable work undertaken over the last couple of years to review and reduce the general fund capital programme and further reductions for 2025/26, particularly that funded by borrowing, the new borrowing for 2025/26 has been reflected in the Budget. The budget has also been adjusted for any additional borrowing associated with the Council's application for exceptional financial support, subject to it being approved in principle at the end of February.

8.40 **Concessionary Fares** – usage numbers continue to increase after a significant dip during COVID and for 2025/26 are estimated to reach 84% of pre-COVID rates. The budget requirement for 2025/26 is £14.4m, which is a 16.65% increase on 2024/25 (£12.4m) but is in line with the forecast reported in the March 2024 Budget/MTFS report. From 2026/27 the estimated charge is higher than previously assumed due to fares and 66+ population increases. This has been factored into financial plans for 2026/27 onwards.

8.41 **Corporate Contingency** - In 2024/25, the Council will spend its full contingency allocation given the level of overspend currently being forecast.

8.42 Despite building in additional budget of £56.8m to address service demand and price pressures in 2025/26, given the level of risk and uncertainty, the Council has increased its corporate contingency provision from £7.6m to £10m to manage unforeseen circumstances, risks to the full delivery of savings or increases in demand over and above those currently estimated.

- 8.43 As in previous years, any use of contingency will be subject to approval by the Section 151 Officer and will be reported quarterly through the finance monitoring report.
- 8.44 The total existing and new budget built into 2025/26 for corporate pressures is summarised in Table 7.

Table 7 – Corporate Budget Pressures 2025/26

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s |
|---|---------------------------|
| Concessionary Fares levy forecast increase | 1,332 |
| Creation of Feasibility Studies budget to support the capital programme | 1,000 |
| Forecast Pay Inflation | 5,000 |
| Increase in Capital Financing Budget requirement | 6,886 |
| Increase in Corporate Contingency | 2,234 |
| Levies forecast increase at 2% | 2,049 |
| Non Pay Inflation | 410 |
| Other Minor Adjustments | 90 |
| Pension forecast | 1,413 |
| Provision for Redundancy Costs | 1,250 |
| Reserve movements | 4,252 |
| Write off of Open Banking saving proposal | 300 |
| TOTAL | 26,216 |

Budget Reductions

- 8.45 The proposed budget for 2025/26 includes £22.1m of new budget reductions (reduced spend and increased income) and these are set out in full in Appendix 3. Of these, £18.8m were published for Cabinet in November 2024. Consultation took place between 28 November 2024 and 6 January 2025. This included an online public consultation, engagement with businesses, review by all scrutiny panels and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The recommendations are summarised in Appendix 5 with responses by Cabinet Members. Cabinet have considered the feedback and although there are no changes to the draft budget as a result, the feedback provided has been extremely valuable and will be considered as part of the implementation of the proposals.
- 8.46 Given the scale of the financial challenge for next year and that a significant budget gap remained, throughout December and early January, work has continued to identify additional budget reductions and opportunities for income generation to move closer to being able to recommend a balanced budget. This work identified £3.3m of further proposals which were

considered by Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 January 2025. Their recommendations are included in Appendix 3, together with responses by Cabinet Members. No changes have been made to the draft budget as a result of these recommendations.

- 8.47 In addition, the proposed budget includes, £9.5m of previously approved reductions for 2025/26 that were agreed as part of previous budget setting processes.
- 8.48 Therefore, in total, £29.5m of budget reductions will be delivered in 2025/26 to contribute towards balancing the budget as set out in Table 8 and in full in Appendix 3.
- 8.49 A review of the existing savings in 2024/25 has been undertaken as part of the quarterly monitoring process and the budget preparations. This has identified that the delivery profile of the agreed CTRS saving could be reprofiled to deliver the total £2m against 2025/26. This review has also identified that £440,000 are no longer deliverable and have been written off and are highlighted in the relevant service sections of Appendix 4. This has added to the budget gap position for 2025/26. This therefore assumes that the remaining £19.78m of savings in 2024/25 that have not yet been delivered will be delivered in full in 2025/26. Close monitoring will take place during the year and reported through the quarterly monitoring process.
- 8.50 In summary and for completeness, the total savings to be delivered by all Directorates in 2025/26 is set out in Table 8 and in full in Appendix 3.

Table 8 – Total Savings 2025/26

| Directorate | £'000 |
|---|--------------|
| Adult Social Care | (2,966) |
| Housing Demand (Temporary Accommodation) | (2,600) |
| Children and Young People Services (including Education) | (885) |
| Environment and Resident Experience (exc Housing Benefit) | (4,008) |
| Environment and Resident Experience (Housing Benefit) | (313) |
| Placemaking and Housing (excluding HRA) | (868) |
| Culture, Strategy and Engagement | (1,945) |
| Finance, Audit and Procurement (including CEO Office) | (550) |

| Directorate | £'000 |
|--|-----------------|
| Council Wide Savings (to be allocated to Directorates before 1.4.2025) | (13,410) |
| Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) | (2,000) |
| Total | (29,545) |

Balanced Budget 2025/26

- 8.51 Taking account of the pressures, budget reductions and other corporate adjustments described above, the Council is forecast to need to spend £351m on the day to day running of local services from the general fund, protecting the most vulnerable and delivering good quality services to all residents.

Table 9 – Net Spend 2025/26

| Directorate | Net Spend £'000 |
|---|----------------------------|
| Adult Social Care | 129,542 |
| Housing Demand (Temporary Accommodation) | 17,553 |
| Children and Young People Services (including Education) | 68,354 |
| Environment and Resident Experience (exc Housing Benefit) | 4,329 |
| Environment and Resident Experience (Housing Benefit – Council element) | 8,871 |
| Placemaking and Housing (excluding HRA) | 6,645 |
| Culture, Strategy and Engagement | 28,845 |
| Finance, Audit and Procurement (including CEO Office) | 6,485 |
| Corporate | 80,974 |
| Total | 351,598 |

- 8.52 The movements from the 2024/25 agreed budget are summarised in Table 10 and further detail of movements by Directorate are set out in Appendix 4.

Table 10 – Analysis of Movements 2024/25 to 2025/26 Budget

| | £'000 |
|---|------------------|
| Net Expenditure Budget 2024/25 | 302,052 |
| Pay and Price Inflation | 5,630 |
| Service Pressures (see Table 6) | 56,792 |
| Other Corporate Pressures (see Table 7) | 20,806 |
| Total Budget Requirement 2025/26 | 385,280 |
| Council Tax income (assumed 4.99% increase) | (137,850) |
| Other Government Funding and Grants (including Business Rates, RSG) | (172,044) |
| Other Contributions | (8,841) |
| Total Funding 2025/26 | (318,735) |
| Budget Gap 2025/26 | 66,545 |
| Savings (see Table 8) | (29,545) |
| Revised Budget Gap | 37,000 |

Exceptional Financial Support (EFS)

- 8.53 As set out in Table 10, after taking account of known movements compared to the 2024/25 budget, there remains a budget gap of £37m.
- 8.54 To enable the Council to meet its legal requirements and set a balanced budget for 2025/26, an application for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) has been made to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The outcome of the application will not be confirmed until the end of February 2025 but the proposed budget in this report has been prepared on the basis of it being agreed.
- 8.55 The request for EFS is a necessary response to the circumstances and this support is provided through an agreement by Government that the Council can capitalise part of its day to day running costs. In practice this means that the Council has permission to either borrow or use capital receipts from the sale of assets to fund day-to-day expenditure. Haringey's application is a combination of the two. Capital receipts already received and those planned from the disposal of surplus assets during 2025/26 equate to £10.0m but borrowing of up to £27m may be required. The associated borrowing costs have been factored into the treasury management budget from 2025/26.
- 8.56 Further details are set out in the Chief Finance Officer's Section 25 Statement in Section 13, including the conclusion that this is not a long term sustainable financial strategy, and that work must continue to further identify savings and

income opportunities to reduce the amount of EFS drawn down in 2025/26 and plans in place to avoid the need for any EFS from 2026/27 onwards.

- 8.57 The remainder of this section sets out a narrative summary by Directorate of proposed spending plans for 2025/26 with full budget breakdowns provided in Appendix 4. The draft budget figures in this report are presented as per the corporate management structure in place at the Full Council date of 3 March 2025. A new structure will be in place from 1 April 2025 and the budgets will be updated following the Full Council meeting to reflect this. This has no impact on the overall net budget requirement now presented.

Adult Social Care

- 8.58 Adult social care supports the wellbeing and independence of people within the community. The Council meet the evidenced needs of diverse communities, assisting with daily living and provide support and respite services for carers. Support is provided to older adults, disabled adults and those with learning disabilities and those with lived experience of mental health needs.
- 8.59 The planned spending of £129m will be on providing support to people with a range of eligible care needs as set out in the Care Act, through professional advice, guidance and signposting where needed. Care is planned according to need and tailored through engagement with individuals and their families.
- 8.60 Adult Social Care is directly funded by a number of specific social care grants of £39.5m, shared funding of care and support by local health partners and where appropriate contributions towards care and support from individuals of around £11.5m.
- 8.61 Taking account of income contributions relating to grants and contributions the proposed net budget is £129m and which assumes that an additional £31m is required to manage the forecast increase in demand and inflationary pressures.
- 8.62 In 2025/26 it is anticipated that around 2,000 older adults and 1,800 younger adults will be supported in a long-term care package. These numbers reflect the ageing population and the prevalence of health and care need in the borough.
- 8.63 During 2025/26, the council will continue to explore opportunities to maximise independence of everyone who approaches the council for support, giving each individual choice and control in what, where and how that support is delivered.
- 8.64 As a large proportion of services are commissioned from the provider market, work will continue to commission services in the most cost-effective manner

in challenging circumstances where many providers costs continue to rise at rates higher than general inflation.

- 8.65 Working within the health and care system the council will continue to explore ways to develop closer working with the local health partners to meet joint care needs in the most effective way and maximise the benefits of health and care integration for our community.

Housing Demand (Temporary Accommodation)

- 8.66 The housing demand service provides temporary and emergency accommodation for those facing homelessness.
- 8.67 The 25/26 budget proposes additional budget of £12.097m is required for housing demand. This assumes that on average over the year, the Council will be supporting over 2,600 households in temporary accommodation and an anticipated increase in demand of 6% in 2025/26. Whilst the numbers requiring support is increasing the budget requirement, the price of temporary and emergency accommodation (including bed and breakfast and nightly paid accommodation) is the more significant driver of the budget pressure for next year, with average nightly pay rates expected to increase further over the year, as a result of current market conditions and a lack of supply driving increased costs.
- 8.68 The Council is proactively embarking on a range of initiatives to support more people to access longer term housing solutions and reduce the reliance on temporary accommodation. This includes, the purchase of additional properties, the extension of leases on private sector properties to secure accommodation for longer, and a review of supported accommodation for those in most need. This range of initiatives will not completely resolve the financial pressures in 2025/26 but together with an ongoing focus on prevention, it is hoped to be able to contain the pressures, although risks remain in relation to the volatility of market conditions.
- 8.69 During 2025/26, the Council will continue to explore additional initiatives to reduce the demand for temporary and emergency accommodation. Furthermore, the Council will be looking into increasing supply and more sustainable ways to improve lives of families through the ambitious house building programme and ongoing investment in existing housing stock, increasing acquisitions and reducing voids. The service will also review its contracts relating to housing support and identify more efficient ways of working to contribute towards the Council's 5% reduction in staffing costs.

Children and Young People Services

- 8.70 The vision for Haringey is that all children and young people are equipped, supported and able to achieve their full potential. For the Council, this means

providing high-quality, joined-up services that provide children, young people and families with holistic care and support, all the way through their childhood and adolescence.

- 8.71 The proposed net budget for 2025/26 is £68.4m. Main areas of spend and activity in 2025/26 are safeguarding and social work where planned net spending is £47.0m and the early help and prevention work where planned net spending is £15.6m. The service also spends £3.2m supporting schools and learning. The service will continue to receive a substantial amount of grant funding to support specific interventions and general service delivery - this is expected to total £15.5m in 2025/26. There is also a new social care prevention grant of £1.3m to support the government reforms set out in the new Children's Wellbeing Bill. This includes the expansion of the new families first for children (FFC) model which aims to further enhance early help for families, involving family networks more in decision making and establishing specialist child protection teams. This new grant will lay the groundwork for children's social care reform, enabling direct investment in additional prevention activity through transition to family help.
- 8.72 The number of children looked after and children with child protection plans has fallen over recent years, though challenges remain as numbers can fluctuate across the year. Children looked after numbers have reduced from 74 per 10,000 in 2018/19 to 59 in December 2024 and this is lower than statistical neighbours. Many factors influence this including the strength of early help services, the quality of social work practice and the stability of the workforce – our staff know our children and families well. External factors such as population mobility and partners' funding, practice and arrangements can all also have an impact. The aim is to continue to intervene early and prevent fewer children coming into care wherever possible. Whilst numbers have reduced, it should be noted that the acuity and complexity of support needed has increased with a corresponding pressure on finance.
- 8.73 Where possible the service is working to increase income to support the delivery of services such as [Pendarren House](#), our outdoor education centre, and working with sponsors so that the offer of the [John La Rose Bursary](#) which ensures more young people have fairer access to higher education can continue.
- 8.74 Key risks in social care remain the cost of placements and the cost of agency staff. These are national challenges which all councils are working with. Requested increases in fees from providers will remain in excess of current inflation levels and the service continues to focus on reducing spend on agency staff wherever possible and through effective commissioning reducing or containing costs for placements in a challenging market.
- 8.75 Support for those young people with special educational needs remains a major financial challenge for the council and is also a national issue. The council is working within the Safety Valve High Needs Block recovery programme to bring the High Needs Block back into balance by March 2028. The programme remains on target though there remain challenges

ahead with the numbers of education and health care plans fluctuating, trending upwards. Considerable effort is required to keep individual projects on track.

Environment and Resident Experience

- 8.76 The Environment and Resident Experience Directorate covers a range of different services accessed by the boroughs 294,000 residents, businesses and visitors who come to the borough for education, work and to access the many leisure and cultural activities.

- 8.77 In 2025/26, it is expected that net spend will be £13.2m after accounting for income, including collection of fees and charges and parking and highways income.

- 8.78 2025/26 is expected to be a challenging year following a comprehensive, systematic and iterative review of spend and income lines across the portfolio of services. Some legacy budget line pressures will continue into the next financial year, and these include the corporate reprovisioned digital savings, which are currently unallocated and subject to the development and implementation of digital roadmaps. However, as with 2024/25 it is anticipated these pressures will be managed by services with a key objective of delivering a balanced budget.

- 8.79 The main areas of spend are summarised below, together with some key areas of concern for 2025/26 which will require comprehensive budget management from the start of the financial year to ensure spend remains in line with budget and savings are either delivered or that any pressures arising from non-delivery are mitigated. This will require an agile response from budget holders and clinical execution of alternative operating models as necessary to ensure budget positions remain on track.

- 8.80 The Council's Highways, Traffic and Parking Service is an award-winning service, balancing the competing needs for both off and on street parking across the borough as well as managing low traffic neighbourhoods and delivering road safety initiatives. On average, £43m is collected in parking and highways income which is invested back into the boroughs transport infrastructure and services. The continuing ambition of maximising compliance within the Parking Enforcement area does however lead to a degree of volatility in the parking income account for income streams associated to the issuance of penalty charge notices (PCN). Increased compliance with the parking rules will invariably reduce income levels which is a positive outcome and signifies the success of the overall parking management objectives, but has a material impact on income, which although ringfenced under the 2004 Traffic Management Act is used on a range of services within highways, parking and transportation as well as funding the cost of concessionary fares. In 2025/26, the Council is forecast to invest £10.605m in our roads, footways, and bridges assets as set out in the Capital Programme in Appendix 8.

- 8.81 The development of a new approach to responding to Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) has been developed resulting a new dedicated Community Safety Service working closely with the Police and other agencies to tackle the root cause of criminality in the borough. Two cross-organisational exercises are under way currently and have led to real term reductions in crime within the borough with crime levels now as low as they were during the covid pandemic. These initiatives are the Clear, Hold, Build tri-borough work in Finsbury Park, and the Tottenham Together initiative. The work in Finsbury Park is a joint approach between Haringey Council the Metropolitan Police, Hackney Council and Islington Council challenging criminal behaviour and implementing mechanisms to prevent increasing crime levels in the future. The Tottenham Together initiative focuses on work in Northumberland Park in both Haringey and Enfield boroughs and has seen a broad range of actions to reduce both incidents of ASB and crime and the potential for it to reoccur through the adoption of a public health approach to problem solving.
- 8.82 The Revenues and Benefits Services are responsible for the collection of council tax income from over 82,000 households in the borough and business rates from businesses with premises in borough. In 2025/26, the income collected is expected to be £280.5m and together are one of the main income sources for the Council to support the delivery of vital services. The Council Tax Reduction Scheme remains unchanged for 2025/26, which currently supports 27,000 households who need financial help with their Council Tax bills. The department also provides the administration of housing benefit payments on behalf of Department for Work and Pensions. The impact of the housing benefit overpayments and legacy Local Authority error levels seen in 2024/25 could continue into 2025/26 dependent on the findings of ongoing audits into historic processing issues. Whilst the service has identified problems and taken corrective action, leading to a substantial level of recovered income, the impact of historic errors could place further financial pressure on the authority in 2025/26 above the £3.5m that has been identified and built into the budget. During 2025/26, the directorate is forming a Tackling Inequality Department which will lead on developing a supportive offer to residents with low incomes through advocacy and guidance towards maximising their disposable income. Additionally, the department will review and implement a new ethical debt policy ensuring a considered and emphatic approach to debt management is in place across the organisation.
- 8.83 The Leisure and Sports services were transferred into direct council control in 2024/25, which has enabled significant improvement works to commence across the borough leisure centres and the Council will be investing £0.8m into these facilities in 2025/26 as set out in the capital programme in 2025/26, and £3.8m over the MTFS period. The assumptions on income generation and customer take of the new improved facilities are based on data provided by the previous operator but without a full set of accounts for the first operating year assumptions made on service and usage will need to be monitored closely and the services improvement action plan needs to be delivered at pace.

The borough has over a hundred parks and open spaces, of which 11 are 'green flag status and are widely used. However, the income levels for events that are hosted in these parks are not on track to be delivered in 2024/25 following delays to the establishment of a new events management approach. Although this is now scheduled for 2025/26, there is an additional stretch target placed into the budget. The increased expectations are on track to be achieved through greater working between the parks team and the corporate events team who have developed a new operating model with commercialisation of assets through events at its core.

- 8.84 In 2025/26, an estimated gross expenditure budget of £28m will be spent on waste and recycling services, of which £26m relates to contracts with external organisations who provide waste collection and street cleaning services. In 2025/26, the waste and recycling services are to receive additional funding from government in respect of extend producer responsibility payments. The Government's strategy is to encourage producers to reduce the environmental impact of the packaging used which is likely to lead to increased collection and disposal costs for the Council and the funding in 2025/26 will contribute towards the costs incurred by the Council. However, this funding will reduce as the materials become more recyclable (product design, processing improvements etc) and therefore in theory funding will reduce from producers. If the Council is unable to adequately capture waste from residents and businesses, there will be negative funding implications. The Council does not currently include plastic film collection/separation, and this will be mandatory from 2027. There could be costs in setting up the systems to ensure there is ability to collect this waste stream whilst additionally preparing for savings in other waste areas built into the MTFS and which are due to be delivered in 2027/28 with the retendering of the current waste contract.

Placemaking and Housing

- 8.85 The Directorate currently provides a range of services from delivering large parts of the capital programme, managing the Council's commercial property portfolio, delivering Planning and Building Control services, Haringey Adult Learning, Haringey Works and area regeneration activity. This includes delivering the Council Housing Delivery Programme and delivering front line Housing services. The latter of which is covered in the Housing Revenue Account which is a separate report on the agenda.
- 8.86 The majority of the directorate costs are funded by income (statutory fees, income and external funding and capitalisation) which has been reduced substantially following the Capital Programme review, and charges to the HRA for all expenditure which relates to HRA assets. This means a small overall General Fund net budget position of £6.6m for 2025/26. A recent Capital programme review has also resulted in a reduction in Placemaking and Housing Capital programme, with many schemes which were not yet committed being reviewed. However, services will continue to support capital investment of £104m as set out in the Capital Programme in Appendix 8,

- 8.87 The Directorate are continually working to manage the current budgets and address financial challenges. Significant progress has been made – for example the Property team have already achieved a significant portion of the rental income against target, with further options being identified to be able to increase the target amount. In addition, last year 15 sites were identified for potential disposal, with a target of £21m of capital receipts and this list has now increased to 100 potential subject to review.
- 8.88 The Award-winning Council-Housing Delivery Programme underway and 700 complete. The Programme is well on the way to achieving the target of 3,000 new high quality homes by 2031. In addition, Housing Services are continuing on a number of fronts including significantly achieving compliance in the “big six” areas.
- 8.89 The Civic Centre project is progressing with Cabinet approving the final business Case and awarding the main construction contract. Having already achieved required savings in the scheme, the award of a Pre-Construction Services Agreement means the Council and the contractor can work proactively to continue to mitigate project risks, continue the detailed design elements and identify efficiencies within the current design and programme to maximise the benefits to the Council.
- 8.90 A senior level restructure has now been agreed and following implementation, individual teams within the Directorate will be realigned and/or merged with other areas of the Council. The relevant budgets and savings will be distributed as appropriate to the agreed service areas. This will be reflected within the Quarter 1 monitoring report to Cabinet in July 2025. The realignment of the Placemaking and Housing directorate will allow further reviews of services to take place, looking at implementing efficiencies and economies of scale as highlighted in the cross-cutting council savings proposals. This includes a 5% reduction in staffing costs, the review of the commercial and operational estate to reduce the running costs to the Council, maximising income from the commercial estate and disposal of surplus assets to generate capital receipts which can be used for reducing the level of borrowing in the capital programme or investment into transformation. There are two significant pressures for 2025/26.
- 8.91 Corporate Landlord - It should be noted that this pressure is being consolidated from across all directorates within the council and will be managed by the Strategic Asset Management team as part of the implementation of a Corporate Property Model (CPM). Costs for the operation of buildings are currently spread across a number of directorates and budget lines. The CPM is looking to bring these costs together within a single area so that a complete picture of the operational costs of each site can be known, and to enable a concise and efficient CPM to be implemented. This will result in clear co-ordinated oversight and a planned approach to operational management of the property estate in partnership with service areas and the community. Once implemented, the CPM will identify efficiencies to reduce the pressure in future years and therefore the

additional £1.5m that has been allowed for in the budget will be held corporately until any longer-term pressures have been identified.

- 8.92 Strategic Asset Management Team - The team has been funded for a 3-year period through flexible use of capital receipts and one-off reserves as an investment into the service to deliver the improvement plan following an independent review of the service. Aspects of the improvement plan remain outstanding and the one-off additional resources will be funded for a further year to deliver the improvements. Team numbers are already held at a minimum and a further reduction of the team at this time will result in a significant risk to the delivery of identified savings.

Culture, Strategy and Engagement

- 8.93 Culture, Strategy and Engagement (CSE) is responsible for a mix of community-facing and internal enabling and support functions. Services include Libraries, Culture, Bruce Castle Museum & Archive and the Voluntary & Community Sector team. This is in addition to Digital Services, the teams supporting Change delivery, Policy and Communications, Complaints and Feedback, Human Resources, Legal, Democratic Services, Elections, Registrars and the Coroner's Court service.
- 8.94 The proposed budget in 2025/26 is £28.8m, and there is also a capital budget of £38.906m, mostly required for investment in the digital infrastructure, but also including £1.662m for essential works at Alexandra Palace and £26.097m for the Civic Centre works. The budget takes account of income contributions from Registrars, room hire and other income in Libraries, filming income and digital and on-street advertising.
- 8.95 Pressures in CSE are largely related to income generation targets, which are stretching and the services have historically struggled to meet them in full. To address this challenge, a cross-Directorate project and working group has been established to coordinate all income generation activities through pooling available delivery and implementation resources and more systematically identifying and maximising potential opportunities.
- 8.96 The libraries service is in the process of implementing a reduction in opening hours to deliver a delayed saving from 2024/25. The service will also be working with Friends of Libraries and other groups to develop a new Libraries Strategy for 2025/26 onwards setting out the Council's ambitions and vision for the service. This will form part of the steps being taken to implement the Council's recently agreed Arts and Culture Strategy, which, alongside the initiation of preparations for Haringey's London Borough of Culture award in 2027, will be a major initiative for the Directorate during this year.
- 8.97 The enabling services within the Directorate will be primarily focused on supporting the Council to deliver its challenging savings, efficiency and modernisation plans, utilising the new Digital and Change service and infrastructure that was put in place during 2024/25. This supports the

Council's Change Framework and also includes its new Enterprise Architecture and Digital Governance arrangements which together provide assurance that savings and modernisation plans will be delivered.

- 8.98 The Directorate is developing the HR, Organisational Development, Internal Communications and staff engagement mechanisms to support the whole organisation and its people, who are its most important resource. This means adapting and changing how we all work in order to deliver savings and modernisation in the most effective way. A particular focus will be support for all Council services to deliver challenging service modernisation savings of £6.8m over the coming three years. At the same time work will continue to make efficiencies across all CSE services, delivering savings from both staffing (5%) and contract management efficiencies in 2025/26, and laying the foundations for future potential savings, such as developing shared or federated legal services with other boroughs.
- 8.99 Finally, this Directorate leads in coordinating the Council's influencing and policy development work. The new Government has initiated important and long-overdue reforms in public services, for example launching a [consultation on Local Authority Funding Reform](#), a [White Paper on English Devolution: Power & Partnerships, a Foundation for Growth](#), and a new [Bill on Children's Wellbeing and Schools reform](#). A focus of our work in the coming year will be ensuring that Haringey's voice is heard in debates on these proposed changes to the funding and delivery of public services so that we can ensure communities' needs are able to be met in the future.

Finance, Procurement and Audit

- 8.100 The finance, procurement and audit directorate also includes some of the Council's key enabling functions that support the delivery of the range of services provided by the Council. In 2025/26, the net budget is £6.5m.
- 8.101 As well of ensuring the Council meets its statutory functions of setting a balanced budget and closing the accounts on time, the service supports the development and embedding of good financial management across the organisation and compliance across all aspects of the Financial Management Code. The procurement service provides strategic support for contracts delivering over £600m each year of spending with third party organisations. During 2025/26, the service will evolve to improve and embed procurement and contract management across the organisation and meeting compliance with the Procurement Act 2023 which will come into effect from 24 February 2024, resulting in a significant increase in transparency reporting requirement for contracts.
- 8.102 The Audit service includes overseeing risk management, as well as the anti-fraud and insurance services to protect the organisation and ensuring the relevant controls and compliance are in place. In 2025/26, the audit plan will include activity of internal audit reviews to assess a range of services which

will be determined through a risk assessment of where controls and compliance need to be subject to review and the monitoring of progress against any recommendation that emerge.

- 8.103 During 2025/26, the services will review its ways of working to contribute towards the Council's 5% reduction in staffing costs as well as prepare for the replacement of its finance and HR systems that are in much need of modernisation.
- 8.104 All services within this Directorate will play a pivotal role in helping the organisation to get onto a sound and sustainable financial footing, delivering on a recovery plan and reducing the Council's reliance on Exceptional Financial Support in the longer term.

Corporate / Non Directorate Budgets

- 8.105 The Corporate budgets deal with all non-Directorate specific spend and income. The key lines are:
- Treasury - borrowing costs and investment income.
 - Capital financing budget which includes interest costs and to cover the minimum revenue provision (MRP) which is required to ensure the council can fully repay sums borrowed to finance investment.
 - Levies which the Council pays as its contribution to London wide services such as the North London Waste Authority, Concessionary Fares (Freedom Pass) and a number of smaller ones.
 - Council Contingencies. These budgets cover estimated pay increases; estimated inflationary increases on corporate contracts and utilities as well as the main Council-wide contingency built in to offset unknown but potential in year budgetary pressures.
 - Bank charges.
 - Subscriptions to national and regional organisations which support the Council in carrying out its Corporate and Democratic role.
- 8.106 As described in Section 8.37 above, a change in budget compared to the assumptions made in March 2024 relate to the Corporate Contingency which is now being proposed to be increased from circa £7m to £10m. This is driven by the exceptional finance situation that the Council finds itself in and will provide an enhanced level of cover for any under delivery of savings; increases in other budget pressures above those assumed in the budget and any other unplanned exceptional expenditure.

9. Risk Management

- 9.1 The Council has a risk management strategy in place and operates a risk management framework that aids decision making in pursuit of the organisation's strategic objectives, protects the Council's reputation and other assets and is compliant with statutory and regulatory obligations.
- 9.2 The Council recognises that there will be risks and uncertainties involved in delivering its objectives and priorities, but by managing them and making the most of opportunities it can maximise the potential that the desired outcomes can be delivered within its limited resources more effectively.
- 9.3 There is a need to plan for uncertainty as the future is unknown when formulating the budget. This is achieved by focussing on scenario planning which allows the Council to think in advance and identify drivers, review scenarios and define the issues using the most recent data and insight.
- 9.4 The Council's Section 151 Officer has a statutory responsibility to assess the robustness of the Council's budget and to ensure that the Council has sufficient contingency/reserves to provide against known risks in respect of both expenditure and income. This formal assessment is set out in Section 13.
- 9.5 Financial risks and uncertainties currently known are set out in the following paragraphs.

Government Funding and Legislation

- 9.6 There is a one-year funding settlement for 2025/26 and Government have now published their consultation of Local Authority Funding Reform from 2026/27 onwards and with a multiyear settlement expected from 2026/27. Spending Reviews are expected to be published every 2 years, with a 3-year outlook. The Council will submit a response to the consultation by the deadline of 19 February 2025, focussing on lobbying to ensure future settlements recognise the challenges facing Haringey and other council's. However, this is an area of uncertainty and could impact on the longer term financial sustainability and the services delivered by Haringey if Government funding is not increased in future years to recognise the current volatile economic situation and with demand increasing across many services.
- 9.7 It remains unclear if all planned reforms and changes in legislation of the previous Government will be pursued or if there will be new legislation that increases the responsibilities of Local Authorities. Financial Plans currently assume that any changes in legislation and additional requirements will be fully funded but this is a risk to the current financial position.

Inspection and Regulation

- 9.8 Local Authorities are subject to increasing inspection and regulation, including by Ofsted, CQC and the Regulator of Social Housing as well as additional requirements that have emerged from the Grenfell Inquiry report. Where any implications are known, these are accounted for in the proposed budget in this report but there may be further financial implications which are not yet known.

Economic Conditions

- 9.9 The Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) published the latest forecast for inflation and interest rates on 30 October 2024. Inflation has reduced compared to the last couple of years, but the OBR forecast is still 2.6% for 2025/26 and will not return to 2% until 2029. It should also be noted that national inflation figures are not always reflected in cost of services, such as social care so there remains a risk that the forecast additional budget assumed in this report for pay and price is not sufficient. Volatility is likely to continue for some time.
- 9.10 The high cost of living continues to impact residents and which results in more requiring support from the Council, particularly with housing support. A project is underway to review the early intervention and prevention support across the Council for those residents most at risk of facing financial hardship.

Estimate of Pressures for 2025/26

- 9.11 The proposed budget in this report uses the best-known information for demand and other service pressures in 2025/26 and has been based on the outturn position in 2023/24 and the latest in year monitoring position for 2024/25. There is a risk that the in year monitoring position could worsen when the Quarter 3 forecasts are available at the end of January that will not have been accounted for when setting the budget for 2025/26 and the £56.8m built in for service pressures will not be sufficient.
- 9.12 All services are considering actions and mitigations that continue to support the needs of our most vulnerable but in a more cost effective way to reduce these future pressures. However, small scale changes in these areas are not going to be sufficient and will require more fundamental changes in how we deliver these services and with a focus on prevention and early intervention which will take time to have an impact. Sufficient pace is needed to make these changes to protect the financial sustainability of the Council from 2026/27 but short term solutions are still needed for the 2025/26 budget to be sustainable.

Identifying and Delivery of Budget Reductions

- 9.13 The proposed budget assumes that £29.5m of savings will be delivered in 2025/26 and adequate assurance has been provided to build these into the budget but oversight of delivery will remain an area of focus in 2025/26. The proposed budget has been set assuming that these and previous years undelivered savings will be delivered in full. Monthly monitoring and a new governance process is being put in place to track delivery of all savings and any identified at risk during the year will need to be mitigated by alternative savings of the same value.
- 9.14 Despite this level of savings, a budget gap of £37m remains for 2025/26 and the Council has applied to Government for exceptional financial support to enable a balanced budget to be set. This is not a long term solution and any drawdown of that support should be kept to a minimum. Therefore, even after the final budget for 2025/26 is agreed by Council on 3 March 2025, work must continue to identify in year additional savings and take actions to reduce spend and address the increasing demand for services.

Changes in Accounting Practice

- 9.15 The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) currently has a statutory override which allows the Council to separate DSG deficits from local authority reserves which is in place until March 2026. Funding arrangements are not known after 2026 and there is a risk that this deficit will fall to the Council to fund from its own reserves. The Safety Valve programme is delivering well to reduce the spend on the high needs block and is in line with the agreed timetable but at the same time the Council continues to see increases in the number of children with Education Health and Social Care Plans over and above what had been assumed when agreeing the programme with the DfE. The Council's low level of reserves will make it particularly challenging if the funding of the DSG deficit falls to the Council after 2026 and work will continue with the DfE to find a longer-term solution to funding for schools and high needs.

Reserves and Contingency

- 9.16 Risks and uncertainties make planning for next year challenging and any change in the assumptions underpinning the proposed budget in this report could impact on the in-year position.
- 9.17 Although a prudent approach has been taken to the assumptions, it is important to hold sufficient levels of contingency funding within the budget and have a prudent level of reserves.

Contingency

- 9.18 In 2024/25, the Council will spend its full contingency allocation given the level of overspend currently being forecast.
- 9.19 Despite building in additional budget of £83m to address demand and price pressures in 2025/26, given the level of risk and uncertainty, the Council has increased its corporate contingency provision from £7.6m to £10m to manage unforeseen circumstances, risks to the full delivery of savings or increases in demand over and above those currently estimated.
- 9.20 As in previous years, any use of contingency will be subject to approval by the Section 151 Officer and will be reported quarterly through the finance monitoring report.

Reserves Policy

- 9.21 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2023 requires the Chief Financial Officers to report on the robustness of estimates and the adequacy of reserves when setting the budget. This is reported in the Section 25 Statement by the Council's Section 151 Officer in Section 13.
- 9.22 The Section 151 Officer must also be satisfied that the level of General Fund working balances are adequate. The General Fund reserve will be maintained at £15m for 2025/26 which equates to 4.3% of the net budget.
- 9.23 Similar to contingency, reserves can be used to manage risks and uncertainties as they arise.
- 9.24 Based on known commitments this year, the forecast balance for March 2025 on reserves in the draft budget report published in November 2024 was £43.5m. That assumes no further drawdown in 2024/25 to fund the current overspend which, based on the current forecast overspend of £37m, is unlikely to be the case and a review of all reserves is underway and the latest five year forecast is included in the Table 11.
- 9.25 The Council's reserves fall into two categories – uncommitted reserves for managing risks and uncertainties and others which are deemed as committed. The review to date has particularly focussed on the Services Reserve and Unspent Grants Reserve. To date, this review has identified £2.125m which is now assumed to be utilised to offset the 2024/25 overspend. Analysis of some of the smaller reserves has resulted in a proposed transfer of £1.302m into the Budget Planning Reserve.
- 9.26 These changes, along with the forecast in year movement on the PFI reserve means a forecast year-end balance of £39.3m. The work on reviewing all balances will continue through to the year end. An update will be provided in

the year end outturn report 2024/25 and updated Medium Term Financial Strategy – both published in July 2025.

- 9.27 Therefore, any use of reserves to balance the budget next year is not a viable option and across the medium term there will need to be a planned replenishment of reserves to a more sustainable level. Replenishment means making an annual contribution to reserves included in the budget agreed in March each year. Given the significant budget gap that remains for 2025/26, any replenishment will commence from the 2026/27 budget and £3m per year has been assumed.

Table 11: Reserves 2024/25 to 2028/29

| Reserve | Actual March 2024 £'000 | March 2025 Forecast £'000 | March 2026 Forecast £'000 | March 2027 Forecast £'000 | March 2028 Forecast £'000 |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| General Fund Reserve | 15,140 | 15,140 | 15,140 | 15,140 | 15,140 |
| Risks and Uncertainties | | | | | |
| Transformation Reserve | 5,037 | 3,073 | - | - | - |
| Labour market resilience reserve | 230 | - | - | - | - |
| Budget Planning reserve | 5,096 | 1,302 | - | 3,000 | 6,000 |
| Collection Fund | 1,231 | - | - | - | - |
| Total Risk and Uncertainties | 11,594 | 4,375 | - | 3,000 | 6,000 |
| Contracts and Commitments | | | | | |
| Services Reserve | 11,747 | 10,707 | 10,707 | 10,707 | 10,707 |
| Unspent grants reserve | 12,706 | 11,052 | 11,052 | 11,052 | 11,052 |
| PFI lifecycle reserve | 5,533 | 3,474 | 3,962 | 3,962 | 3,962 |
| Debt Repayment Reserve | 1,072 | - | - | - | - |
| Insurance Reserve | 7,234 | 7,234 | 7,234 | 7,234 | 7,234 |
| Schools Reserve | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 | 2,400 |
| Total Contracts and Commitments | 40,692 | 34,867 | 35,355 | 35,355 | 35,355 |
| Grand Total | 52,286 | 39,242 | 35,355 | 38,355 | 41,355 |

Transformation Reserve

- 9.28 This reserve is earmarked for the costs associated with the Council's Transformation programmes including the investment necessary to deliver longer term efficiencies and change, together with the associated costs of redundancies. It is anticipated use of this reserve will be required over the next two to three years to support planned transformation and service re-design across the Council needed to support financial challenges and sustainability.

Labour Market Resilience Reserve

- 9.29 This reserve has previously been held to contribute towards initiatives to support people into work. A separate reserve is no longer required and base budget exists for all known initiatives. In 2024/25, the small balance that remains will be transferred into the Budget Planning Reserve.

Budget Planning Reserve

- 9.30 This reserve is a key tool for managing the impact of financial plans from one year to another. It is used to provide a stable platform for financial planning through the term of the Medium-Term Financial Strategy. In recent years, this reserve has been utilised to address in year overspends and also for enabling a balanced budget to be set. As a result, the balance at March 2025 is expected to be zero because of the assumed drawdown of £5.5m when the 2024/25 budget was set in March 2024 and the use of the remaining to address the 2024/25 overspend. This position is not sustainable and therefore the five year forecast assumes replenishment of £3m per annum from 2026/27 and this has been factored into the financial position for these years.

Collection Fund

- 9.31 The Collection Fund reserve is to mitigate unknown risks associated with the Collection Fund (Council Tax and Business Rates) such as Covid19 Legacy, cost of living impact on collections. The remaining balance is assumed to be utilised in 2025/26 to address a shortfall in business rates income compared to forecast.

Services Reserve

- 9.32 It is Council policy that services may request funds to be carried forward, this is subject to approval by the Cabinet in the year-end financial outturn report. This reserve earmarks those funds to either be carried forward to the following financial year or retained longer term. Detailed work to date has identified £1m that can be released at year end to offset 2024/25 overspend. This review work continues, and an updated forecast will be provided in July as part of the 2024/25 outturn report

Unspent Grants Reserve

- 9.33 International Financial Reporting Standards require grants and other income to be recognised in the year received. This reserve holds grant income that has been received but where related expenditure will occur in future years. Detailed analysis to date of these balances has identified £1.25m where funding is no longer required. This sum will be released at year end to offset 2024/25 overspend. Any further adjustments will be reported in July as part of the 2024/25 outturn report.

PFI Lifecycle Reserve

- 9.34 The PFI reserve is ringfenced for using to fund future years' capital investment associated with PFI arrangements. In 2024/25, a payment of £0.651m was made to one school. It is forecast that there will be further payments to eligible schools during 2025/26, the final year of the arrangement. The forecast balance of £3.9m will be subject to final review before a decision over its application is proposed.

Debt Repayment Reserve

- 9.35 The debt repayment reserve represents funds the Council has set aside for the potential repayment of debt and for funding of future capital expenditure. In 2024/25, the remaining balance will be transferred to the Budget Planning Reserve and will be available to manage risks and uncertainties.

Insurance Reserve

- 9.36 The Council self-insures a number of risks including liability, property and theft. Insurance claims are erratic in their timings and so the Council maintains a reserve to smooth the charge to the Council's revenue account.

Schools Reserve

- 9.37 This reserve represents the net balances held by the Council's 63 schools.

General Fund Reserve

- 9.38 The purpose of the general fund reserve is to manage the impact of emergencies or unexpected events. Without such a reserve, the financial impact of such events could cause a potential financial deficit in the general fund, which would be severely disruptive to the effective operation of the authority. The reserve should mitigate against immediate service reductions if there were any unforeseen financial impacts.

10 The Medium-Term Financial Position – 2026/27 – 2029/30

- 10.1 Although a balanced budget is proposed for 2025/26 with £37m of exceptional financial support from Government, there remains a significant financial challenge to set a balanced budget from 2026/27 onwards that needs to be addressed. The focus over the last few months has been on planning for the 2025/26 budget and now the Council must move towards planning across the medium term. Table 12 sets out that there is a cumulative

budget gap of £121.5m between 2026/27 and 2029/30. The key drivers remain the increasing demand for social care and temporary accommodation support and the estimated increases in the price of services.

10.2 The forecast gap is based on the following assumptions:

- Government funding remains in line with the 2025/26 Core Spending Power allocations.
- Service demand pressures of £44.7m.
- Pay and price inflation remain at 2% per annum.
- Interest rate on borrowing costs is an average of 5% per annum.
- Council Tax base increase of 1% and Council Tax increase of 1.99%.
- Delivery of £.9.5m of savings for 2026/27 to 2029/30 that have previously been approved.
- Corporate contingency remaining at £10m.
- Replenishment of the Budget Planning Reserve of £3m per annum from 2026/27 onwards.

Table 12 – Medium Term Financial Position 2026/27 to 2029/30

| Type | 2026/27 £'000 | 2027/28 £'000 | 2028/29 £'000 | 2029/30 £'000 | Total £'000 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Directorate Pressures | 15,236 | 10,871 | 8,995 | 9,623 | 44,725 |
| Corporate Pressures | 31,111 | 31,554 | 29,759 | 33,312 | 125,736 |
| Agreed Savings | (3,167) | (3,311) | (3,041) | - | (9,519) |
| New Savings | (14,777) | (8,670) | (825) | - | (24,272) |
| Grant Funding Changes | 12,640 | 100 | 150 | 200 | 13,090 |
| Government & other Funding Changes | (6,865) | (10,318) | (6,852) | (4,209) | (28,244) |
| Total | 34,178 | 20,226 | 28,186 | 38,926 | 121,515 |

10.3 Budget planning for future years will need to commence shortly and before the end of the current financial year. This will continue to identify efficiencies to ensure that every pound spent offers good value for money but more transformational and redesign of services will also be required with a focus on prevention and early intervention, commercialisation and income generation and commissioning and procurement. A fuller update was provided in the November Financial Plans report to Cabinet [12 Nov 24 Cabinet Draft 2025.265Budget and 2025.30MTFFS FINAL.pdf](#) and a further update will be provided in the next update of the Medium term Financial Strategy published in July 2025.

11 Treasury Management Strategy

- 11.1 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2025/26 sets out the proposed strategy with regard to borrowing and investment of cash balances and the associated monitoring arrangements. It was considered by Audit Committee on 27 January 2025 who will recommend it for approval by Full Council on 3 March 2025.
- 11.2 The Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee also considered the TMSS on 20 January 2025 as part of the budget scrutiny process and in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice.
- 11.3 The proposed prudential indicators are based on the proposed Capital Programme as set out in Appendix 8. It should be noted that any future decision by the Council to undertake further debt financed capital expenditure outside of the total of the programme, including any changes associated with the Capital Strategy will require a review of the prudential indicators and further approval by full Council.

12 Capital Strategy and Capital Programme

- 12.1 Investment in capital expenditure can support the Council to deliver on key priorities as set out in the Corporate Delivery Plan and also contribute towards the delivery of permanent revenue savings. However, in the current financial climate, it is more important than ever that the Council ensures that all of its capital expenditure, investments and borrowing decisions are prudent and sustainable.
- 12.2 The recent economic environment has had major implications for the existing and future Capital Programme. Borrowing costs have increased and over the last few years, inflation has impacted the cost of raw materials and the tightness in the supply chain for capital works (labour and materials) which has added both cost and time to schemes. However, recently, these trends have started to ease and although inflation remains higher than the Government's 2% target, and materials and labour continue to be expensive, the supply is no longer a barrier to the delivery of the capital programme.
- 12.3 In 2024/25, the Council undertook a fundamental review of the existing capital programme, removing or deferring a number of schemes which resulted in a reduction of £396m. A similar review will be carried out annually and the remainder of this section sets out the outcome of the 2024 review and the proposed Capital Strategy and Capital Programme for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30.
- 12.4 The Capital Strategy for 2025/26 to 2029/30 is set out in Appendix 8 and provides the framework for the allocation of financial resources to fund capital expenditure and the approach for determining the Council's capital ambitions. Implementation of the strategy will ensure that the capital

programme agreed each year is deliverable and affordable, is in line with the Corporate Delivery Plan and Borough Vision and there is a clear framework in place for tracking progress and adopting a forward planning approach.

12.5 The capital programme for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30 is included in the Strategy and reflects the outcome of the annual review that took place over the summer which includes:

- Removed schemes which were no longer a priority aligned to priorities in the Corporate Delivery Plan.
- Schemes moved out of the programme where there is no agreed business case or delivery timescales are unknown.
- New schemes added to reflect essential investment needed, such as roads, environmental improvements and maintenance and repairs of the operational estate.

12.6 These proposed changes have been subject to the budget consultation process. Feedback is set out in Appendix 5 and any recommendations from Overview and Scrutiny in Appendix.. The capital programme is summarised in Tables 13 and 14 and set out in full in Appendix 8 (Annex 1) and reflect these changes. The following schemes have been removed from the programme for 2025/26.

- Osbourne Grove Nursery Home
- Decentralised Energy Networks (DENS)
- Wards Corner
- Wood Green Integrated Hub

12.7 A review of spending profiles of all schemes remaining in the programme has also been completed to more accurately reflect known delivery timescales. Table 13 shows the capital spending plans by directorate (including the HRA).

Table 13 – Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30.

| | 2025/26 Budget (£'000) | 2026/27 Budget (£'000) | 2027/28 Budget (£'000) | 2028/29 Budget (£'000) | 2029/30 Budget (£'000) | Total (£'000) |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Children's Services | 28,276 | 12,206 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 55,575 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 12,715 | 2,878 | 2,377 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 22,370 |
| Environment & Resident Experience | 21,438 | 18,420 | 41,104 | 15,827 | 10,880 | 107,668 |

| | 2025/26 Budget (£'000) | 2026/27 Budget (£'000) | 2027/28 Budget (£'000) | 2028/29 Budget (£'000) | 2029/30 Budget (£'000) | Total (£'000) |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Placemaking & Housing | 36,140 | 73,322 | 58,110 | 44,662 | 87,600 | 299,834 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 44,427 | 39,373 | 5,896 | 0 | 0 | 89,696 |
| Corporate Items - GF Capital Contingency | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |
| Corporate Items - EFS | 37,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37,000 |
| Total General Fund (GF) | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 | 622,143 |
| HRA | 333,768 | 278,291 | 278,991 | 273,873 | 241,412 | 1,406,335 |
| Total Capital Programme | 518,764 | 429,489 | 391,509 | 341,593 | 347,123 | 2,028,478 |

12.8 The draft Capital Programme totals £518.8m for 2025/26 of which £185m relates to the General Fund and £337m relates to the HRA capital programme (details of which are set out in the HRA Business Plan elsewhere on the agenda). In terms of the General Fund, the Council has prioritised investment in the following:

- The Schools estate – to address identified health and safety issues.
- The Safety Valve programme to increase special needs school provision in borough.
- Aids and Adaptations to people's homes so that they can stay at home longer.
- The public realm to ensure that the highway is operated safely.
- Flood Management.
- The leisure services of the borough to ensure that they are fit for purpose.
- Improving Parks.
- The walking and cycling action plan to encourage more sustainable modes of transport.
- Road Casualty Reduction.
- Waste collection Vehicles.
- Regeneration projects.
- Its commercial and operational estate.
- Digital Infrastructure to deliver transformation of service delivery.
- The cultural offer through improvements to Bruce Castle Museum and Alexandra Palace.

- 12.9 The full programme is set out in Annex 1 of the Capital Strategy in Appendix 8. As set out in previous reports, the presentation of the capital programme has been updated this year to identify those schemes which are in delivery and those which are planned for delivery, but works have not yet commenced. This revised presentation is aimed to improve the monitoring and reporting in year on progress but also ensure that the Council makes more realistic assumptions on the level of borrowing that will actually be required in year. All schemes which do not have an approved business case and proposed delivery timescales will not be included within the capital programme and instead will be re-visited as part of the annual review process undertaken in the summer of each year.
- 12.10 All schemes within the Capital Programme will be based on the best estimate of likely spend and as tested through the business case. However, similar to the revenue budget, there will always be an element of risk and uncertainty or urgent requests that come through in year, such as health and safety or other urgent repairs. From 2025/26, the capital contingency will be increased to £5m and £5m for 2026/27 with any request for the use of contingency to be agreed through the Council's Capital Board and reported through the quarterly finance monitoring reports to Cabinet.
- 12.11 The funding of the Capital Programme is delegated to the Section 151 Officer and Table 14 summarises the indicative funding sources of the programme. However, it will remain the responsibility of the Section 151 Officer to fund the programme in year in the most cost-effective way and in line with the Capital Strategy.

Table 14 – Funding of Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30

| | Borrowing Core Capital Programme (£'000) | Borrowing Self Financing (£'000) | External (£'000) | Capital Receipts (£'000) | CIL (£'000) | Total (£'000) |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Children's Services | 16,158 | 5,260 | 34,157 | 0 | 0 | 55,575 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 1,370 | 10,000 | 11,000 | 0 | 0 | 2,370 |
| Environment & Resident Experience | 81,672 | 1,066 | 14,064 | 0 | 10,866 | 107,668 |
| Placemaking & Housing | 42,230 | 11,686 | 245,377 | 0 | 542 | 299,834 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 25,522 | 64,174 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 89,696 |
| Corporate Items | 37,000 | - | - | 10,000 | - | 47,000 |
| Total | 203,951 | 92,186 | 304,598 | 10,000 | 11,408 | 622,143 |

- 12.12 Information regarding the revenue implications of prudential borrowing is provided in the separate Treasury Management Strategy Statement to be considered by Audit Committee on 27 January and will be presented to full Council on 3 March 2025. Since publication of the TMSS for Audit Committee, the EFS requirement has been finalised. The total revenue impact of borrowing costs to deliver the Capital Programme in 2025/26, now including the EFS amount required as per this budget report, is forecast to be approximately £37.7m (£19.2m external interest payable and £18.5m minimum revenue provision (MRP)). The proposed revenue budget in this report incorporates these costs and an updated and final TMSS will be presented to full Council on 3 March 2025 for approval.

Capital Programme Monitoring and Reporting

- 12.13 Monitoring of the full capital programme will be through the Strategic Capital Board in 2025/26 and reporting through the quarterly finance reports to Cabinet. This will include reporting on spend against the budget, timescales for delivery and the assumptions, including scope, as set out in the original business case. Full details of the governance and reporting framework is set out in the Capital Strategy in Appendix 8.

Capital Receipts Flexibility

- 12.14 The 2015 Spending Review announced the flexibility for local authorities to use capital receipts from the sale of non-housing assets to fund revenue set up costs of service reform and transformation projects. Eligible projects are those which are designed to generate ongoing revenue savings in the delivery of public services or transform service delivery to reduce costs or demand for services in future years. The Government have recently confirmed that this flexibility will be extended until 2030.
- 12.15 The budget assumption is that capital receipts will not fund capital expenditure or debt repayment (except for the EFS where in 2025/26 it is assumed that £10m of capital receipts will be used rather than borrowing). It is anticipated that the residual capital receipts received in the MTFS period will be used to support the delivery of cost reductions and/or transformation. There is a separate policy statement and schedule of proposed initiatives to utilise capital receipts flexibly as set out in Appendix 8, Annex 2.

13.0 Robustness of Estimates, Adequacy of Reserves and the Management of Risk (Section 25 Statement)

- 13.1 The Local Government Act 2003 (Section 25) requires that the Chief Financial Officer reports the following matters to Members when agreeing the annual budget and Council Tax level:

- The robustness of the estimates made for the purpose of the budget calculations; and
 - The adequacy of the financial reserves.
- 13.2 For Members, the Section 25 Statement provides the context for budgetary discussions and Members should have regard to this report when making decisions in setting the Council's budget. This statement is a legal requirement and ensures that Members have all the professional advice by the Chief Finance Officer when budget decisions are being made.
- 13.3 Haringey's financial position is particularly challenging as set out in this report. Although the Council legally only has to set a one year budget for the year ahead, there is an imperative need to move towards medium term planning and setting a three year budget. The Government has committed to multi year local government funding settlements for 2026/27 which will support more forward planning but unless there is a significant increase in resources into the sector, financial sustainability will require significant reductions. If a balanced budget is agreed for 2025/26 as set out in this report, there will remain a budget gap of up to £121.5m between 2026/27 and 2029/30 if everything else remains the same.

Financial Management Code

- 13.4 In relation to the annual budget setting process and the development of the proposed budget in this report, Haringey is fully compliant with the CIPFA Financial Management Code. However, there is always scope for continuous improvement and a further review around progress against the objectives and strengthening financial management across the organisation will be undertaken early in 2025/26 and a more detailed action plan will be published as part of the 2024 Annual Governance Statement with the draft 2024/25 annual accounts in May 2025. Progress will be reported regularly to Audit Committee.
- 13.5 The Council is in compliance with all other codes and standards.

CIPFA Resilience Index

- 13.6 CIPFA has released the data for its 2023/24 financial resilience index and this evidences much of the conclusions made by myself as Section 151 Officer within this statement. Level of reserves and that which are unallocated are low and pose a financial risk to the Council's financial sustainability. There are no plans to use reserves to balance the budget for 2025/26 for the reasons set out in this Statement but the medium-term financial position includes an assumed £3m contribution to the budget planning reserve over the MTFS period to improve financial resilience.
- 13.7 The change in reserves from 2022/23 to 2023/24 is highlighted as high risk which is partly due to the reliance on previous use of reserves for balancing the budget and managing in year overspend.

- 13.8 Levels of debts are showing as higher compared to others and are as a result of the Council's large and ambitious capital programme. The annual review of the programme as set out in the capital strategy in Appendix 8 shows a reduction of £95.1m from last year but new borrowing costs of £6.9m (total of £19.2m) are forecast for 2025/26 and therefore further scaling back of the capital programme must be considered in year to reduce future year's programme. From 2026/27, the expectation is that the capital programme should be contained within the current financial envelope and therefore any new capital schemes should only go ahead if there are essential, externally funded or support invest to save opportunities. This may result in some schemes being de-prioritised.
- 13.9 The indicators show a higher reliance on council tax income for funding service requirements compared to others.

Financial Resilience Assessment

- 13.10 During the last financial year, a review of all elements of the Council's financial resilience has been underway. This includes, future financial pressures, assurance on savings delivery, the balance sheet, debt levels and the capital programme and governance arrangements for good financial management. This work will continue into 2025/26, but the work has identified there are a number of changes that need to be put in place if the Council is to strengthen its financial resilience, including more stringent immediate actions to create a culture of Finance First as well as a longer term approach to fully embed good financial management.

2024/25 Financial Position

- 13.11 The 2024/25 financial year is a pivotal point for the Council in terms of its financial position. Despite setting a robust and balanced budget in March 2024, financial pressures driven by demand and price of services, particularly in terms of adult social care and temporary accommodation but also children's social care and SEND, have led to significant forecast overspends.
- 13.12 Full details are set out in the Quarter 2 finance report that was reported to Cabinet in December 2024 and showed a forecast overspend of £37m by the year end or £29m after the application of full remaining uncommitted corporate contingency.
- 13.13 In previous years, an overspend has been able to be funded as a one off contribution from reserves. However, the current position on reserves as reported in Section 9 of the report means that use of reserves to fully fund the overspend is unlikely to be viable for 2024/25. Spending controls are being put in place to immediately reduce spend, which includes removal of all but essential purchase cards, tighter control over contract and third party spend, request for use of agency staff approved by recruitment panel and an 'emergency response' is being developed to manage the current position.

- 13.14 A detailed review of reserves considered as 'committed' is underway, specifically the services reserve, to identify any reserve balances that can be utilised to reduce the 2024/25 overspend. This is a one-off solution and is not sustainable and although the outcome of this review is likely to identify some benefit to the financial position, it will not be sufficient to address the full overspend.
- 13.15 As a result, the Council has applied to MHCLG for Exceptional Financial Support for 2024/25 as a contingency if the final end of year overspend cannot be funded through remaining available reserves. Exceptional Financial Support is not a long term solution and a recommendation from the Section 151 Officer is that this is a last resort and all actions should be taken to reduce the need for EFS. The application for EFS will not be known until the end of February 2025.

2025/26 Budget

- 13.16 The draft budget reflects the latest Government grant for 2025/26 as published in the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement on 18 December. The additional £15.4m announced is welcomed but continues to be insufficient to meet the growing demand and price of services in Haringey. Where grants remain unknown but are expected to continue, 2025/26 values are expected to be in line with 2024/25. If grants reduce going forward, it is assumed that expenditure will reduce accordingly. This budget principle will need to be enforced going forward given the financial position.
- 13.17 In terms of other income, the draft budget reflects a 4.99% increase in Council Tax and 0.85% increase in the tax base but collection rates are only at 95.75% and work must take place to improve collection rates for future years as this continues to be a valuable source of funding for vital services. Fees and charges reflect a 5% increase on average and the focus must be to ensure this income is collected through making it easier for people to pay and reducing levels of debt and the amount that needs to be written off.
- 13.18 Using the latest 2024/25 forecast position, forecast demand and prices has been taken into consideration in estimating the additional budget required for 2025/26. This has included scenario planning to include an element of risk and uncertainty in these forecasts. This is set out in Appendix 2. This includes £56.8m for service specific pressures. The main areas are as follows:
- £31m for adult social care
 - £12m for housing demand and almost solely for temporary and emergency accommodation.
 - £3.7m for children's social care placements; and
 - £1.4m for supporting children with home to school transport.
- 13.19 The budget includes assumed savings of £29.5m for 2025/26. The robustness of these estimates has been tested and delivery plans are already in place or to be developed before the start of the year as well as taking the lower range of savings that can be delivered. However, based on previous

years, delivery can be volatile and a stronger monthly monitoring process will be put in place for all savings.

- 13.20 These estimates are based on the best possible information but do include an element of risks and uncertainty. Therefore, corporate contingency allocation has been increased to £10m for 2025/26.
- 13.21 The Section 151 Officer has examined the assumptions used within the budget calculations and has considered the appropriate risks set out in Section 9 of this report.

Adequacy of Reserves

- 13.22 The Council is required to maintain an adequate level of reserves to deal with unexpected events and pressures. Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 requires the Council to have regard to the level of reserves when calculating the budget requirement.
- 13.23 The appropriate level of reserves must be considered alongside an assessment of risk, taking into account the robustness of savings plans, levels of risk in estimates in demand and price and wider economic factors. The adequacy of reserves is assessed as part of the budget process and monitored regularly through the year to the closure of accounts at the end of the year.
- 13.24 Throughout 2024/25, the Section 151 Officer has reported on the low levels of reserves for Haringey. The longer term sustainability on the Council relies on the need to avoid reliance on reserves in the future and to have a longer term plan to replenish reserves available for managing risks and uncertainties and this has been assumed in the MTFS from 2026/27 onwards.
- 13.25 There is no planned use of reserves to balance the budget for 2025/26 because it is assumed any remaining uncommitted reserves will be used to fund the 2024/25 overspend. However, some use of the Transformation Reserve is expected during 2025/26 on an invest to save basis and the delivery of the budget reductions in 2025/26 and service changes. Any use of the reserve will be in line with the constitution and will be reported to Cabinet as part of the quarterly finance report.
- 13.26 A full review of reserves has been undertaken, together with a five year forecast as set out in Table 11.
- 13.27 It is the recommendation of the Section 151 Officer that the 'General Fund reserve should not be reduced below £15m, which equates to approximately 4.3% of the net budget of £351m. Any use of this reserve to fund the 2024/25 overspend will need to be replenished in future years.

Exceptional Financial Support (EFS)

- 13.28 Based on the current financial position in 2024/25 and the level of forecast expenditure for 2025/26, it is clear that the Council is not able to set a balanced budget for 2025/26. An application has therefore been submitted to MHCLG for EFS for 2025/26. An in-principle decision will not be known until the end of February but this report, the draft budget and MTFS has been developed on the basis it will be agreed. This will mean that the Council will have a Capitalisation Direction which gives permission to fund day to day running costs of up to £37m for 2025/26 through the capital programme. This assumption is based on there being no available reserves to fund the 2025/26 shortfall because of their likely use to fund the 2024/25 overspend. Should any reserves be available, these will be utilised before any use of EFS and with borrowing as the last resort.
- 13.26 Funding of EFS will be through the use of actual and forecast capital receipts and borrowing and these assumptions will be accounted for in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement which will be approved by Council on 3 March 2025 and the Capital Strategy (Appendix 8). For the purposes of this draft budget, it is assumed that £10m is funded through capital receipts and £27m through borrowing which increases borrowing costs in the revenue budget by £1.35m per annum. Borrowing will be the last resort.
- 13.29 The Section 151 Officer has noted that this decision to apply for EFS is considered a last resort but necessary for reporting a balanced budget. Although an assumption has been made on the level of support required for the purpose of meeting the legal requirement to set a balanced budget, for 2025/26, work must continue to control and reduce spend that results in final EFS support required in 2025/26 being less than assumed.
- 13.30 The EFS application should be regarded as intended to provide an “interim measure” whilst wider national and regional policy issues are addressed as well as the Council developing its longer term financial strategy. Reliance on EFS is not a financially sustainable strategy.
- 13.30 If the application for EFS is not approved at the end of February 2025, a balanced budget will not be able to be set and the Section 151 Officer may need to under a duty and an obligation to issue a notice under section 114 of the 1988 Local Government and Housing Act (a “section 114 notice”). The consequences are that the Council would be required to meet to consider that notice and take action as appropriate. That may include consideration of further options for savings. Other steps and interventions could also follow. Issuing a s114 notice would not resolve the financial challenge on its own – some form of capitalisation would still be required.
- 13.31 Although it is impossible to give absolute assurance, on the basis of the risks and issues set out in this report and the assumption that the application for EFS is successful, it is my opinion as Section 151 Officer that the budget should progress for approval on the basis that:

- Known risks have been identified.
- The estimates are robust within the confines of the risks noted in this report.
- Known spending pressures of £83m have been built into service budgets based on the latest estimates of current and future demand and prices.
- Noting the risks, the increase in corporate contingency to £10m.
- The level of reserves for managing risks and uncertainties is £4.3m at the end of March 2025 which is low but the MTFS includes a replenishment of £3m per annum from 2026/27 onwards.
- The level of General Fund Reserve is maintained at £15m which represents 4.3% of the net revenue budget, which the Section 151 considers is a prudent level in recognising the specific risks.
- The budget reductions of £29.5m for 2025/26 have been subject to due diligence to ensure some certainty on the delivery of change to deliver the reductions and increased income during 2025/26. Progress will be monitored and reported monthly internally and quarterly to Cabinet and Scrutiny Panels.
- Work has already commenced on preparations for developing longer term financial planning. An update on the financial position over the next five years will next be updated in the MTFS to Cabinet in July 2025.
- The current statutory over-ride on the DSG deficit has been extended to March 2026. It should be noted that a long-term solution to the financial position of the DSG is required by Government. If the statutory over-ride is not extended beyond 2026 or an alternative solution identified by Government, the current £10.8m deficit would need to be funded by the Council and there are currently insufficient reserves should this scenario arise.

13.28 Government has committed to a more fundamental review of the local government finance system to be implemented for 2026/27. The Government consultation is underway, and the Council will submit a response by the 12 February 2025 deadline. It is proposed that more funding is allocated and distributed to those boroughs with high levels of deprivation (in accordance with the IMD2024 index). Based on the provisional funding settlement for 2025/26, Haringey is likely to benefit from this revised methodology for determining distribution, but it is difficult to plan for this and funding reforms requires not only a fairer distribution methodology but also a large total settlement for the sector, recognising the diverse range of services provided and their pressures.

Conclusion

13.29 The Section 151 Officer therefore concludes:

- I am satisfied that the budget calculations are robust and that the budget is both sound and prudent in that it takes account of liabilities and financial risks.
- I consider that current levels of unallocated reserves for managing risks and uncertainties remain adequate if the application for EFS is approved in principle in late February 2025. In setting the level of general reserves and balances, account has been taken of the key financial assumptions underpinning the budget.
- Financial plans assume that over the planning period the Council is forecast to maintain a target General Fund reserve of £15m.
- With EFS from Government, the Council has arrangements to fulfil its statutory duties particularly the needs of vulnerable young people and adults.

14 HRA Update

14.1 This report is primarily focussed on the Council's General Fund. A separate report setting out the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan and the 2025/26 revenue budget and capital programme is elsewhere on the agenda and will be presented Council for approval on 3 March 2025.

15 Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB)

15.1 Schools budgets are substantially funded from the ring-fenced Dedicated Schools Grant and two other funding streams (Pupil Premium and Post 16 Grant) which are, in effect, passported to schools. Spending must be consistent with the requirements of the prevailing schools and early years funding regulations. There are requirements for Schools Forum to act as a decision-making and/or a consultative role in determining budget levels for each year.

15.2 The total budget delegated to schools in 2025/26 is £146.0m. School rolls are falling in Haringey, a similar trend to across London and overall, there is a reduction of 795 pupils (-2.5%) which directly impacts on the funding available to individual schools.

15.3 The financial position reported at Quarter 2 of 2024/25 sets out the forecast in year end position of a deficit of £2.73m in line with the Safety Valve management plan. The accumulated deficit on the High Needs Block continues to benefit from Safety Valve Funding. As a result, the deficit at March 2024 has reduced to £10.80m. Progress remains on target to bring the High Needs Block into balance by end of 2027/28.

- 15.4 The DSG comprises four separate funding blocks – Schools, Central Services, Early Years and High Needs Block. Table 15 sets out Haringey's Dedicated Schools Grant allocations for 2022/23 and 2023/24, the minimum rebased DSG baseline allocation for 2024/25 and the National Funding Formula (NFF) allocation for 2025/26 that was published 18th December 2024.

Table 15 Haringey's Dedicated Schools Grant Allocation

| DSG Block Allocations | Schools Block £m | High Needs Block £m | Central Schools Services Block £m | Early Years Block £m | Total DSG Allocation £m | Recoupment £m | Total DSG Received by Haringey £m | Outside Grants Rolled into Schools Block £m |
|---|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 2022/23 | 212.52 | 52.21 | 2.79 | 20.25 | 287.77 | -79.11 | 208.66 | 0.00 |
| 2023/24 | 219.47 | 56.79 | 2.71 | 21.22 | 300.19 | -84.78 | 215.41 | 5.78 |
| 2024/25 | 225.78 | 58.12 | 2.63 | 31.40 | 317.93 | -83.70 | 234.23 | 7.12 |
| 2025/26 published | 235.64 | 62.03 | 2.70 | 39.52 | 339.89 | -86.85 | 253.04 | 15.56 |
| Recoupment for 2025/26 is based on adjustment for academies within Haringey | | | | | | | | 28.46 |
| The unit of funding within the schools block has increase by 7.2% but due to falling school rolls and reduction in growth fund the increase to Haringey before recoupment is 4.4% | | | | | | | | |
| Early Years block is full year funding whereas the 2024/25 covered 9 months of new funding for 2 and 3 year olds | | | | | | | | |
| The High Needs Block is subject to reduction for directly funded placements of £2.39m, the net increase is 7.2% as a result | | | | | | | | |
| Teachers' pay and pensions grants (TPAG and TPECG) as well as core schools budget grant (CSBG) for 2024/25 have been rolled into the schools block | | | | | | | | |

- 15.5 Overall, Haringey's NFF allocation for 2025/26 is an increase of 7.2%. This is based on the December 2024 published allocations and is likely to change during the year due to Early Years Block indicative allocation based upon 2023/24 census and in year recoupment. Recoupment refers to sums within the Haringey NFF due to academies schools within the borough. The actual financial position for the Dedicated Schools Grant is dependent on the final school's finance settlement for 2025/26 and updated Early Years Block census which is usually in July 2025.

- Schools Block - uplift of 4.4% equivalent to £9.86m, unit funding increase of 7.2% year on year, includes rolling in teachers' pay award and pension changes, falling school rolls has had an offsetting impact of reducing by 2.5%.
- Central School Services Block - the Central Services Block is made up of two separate funding streams, one for ongoing responsibilities for the local authority and the second for historic commitments. Haringey have no historic commitments. This funding has increased by 2%, the equivalent of £54,000 reflecting the exceptional increase in copyright licenses, which are fully funded by the DSG in 2025/26.
- Early Years Block - this provides funding to enable children access to free childcare. Funding is estimated to increase by 29.2% in 2025/26, the equivalent to £8.9m (based on the January 2024 census) and reflects the

increase in entitlement from 15 hours to 30 hours for eligible parents with children aged 2 and under.

- High Needs Block – this provides funding for children with Education Health and Social Care Plans, where numbers have been steadily increasing since the system was reformed in 2015 with the Children and Families Act extending to age 25 and Statements of SEN being replaced with EHCPs. The number of children currently with an EHCP is 2,974 compared to 2,813 in 2023. Government has recognised this pressure, and the 2025/26 allocations represent an increase of 7.2% equivalent to £3.993m, after accounting for directly funded placements. However, this remains a long way short of the funding required and it is the deficit position on this high needs block that is driving the overall deficit position on the DSG.

- 15.6 The Haringey Schools Forum noted the DSG funding allocations at their 16 January 2025 meeting and approved the consultation outcome on the formula to distribute the schools block for devolved school budgets subject to approval by the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA).

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) Reserves

- 15.7 The DSG reserves now account for Safety Valve funding of £11.96 in 2022/23 and £2.99m in 2023/24 to report a deficit at March 2024 of £11.06m. The in year forecast position is expected to be in deficit by £2.73m, with further safety valve funding reducing the deficit to £10.80m at March 2025.

Table 16 2024/25 Year End DSG reserves forecast

| DSG Blocks | Opening DSG deficit at 01/04/2024 | Q2 2024/25 Forecast | Safety Valve Funding | Forecast closing DSG deficit 2024/25 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | £m | £m | £m | £m |
| School Block | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Central School Services Block | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Early Years Block | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| High Needs Block | (11.06) | (2.73) | 2.99 | (10.80) |
| Total DSG | (11.06) | (2.73) | 2.99 | (10.80) |

Safety Valve Programme

- 15.8 After the successful bid to join the Safety Vale Programme approved by DfE in March 2023. The Safety Valve Plan remains on track, reporting a deficit of £2.73m at Quarter 2 but within the target for this financial year. Workstreams are on track to bring the DSG deficit into a balanced position by 2027/28.

- 15.9 Successful delivery and progress in line with the DSG Management Plan would result in funding being released by DfE to support the reduction in the deficit and bringing the High Needs Block into a balance by 2027/28. The planned funding profile is as follows:

| Year | £m |
|---------|-------|
| 2022-23 | 11.96 |
| 2023-24 | 2.99 |
| 2024-25 | 2.99 |
| 2025-26 | 2.99 |
| 2026-27 | 2.99 |
| 2027-28 | 5.98 |

16 Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 High level Strategic outcomes

- 16.1 The Council's draft Budget aligns to and provides the financial means to support the delivery of the Corporate Delivery Plan outcomes.

17 Carbon and Climate Change

- 17.1 There are no direct carbon and climate change implications arising from the report.

18 Statutory Officers comments (Section 151 Officer, Head of Procurement, Assistant Director of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance

- 18.1 The financial planning process ensures that the Council's finances align to the delivery of the Council's priorities as set out in the Borough Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan. In addition, it is consistent with proper arrangements for the management of the Council's financial affairs and its obligation under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.
- 18.2 Ensuring the robustness of the Council's 2025/26 budget and its MTFS 2024/25 – 2028/29 is a key function for the Council's Section 151 Officer (CFO). This includes ensuring that the budget proposals are realistic and deliverable. As the MTFS report is primarily financial in its nature, comments of the Chief Financial Officer are contained throughout the report.
- 18.3 The formal Section 151 Officer assessment of the robustness of the council's budget is set out in Section 13.

Procurement

- 18.4 Strategic Procurement have been consulted in the preparation of this report and will continue to work with services to enable cost reductions. Strategic Procurement note the recommendations in section 3 of this report do not require a procurement related decision.

Assistant Director of Legal & Governance

- 18.5 The Assistant Director of Legal & Governance (Monitoring Officer) has been consulted in the preparation of this report and makes the following comments.
- 18.6 In accordance with section 67 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the '1992 Act'), the functions of agreeing the budget and the calculation of Council tax are to be discharged by the Full Council.
- 18.7 The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Regulations) 2001 and the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules at Part 4 Section E of the Constitution, set out the process that must be followed when the Council sets its budget. Accordingly, it is for the Cabinet to approve the proposals and submit the same to the Full Council for adoption in order to set the budget. However, the setting of rents and service charges for Council properties is an Executive function to be determined by the Cabinet.

Fiduciary Duty to Ratepayers

- 18.8 Member's fiduciary duty (i.e. legal duty as trustee of the public purse) is a material consideration to reflect upon. In making its decisions, the Council must act rationally and reasonably and should balance the nature, quality and level of services which it considers should be provided against the costs of providing those services.

Consultation

- 18.9 Under section 65 of the 1992 Act, the Council is under a duty to consult persons or bodies appearing to it to be representative of persons subject to non-domestic rates as regards hereditaments situated in the area of Haringey. In addition to businesses, the Council has consulted local residents. The outcome of that consultation is contained in Appendix 5 to this report. In making its decisions, the Council must conscientiously take into account the consultation responses. It should also be noted that the consultation was in the context of the budget proposals and not necessarily on the specifics of whatever decisions may be implied by the adoption of the budget.

Savings Proposals

- 18.10 The report proposes new savings proposals for the financial year 2025/26. Depending on the nature of each proposal, the council may be required to take further steps prior to determining whether, how and when to implement those proposals. In addition, prior to considering implementing savings proposals, further steps may include e.g. carrying out further statutory

consultation exercises, complying with requirements contained in legislation or guidance and carrying out full equalities impact assessments where appropriate so as to ensure that the Council complies with the public sector equality duty.

Public Sector Equality Duty

- 18.11 The Council must ensure that it has due regard to its public sector equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 in considering whether to adopt the recommendations set out in this report. A full equalities impact assessment has been carried out and is contained in Appendix 9 of this report.

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts

- 18.12 The report recommends that Cabinet propose approval to Full Council on the strategy as regards the proposed flexible use of capital receipts (Appendix 8 Annex 2 to this report). The Local Government Act 2003, section 15(1) requires a local authority "... to have regard (a) to such guidance as the Secretary of State may issue, and (b) to such other guidance as the Secretary of State may by regulations specify ...". Guidance on the use of capital receipts flexibility has been issued under section 15(1) of the Act and the Council is therefore required to have regard to it (c.f. Guidance on the flexible use of capital receipts (updated August 2022) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)).
- 18.13 Among other things, the Guidance notes that - Two codes of practice issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) contain guidance on capital receipts and local authority accounting that complement the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) guidance. These publications are:
- The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities
 - The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting Local authorities are required to have regard to the current edition of The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities by regulation 2 of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003 and to the Local Authority Accounting Code as proper practices for preparing accounts under section 21(2) of the Act.

Conclusion

- 18.14 In view of the conclusion reached by the Director of Finance above on the ability to set a balanced budget for 2025/26 and the Equalities comments there is no reason why Cabinet cannot agree the recommendations.

Equality

- 18.15 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to:
- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act

- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not
 - Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.
- 18.16 The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.
- 18.17 An EQIA for this Budget/MTFS has been produced in full and is appended to this report which summarises potential impacts on the protected characteristics. Where indicated, individual EQIAs will be developed for each proposal, if approved.
- 18.18 The impact of the budget proposals on equalities should be seen within the context of residents' lives in Haringey. Longstanding inequalities persist in Haringey as they do nationally and globally. In recent years global events, like the COVID-19 pandemic, international conflict, geopolitical turmoil, inflation leading to cost-of-living pressures, and climate change have and continue to impact on people living in the borough, both directly and indirectly. Such complex challenges can drive ongoing health and economic inequalities, as well as negatively impact community cohesion and individual flourishing and wellbeing.
- 18.19 The primary equality challenge facing many Haringey residents in the last year continues to be the ongoing impact of the increased cost of living. It is recognised that these economic pressures which are experienced by individuals, households, businesses and public sector organisations can compound socio-economic disadvantage, a Haringey Council adopted protected characteristic. Furthermore, the impacts of such disadvantage frequently intersect with a range of other protected characteristics including disabled people, young people, and Black, Asian and minority ethnic residents who are more likely to live in the borough's more deprived wards.
- 18.20 The proposals in this budget have been developed against a backdrop of budget pressures for councils across the country. These are largely driven by the rising costs of adult and children's social care and the demand for temporary accommodation.
- 18.21 In this budget there is a 2.99% increase in Council Tax and a 2% increase in ASC Precept for 2025/26. The Council Tax Reduction Scheme will provide financial assistance with Council Tax bills for residents who are on a low income or less able to pay. A new Tackling Inequality service will be established to bring together and strengthen existing work in this area, to provide timely, empathetic and practical support to help residents increase their income and reduce their debt.

- 18.22 The council recognises that it continues to be a challenging time for our residents, businesses and communities. The proposed budget has been developed in this context, seeking to achieve the best possible outcomes within the limited resources available.
- 18.23 In this Budget/MTFS the council has sought to promote equality by:
- Continuing to meet the increased cost pressures in adult social care, children's social care and temporary accommodation caused by inflation thus ensuring the delivery of support to the most vulnerable residents whilst meeting statutory obligations
 - Reviewing a range of services in adult social care, housing and communities to deliver value for money and positive outcomes for residents
 - Securing the continued use of the much-valued Pendarren House for children in Haringey by transitioning to a self-sustaining financial model in future
 - Identifying and implementing a range of back office/management savings which in turn helps to protect frontline services for residents that need them most
- 18.24 The EQIA appended to this report provides a line-by-line equalities analysis of policy proposals in this Budget/MTFS and should be consulted for further detail.
- 18.25 At this stage, potentially negative equalities implications have been identified in relation to removing the budget for the residents' survey which is currently undertaken via representative sampling face to face method. Removing this method means some residents with certain protected characteristics may not have the opportunity to participate in the survey. Those specifically impacted may include those who are digitally excluded for socio-economic reasons, or age groups who do not routinely participate in online surveys e.g. young people and some older people.
- 18.26 It is noted that within the context of severe financial constraints, the proposals cumulatively aim to deliver more with less. Therefore, where budget proposals are approved for implementation, it is important that the detailed EQIAs for each proposal (where indicated in the Appendix) use relevant data to identify any additional potential impacts. Where any disproportionate impacts are anticipated, mitigations should be proposed.

19 Use of Appendices

- Appendix 1 Summary of Final revenue Budget 2025/26 Budget and Council Tax 2025/26 and Medium Term Financial Plan 2025-2029
- Appendix 2 Revenue Budget Pressures 2025/26
- Appendix 3 Revenue Savings 2025/26

- Appendix 4 Service Budgets 2025/26 and Analysis of Movements 2024/25 to 2025/26
- Appendix 5 Feedback from Public Budget Consultation and Engagement.
- Appendix 6 Final Report from Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet Member responses.
- Appendix 7 Council Taxbase Report 2025/26
- Appendix 8 Capital Strategy 2025 to 2030, including Capital Programme
- Appendix 9 Cumulative Equality Impact Assessment for 2025/26 Budget

20 Background papers

None

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**Appendix 1 - Summary of General Fund Revenue 2025/26 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan
2029-2030**

| | 2024/25 | Movement | 2025/26 | Movement | 2026/27 | Movement | 2027/28 | Movement | 2028/29 |
|--|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| | Projected | | Projected | | Projected | | Projected | | Projected |
| Directorate | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 115,529.52 | 29,795.50 | 145,325.02 | 8,345.00 | 153,670.02 | 6,221.00 | 159,891.02 | 7,280.00 | 167,171.02 |
| Children's Services | 65,648.83 | 2,704.96 | 68,353.79 | 4,506.00 | 72,859.79 | 3,129.00 | 74,266.79 | 1,722.00 | 75,988.79 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 30,032.70 | (1,729) | 28,303.24 | (2,321) | 25,982.24 | (2,689) | 23,395.24 | (102) | 23,293.24 |
| Environment & Resident Experience | 17,895.88 | (4,697) | 13,199.23 | (1,982) | 11,216.83 | (4,277) | 9,825.83 | (2,886) | 6,939.83 |
| Placemaking & Housing | 6,047.29 | 397.35 | 6,444.64 | 135.00 | 6,579.64 | (1,420) | 5,844.64 | (685) | 5,159.64 |
| Chief Executive | 21.50 | (250) | (229) | 0.00 | (229) | 0.00 | (229) | 0.00 | (229) |
| Finance | 72,358.89 | 15,158.08 | 87,516.97 | 26,021.00 | 113,537.97 | 57,088.00 | 141,066.97 | 29,559.00 | 170,625.97 |
| Council Cash Limit * incl. planned contributions from reserve | 302,051.61 | 45,631.78 | 348,914.39 | 37,703.60 | 383,617.99 | 61,052.00 | 414,061.99 | 37,888.00 | 448,949.99 |
| Further Savings to be Identified | 0.00 | (37,020) | (37,020) | (34,178) | (71,198) | (20,226) | (91,424) | (28,186) | (119,610) |
| Funding | | | | | | | | | |
| Council Tax | (135,533) | (4,317) | (139,850) | (6,246) | (146,097) | (4,378) | (150,475) | (129) | (150,604) |
| Council Tax Surplus | (2,500) | 2,499.87 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| RSG | (27,353) | (505) | (27,858) | (722) | (28,581) | (628) | (29,208) | (1,744) | (30,952) |
| Top up Business Rates | (63,686) | 1,073.48 | (62,613) | (29,367) | (91,979) | (4,841) | (96,820) | (4,585) | (101,405) |
| Retained Business Rates | (22,288) | 1,367.16 | (20,921) | (542) | (21,463) | (471) | (21,935) | (394) | (22,328) |
| Section 31 Grants | (22,251) | (3,762) | (26,013) | 26,012.90 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NNDR Surplus/(Deficit) | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| NNDR Growth | (2,000) | 0.00 | (2,000) | 2,000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Total (Main Funding) | (275,611) | (3,643) | (279,255) | (8,865) | (288,120) | (10,318) | (298,438) | (6,852) | (305,290) |
| New Homes Bonus | (1,790) | 1,481.00 | (309) | 0.00 | (309) | 0.00 | (309) | 0.00 | (309) |

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Public Health | (22,727) | 0.00 | (22,727) | 0.00 | (22,727) | 0.00 | (22,727) | 0.00 | (22,727) |
| Other core grants | (1,923) | (7,681) | (9,604) | 8,339.00 | (1,265) | 100.00 | (1,165) | 150.00 | (1,015) |
| Total (Core/Other External Grants) | (26,440) | (6,200) | (32,639) | 8,339.00 | (24,300) | 100.00 | (24,200) | 150.00 | (24,050) |

Appendix 2

Corporate - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Concessionary Fares levy forecast increase | 1,332 | 1,749 | 4,322 | 5,816 |
| Creation of Feasibility Studies budget to support the capital programme | 1,000 | | | |
| Forecast increase on Bank Charges Increases | | 22 | 22 | 23 |
| Forecast Pay Inflation | 5,000 | 6,300 | 3,630 | 3,701 |
| Increase in Capital Financing Budget requirement | 6,886 | 3,019 | 5,460 | 2,000 |
| Increase in Corporate Contingency | 2,234 | 10,000 | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Levies forecast increase at 2% | 2,049 | 3,552 | 2,230 | 4,236 |
| Non Pay Inflation | 410 | 3,053 | 2,090 | 983 |
| Other Minor Adjustments | 90 | 416 | 1,000 | |
| Pension forecast | 1,413 | | (200) | |
| Provision for Redundancy Costs | 1,250 | | | |
| Reserve movements | 4,252 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| Write off of Open Banking saving proposal | 300 | | | |
| TOTAL | 26,216 | 31,111 | 31,554 | 29,759 |

Environment and Resident Experience - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Write off Savings relating to waste services review due to decision to extend existing contract | 1,300 | 300 | | |
| Write off of savings to increase green waste subscriptions | 20 | | | |
| Benefits Services –reduction in the pressures as a result of migration to Universal Credit | (165) | (149) | (134) | |
| Write off improved Debt Recovery saving because this does not result in cashable savings | 655 | | | |
| Increase in the budget for bad debts provision for housing benefit claims and review of those in receipt of housing benefit in supported accommodation. | 3,500 | (1,000) | | (2,000) |
| Reduction in original 2024/25 assumed pressure for insourcing leisure services | (440) | | | |
| TOTAL | 4,870 | (849) | (134) | (2,000) |

*Where items or adjustments above are negative, these amend previous or existing year's growth assumption

Adult Health & Communities, Adult Social Care - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Previously assumed Adult Social Care (ASC) Purchasing Budgets – increased budget for demographic pressures, Inflation and COVID Legacy costs | 9,350 | 7350 | | |
| Reversal of time limited funds to enhance capacity in debt team to focus on recovery of client contribution arrears | | (250) | | |
| Adult Social Care faces a number of challenges which affect total numbers in the population who may have eligible needs. Demography, multiple health conditions, including lifelong conditions, age of individuals and other socio-economic factors, where the increase in numbers with a long-term care package accounts for approximately 50% of the pressure. Additional budget requirement to fund these pressures has been identified (as reported in November 2024). | 15,160 | 930 | 7,210 | 7,200 |
| Revised service pressures based on latest number of people supported, increase from London Living Wage, Employer NI and CPI (January 2025) | 6,430 | | | |

| | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| TOTAL | 30,940 | 8,030 | 7,210 | 7,200 |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|

*Where items or adjustments above are negative, these amend previous or existing year's growth assumption

Adult Health & Communities, Housing Demand - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Due to market challenges and increased demand, the cost of temporary accommodation is increasing. Overall cost projections take into account; the predicted number of households accessing temporary accommodation, the landlord charges and amounts recoverable, any predicted rise in charges, the expected movement out of temporary accommodation based of historic performance trends and any specific schemes and initiatives that provide additionality either in movement or reduced unit cost (our mitigations). Additional budget requirement to fund these pressures has been identified (as reported in November 2024). | 12,097 | 3,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| TOTAL | 12,097 | 3,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 |

Culture, Strategy and Engagement - Service Specific Pressures

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Budget for undertaking Local Elections | | 550 | | |
| LIFT (Low Income Family Tracker) System contract costs reducing | | (38) | | |
| Increasing cost of Copyright Licensing Authority (CLA) license. Every council has to have a CLA license. The cost of this goes up year on year. A CLA Licence provides blanket permission, protecting the organisation from the risk of legal action for copyright infringement, where an organisation copies from books, journals, magazines or websites. | 15 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| HR contract inflation and Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) increases | 92 | 46 | 22 | 22 |
| Additional essential IT and digital costs to protect against cyber security and licensing costs | 530 | 30 | | |
| TOTAL | 637 | 589 | 23 | 23 |

*Where items or adjustments above are negative, these amend previous or existing year's growth assumption

Children and Young People's Services - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Subject Access Requests (SARS) cost pressures | 20 | 20 | | |
| DSG Safety Valve Delivery Team completes | | | (400) | |
| Previously assumed Children's Social Care inflation and demand pressures | 660 | 660 | | |
| Loss in funding through the reclassification of the High Needs Block funding (HNB). The HNB can no longer be used to support Education Psychology statutory Service and there is a need for an increase in staff numbers to meet increase in demand. | 859 | | | |
| Loss in High Need Block Funding as HNB can no longer contribute towards a Statutory Assessment Team and there is a need for an increase in staff numbers to meet increase in assessments. | 475 | 105 | 52 | 105 |
| Increase in the number of children requiring home to school transport and increase in the price of transport. | 1,439 | 621 | 599 | 636 |
| Increase in the number and cost of high-cost placements to support looked after children and those requiring Council's support. | 3,085 | 2,090 | 1,521 | 1,031 |
| TOTAL | 6,538 | 3,496 | 1,772 | 1,772 |

*Where items or adjustments above are negative, these amend previous or existing year's growth assumption

Placemaking and Housing - Service Specific Pressure

| Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Time limited funding for Asbestos Surveys in the School estate no longer required. | | (30) | | |
| Write off savings associated with Heads of Terms Lease income | 70 | | | |
| Work on the Full Business case for the implementation of the Corporate Property Model has indicated that there are significant budget pressures on the operational costs relating to our operational buildings. | 1,500 | | | |
| Strategic Asset Management Team - restructure in 2021 created this team, which was funded through one off reserves and flexible use of capital receipts (FUCR). Delivery of the improvement plan continues and 25/26 will continue to be funded by FUCR. Base budget requirement assumed for 2026/27 onwards+ | | 1,000 | | |
| Carbon Management write off of pre agreed savings | 90 | | | |
| Fleet write off of pre agreed savings | 50 | | | |
| TOTAL | 1,710 | 970 | 0 | 0 |

*Where items or adjustments above are negative, these amend previous or existing year's growth assumption

Appendix 3
Cross Council - Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Enabling Services Review - This proposal will review staff who provide enabling services support to the organisation to develop new delivery models that will reduce duplication across services and ensure efficient support to all frontline services across the organisation. | (1,000) | (1,000) | (500) | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Procurement and Contract Management - -This project will be delivered as two workstreams. Workstream 1 will review all existing contracts to ensure value for money. Workstream 2 will put in place increased governance to ensure that for all new contracts all commissioning options have been considered, outcomes for residents offer value for money and are affordable and improve contract management arrangements of suppliers. | (3,000) | (3,000) | (3,000) | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Staffing Efficiencies - Staffing budgets in the Council chargeable to the General Fund amount to c.£160m. All Directorates are required to deliver a 5% reduction in their staffing budget from 2025/26. Recognising all services are different, there is no single approach and instead Directorates will use a range of tools, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing a vacancy rate and/or reducing vacant posts Reducing use of agency workers Review of spans and layers of control to reduce management overheads Service efficiencies resulting in fewer employees being required | (8,560) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Asset Management - Continuation of current projects to review all rent and lease agreements within the commercial portfolio and a further reduction in operational sites for the delivery of Council services. Savings will be generated through increased rental income and capital receipts from the routine disposal of sites which will reduce the need for borrowing to deliver the capital programme. | (350) | (450) | (300) | 0 |
| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
| 11-Feb-25 | Income Generation Review across all services to identify commercial opportunities to expand existing income sources and new opportunities, with a focus on attracting external funding, charges reflecting the true cost of services and improving collection of income whilst also protecting those at risk of financial hardship. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | (13,410) | (4,450) | (3,800) | 0 |

Adult Health & Communities, Adult Social Care - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (1,222) | (677) | (724) | (1,220) |
| 11-Feb-25 | Connected Care Review - To review the delivery model for the Connected Care Service to identify alternate options for enhanced service offer and sustainability, selecting and implementing the most appropriate model to ensure this vital service best meets the needs of residents and is sustainable. | 49 | (879) | (35) | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Integrating Connected Communities - Further development of the Adult Social Care locality model and prevention approach: there is an opportunity to integrate the Connected Communities model and rationalise resources across the directorate. | (700) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Housing Related Support Contract Savings - A review of contract provision across Housing Related Support has enabled a proposal of multiple lower value savings opportunities. These will be achieved by natural wastage (pausing recruitment or not recruiting to vacant posts), streamlining service delivery, exploring options for consolidating office space usage by commissioned services and ceasing delivery of small value contracts where we have clear data to show low utilisation rates. | (412) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Day Opportunities – Commissioning Review - To undertake a commissioning review of the current range and type of day opportunities available to eligible Haringey residents and their carers. | 0 | (100) | (300) | (450) |

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Developing Community Support model - Building on Locality model and in collaboration with NHS, Housing, Public Health, voluntary and community sector, review and refresh our focus on prevention and early intervention, supporting residents to access community services which can best meet their needs and reduce demand on statutory services. This will also include a review the Adult Social Care's 'front door' to include information advice as to eligibility, how residents access the Service, progress from contact to assessment and then to receiving and reviewing support – at each stage of the residents' journey, reviewing how a digital response can inform improved demand management, more timely responses, reduce administrative burdens on staff and inform cost reductions. | (181) | (550) | (250) | (250) |
| 11-Feb-25 | Review of the Council's Reablement model to ensure that it is consistently focused on maintaining independence and supports safe and well-planned hospital discharge for a wide range of our residents. | (100) | (250) | | |
| 11-Feb-25 | Housing Related Support and Support Accommodation Commissioning efficiencies and the rationalisation of pathways for housing related supported and supported accommodation. As we move through the commissioning lifecycle there is an opportunity to consolidate contracts and service provision leading to contract savings. This proposal assumes savings of 10-15% applied as contracts are re-procured | | | (380) | |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Supported Living Contract - Releasing efficiencies through a new contract model for Supported Living that moves away from spot purchasing through a 'Dynamic Purchasing System' and onto a framework with agreed pricing and uplifts. | (400) | (600) | | |
| TOTAL | | (2,966) | (3,056) | (1,689) | (1,920) |

Adult Health & Communities, Housing Demand - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | More Cost-Effective Sources of Temporary Accommodation (TA)- The delivery of this saving is through the combination of a number of initiatives to reduce the overall cost of homes secured for temporary accommodation and to increase the amount of Local Housing Allowance recouped by the Council. Key initiatives to reduce our reliance on expensive nightly-paid accommodation include entering into longer term leases for properties; delivering a housing acquisition programme of 250 homes per annum and modernising the Council's rent setting policy for TA to ensure the Council is maximising the amount that it is legally entitled to recoup within housing benefit rules. | (2,600) | (2,600) | (1,300) | |
| TOTAL | | (2,600) | (2,600) | (1,300) | 0 |

Environment and Resident Experience - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 07-Feb-23 | Savings and Efficiencies 2023 | (1,663) | (13) | (63) | (19) |
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (896) | (920) | (1,194) | (867) |
| 11-Feb-25 | Parking Fees & Charges Parking and Highways Fees and Charges review to ensure Controlled Parking Zone costs are fully recovered. | (500) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | A review of parking operations to optimise efficiency levels through increased use of technology and changes to deployment plans | (300) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Reduction in Housing Benefit accommodation costs through creation of a focused team dedicated to providing a more in-depth and ongoing assessment of Housing Benefit Supported Accommodation claims, to ensure high quality, appropriate and compliant supported housing is being provided to residents who need it. | (200) | (200) | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Introduce means tested discounting for Leisure Centre memberships and services to ensure access to fitness and leisure is open to all. This replaces the current blanket discount for all customers aged 65 and over but opens up discounts to disabled young people and those on low incomes. | (200) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | A range of Management actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directorate service review (£167,000) • Street Lighting - reduced energy costs (£67,000) • Reduction in cost of Out of Hours contract savings (£28,000) • Streamlining paper parking permit processing (£300,000) | (562) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | (4,321) | (1,133) | (1,257) | (886) |

Environment and Resident Experience – Savings against Council Tax

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 06-Feb-24 | Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) Pre agreed | (2,000) | | | |
| 11-Feb-25 | Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) review | | (2,000) | | 0 |
| TOTAL | | (2,000) | (2,000) | 0 | 0 |

Finance, Procurement & Audit - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (300) | (100) | (225) | (200) |
| TOTAL | | (300) | (100) | (225) | (200) |

Chief Executive Officer - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (250) | | | |
| TOTAL | | (250) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Culture, Strategy and Engagement - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 07-Feb-23 | Savings and Efficiencies 2023 | (50) | (5) | (5) | 0 |
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 (n.b. an element of this saving figure will be combined with the council wide £500,000 income generation review target and ultimately delivered through this wider programme of work) | (1,435) | (497) | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Digital Transformation - Through the Digital Service staffing restructure and a new approach, we now have a team of developers who are developing a roadmap of digital opportunities across different directorates, already adding up to almost half of the current target of £2.8m. We can now propose going further with digital transformation savings for the Council, with a target of £2m per year for each of 2026/27 and 2027/28 from across the Council. These savings will ultimately be allocated out to the relevant services. We are also already reducing the cost of our digital estate through contract and licence reductions and can propose a further £200k for 2025/26, to come from Digital Service budgets. | (200) | (2,000) | (2,000) | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|-----------|---|------|---|-------|-------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Culture - Review discretionary culture budgets, which support cultural organisations in the borough through grant funding and commissioning to deliver the Council's civic and cultural programmes. Any potential impacts will be carefully managed and phased towards the end of the MTFs period to allow time to plan for mitigations and development of alternative funding streams. | (25) | 0 | (100) | (125) |
| 11-Feb-25 | New Local Membership - The proposal is not to renew our membership of the New Local think tank. Membership provides access to policy advice, a network of other Councils with shared aspirations and values and a number of events each year which officers have attended. However, membership is not essential. | (20) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Residents Survey - We currently undertake a formal, independent residents survey every three years. This is the only resident research we do and which is undertaken by a specialist polling company from a representative sample of residents. The cost of the survey is approximately £75,000. The relatively high cost comes from the survey being conducted in person by researchers knocking on doors. This is the 'gold standard' used for research as it captures residents who would not answer the phone or respond to online questionnaires. The proposal is to remove the annual budget provision (£25k pa) and in future a business case would need to be made during the budget round for the resources to undertake a resident's survey. | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 11-Feb-25 | Digital - Service Desk - Efficiencies have already been made in the way the internal Digital Service desk is run as part of a major restructure of the Digital Service to deliver savings this year, however a review has identified additional measures to reduce staff demand on the service desk further. Most queries are to do with forgotten passwords or problems with the remote VPN security system so changing our approach to password management and using the Microsoft integral VPN rather than our current separate system should reduce demand significantly and enable a saving to be made. | (100) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 11-Feb-25 | Registrars - Statutory fees that we can charge for Registrar Services have increased. The full impact of the increased fees will be seen in 2024/25 and if the current level of demand remains, an additional £90,000 of income will be achieved annually. | (90) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | (1,945) | (2,502) | (2,105) | (125) |

Placemaking and Housing - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 09-Feb-21 | Savings and Efficiencies 2021 | (70) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (798) | (635) | (735) | (685) |
| TOTAL | | (868) | (635) | (735) | (685) |

Children's - Service Specific Savings

| Cabinet Decision Date | Description | 2025/26 £'000s | 2026/27 £'000s | 2027/28 £'000s | 2028/29 £'000s |
|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 06-Feb-24 | Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (860) | (320) | (365) | (50) |
| 11-Feb-25 | Pendarren House - This proposal is for Pendarren Activity Centre to become fully self-funded and therefore reduce the Council's contribution. | (25) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | | (885) | (320) | (365) | (50) |

| Adults Health and Communities - Housing Demand | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 11,027 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated but budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation - included in pressures below | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| | | |
| Due to market challenges and increased demand, the cost of temporary accommodation is increasing. Overall cost projections take into account; the predicted number of households accessing temporary accommodation, the landlord charges and amounts recoverable, any predicted rise in charges, the expected movement out of temporary accommodation based of historic performance trends and any specific schemes and initiatives that provide additionality either in movement or reduced unit cost (our mitigations). Additional budget requirement to fund these pressures has been identified (as reported in November 2024). | 12,097 | |
| | | |
| | | 12,097 |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| More Cost-Effective Sources of Temporary Accommodation (TA) - The delivery of this saving is through the combination of a number of initiatives to reduce the overall cost of homes secured for temporary accommodation and to increase the amount of Local Housing Allowance recouped by the Council. Key initiatives to reduce our reliance on expensive nightly-paid accommodation include entering into longer term leases for properties; delivering a housing acquisition programme of 250 homes per annum and modernising the Council's rent setting policy for TA to ensure the Council is maximising the amount that it is legally entitled to recoup within housing benefit rules. | (2,600) | |
| | | (2,600) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| | | |
| Additional Homelessness Grant. | | (2,971) |
| | | |
| Total Change in Spending | | 6,526 |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 17,553 |

| Adults Health and Communities - Adult Social Care and Public Health | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 Adults Social Care & Public Health | 96,284 | |
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 Housing Related Support | 9,824 | |
| Total Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 106,108 |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated but Budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation - included in pressures below | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Previously assumed Adult Social Care (ASC) Purchasing Budgets – increased budget for demographic pressures, Inflation and COVID Legacy costs | 9,350 | |
| Adult Social Care faces a number of challenges which affect total numbers in the population who may have eligible needs. Demography, multiple health conditions, including lifelong conditions, age of individuals and other socio-economic factors, where the increase in numbers with a long-term care package accounts for approximately 50% of the pressure. Additional budget requirement to fund these pressures has been identified (as reported in November 2024). | 15,160 | |
| Revised service pressures based on latest number of people supported, increase from London Living Wage, Employer NI and CPI (January 2025). | 6,430 | |
| | | |
| | | 30,940 |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (1,222) | |
| Integrating Connected Communities - Further development of the Adult Social Care locality model and prevention approach: there is an opportunity to integrate the Connected Communities model and rationalise resources across the directorate. | (700) | |

| Adults Health and Communities - Adult Social Care and Public Health | £'000 | £'000 |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Housing Related Support Contract Savings - A review of contract provision across Housing Related Support has enabled a proposal of multiple lower value savings opportunities. These will be achieved by natural wastage (pausing recruitment or not recruiting to vacant posts), streamlining service delivery, exploring options for consolidating office space usage by commissioned services and ceasing delivery of small value contracts where we have clear data to show low utilisation rates. | (412) | |
| Connected Care Review - To review the delivery model for the Connected Care Service to identify alternate options for enhanced service offer and sustainability, selecting and implementing the most appropriate model to ensure this vital service best meets the needs of residents and is sustainable. | 49 | |
| Developing Community Support model - Building on Locality model and in collaboration with NHS, Housing, Public Health, voluntary and community sector, review and refresh our focus on prevention and early intervention, supporting residents to access community services which can best meet their needs and reduce demand on statutory services. This will also include a review the Adult Social Care's 'front door' to include information advice as to eligibility, how residents access the Service, progress from contact to assessment and then to receiving and reviewing support – at each stage of the residents' journey, reviewing how a digital response can inform improved demand management, more timely responses, reduce administrative burdens on staff and inform cost reductions. | (181) | |
| Review of the Council's Reablement model to ensure that it is consistently focused on maintaining independence and supports safe and well-planned hospital discharge for a wide range of our residents. | (100) | |
| Supported Living Contract - Releasing efficiencies through a new contract model for Supported Living that moves away from spot purchasing through a 'Dynamic Purchasing System' and onto a framework with agreed pricing and uplifts. | (400) | |
| | | (2,966) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| | | |
| Increases in Social Care Grant | | (4,540) |
| | | |
| Total Change in Spending | | 23,434 |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 129,542 |

| Environment and Resident Experience | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|---------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 12,651 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated but Budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation - included in pressures below | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Write off Savings relating to waste services review due to delayed decision on new provision | 1,300 | |
| Write off of savings to increase green waste subscriptions | 20 | |
| Benefits Services – reduction in pressure as a result of migration to Universal Credit | (165) | |
| Write off improved Debt Recovery saving because this does not result in cashable savings | 655 | |
| Increase in the budget for bad debts provision for housing benefit claims and review of those in receipt of housing benefit in supported accommodation. | 3,500 | |
| Reduction in original 2024/25 assumed pressure for insourcing leisure services | (440) | |
| | | 4,870 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2023 | (1,663) | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (896) | |
| Parking Fees & Charges Parking and Highways Fees and Charges review to ensure Controlled Parking Zone costs are fully recovered. | (500) | |
| A review of parking operations to optimise efficiency levels through increased use of technology and changes to deployment plans | (300) | |
| Reduction in Housing Benefit accommodation costs through creation of a focused team dedicated to providing a more in-depth and ongoing assessment of Housing Benefit Supported Accommodation claims, to ensure high quality, appropriate and compliant supported housing is being provided to residents who need it. | (200) | |
| Introduce means tested discounting for Leisure Centre memberships and services to ensure access to fitness and leisure is open to all. This replaces the current blanket discount for all customers aged 65 and over but opens up discounts to disabled young people and those on low incomes. | (200) | |

| Environment and Resident Experience | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| A range of Management actions: | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directorate service review (£167,000) • Street Lighting - reduced energy costs (£67,000) • Reduction in cost of Out of Hours contract savings (£28,000) • Streamlining paper parking permit processing (£300,000) | (562) | |
| | | |
| | | (4,321) |
| Other Adjustment | | 0 |
| | | |
| Total Change in Spending | | 549 |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 13,200 |

| Culture, Strategy and Engagement | £'000 | £'000 |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 30,153 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated. Budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation. Budget held corporately. | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Increasing cost of Copyright Licensing Authority (CLA) license. Every council has to have a CLA license. The cost of this goes up year on year. A CLA Licence provides blanket permission, protecting the organisation from the risk of legal action for copyright infringement, where an organisation copies from books, journals, magazines or websites. | 15 | |
| HR contract inflation and Disclosure Barring Service (DBS) increases | 92 | |
| Additional essential IT and digital costs to protect against cyber security and licensing costs | 530 | |
| | | 637 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2023 | (50) | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (1,435) | |
| Digital Transformation - Through the Digital Service staffing restructure and a new approach, we now have a team of developers who are developing a roadmap of digital opportunities across different directorates, already adding up to almost half of the current target of £2.8m. We can now propose going further with digital transformation savings for the Council, with a target of £2m per year for each of 2026/27 and 2027/28 from across the Council. We are also already reducing the cost of our digital estate through contract and licence reductions and can propose a further £200k for 2025/26, to come from Digital Service budgets | (200) | |

| Culture, Strategy and Engagement | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Culture - Review discretionary culture budgets, which support cultural organisations in the borough through grant funding and commissioning to deliver the Council's civic and cultural programmes. Any potential impacts will be carefully managed and phased towards the end of the MTFS period to allow time to plan for mitigations and development of alternative funding streams. | (25) | |
| New Local Membership - The proposal is not to renew our membership of the New Local think tank. Membership provides access to policy advice, a network of other Councils with shared aspirations and values and a number of events each year which officers have attended. However, membership is not essential. | (20) | |
| Residents Survey - We currently undertake a formal, independent residents survey every three years. This is the only resident research we do and which is undertaken by a specialist polling company from a representative sample of residents. The cost of the survey is approximately £75,000. The relatively high cost comes from the survey being conducted in person by researchers knocking on doors. This is the 'gold standard' used for research as it captures residents who would not answer the phone or respond to online questionnaires. The proposal is to remove the annual budget provision (£25k pa) and in future a business case would need to be made during the budget round for the resources to undertake a resident's survey. | (25) | |
| Digital - Service Desk - Efficiencies have already been made in the way the internal Digital Service desk is run as part of a major restructure of the Digital Service to deliver savings this year, however a review has identified additional measures to reduce staff demand on the service desk further. Most queries are to do with forgotten passwords or problems with the remote VPN security system so changing our approach to password management and using the Microsoft integral VPN rather than our current separate system should reduce demand significantly and enable a saving to be made. | (100) | |
| Registrars - Statutory fees that we can charge for Registrar Services have increased. The full impact of the increased fees will be seen in 2024/25 and if the current level of demand remains, an additional £90,000 of income will be achieved annually. | (90) | |
| | | (1,945) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| | | |
| Net Change in Budget | | (1,308) |
| | | |

| | | |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 28,845 |
| Placemaking and Housing | £'000 | £'000 |
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 5,803 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated. Budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation. Budget held corporately. | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Write off savings associated with Heads of Terms Lease income | 70 | |
| Work on the Full Business case for the implementation of the Corporate Property Model has indicated that there are significant budget pressures on the operational costs relating to our operational buildings. | 1,500 | |
| Carbon Management write off of pre agreed savings | 90 | |
| Fleet write off of pre agreed savings | 50 | |
| | | 1,710 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2021 | (70) | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (798) | |
| | | (868) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| | | |
| Net Change in Budget | | 842 |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 6,645 |

| Children's Services | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|----------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 64,031 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated. Budget held corporately pending final agreement | | |
| Price Inflation - included in pressures below | | 0 |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Subject Access Requests (SARS) cost pressures | 20 | |
| Previously assumed Children's Social Care inflation and demand pressures | 660 | |
| Loss in funding through the reclassification of the High Needs Block funding (HNB). The HNB can no longer be used to support Education Psychology statutory Service and there is a need for an increase in staff numbers to meet increase in demand. | 859 | |
| Loss in High Need Block Funding as HNB can no longer contribute towards a Statutory Assessment Team and there is a need for an increase in staff numbers to meet increase in assessments. | 475 | |
| Increase in the number of children requiring home to school transport and increase in the price of transport. | 1,439 | |
| Increase in the number and cost of high-cost placements to support looked after children and those requiring Council's support. | 3,085 | |
| | | 6,538 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (860) | |
| Pendarren House - This proposal is for Pendarren Activity Centre to become fully self- funded and therefore reduce the Council's contribution. | (25) | |
| | | (885) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| New Children's Social Care Delivery Grant. | | (1,330) |
| | | |
| Net Change in Budget | | 4,323 |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 68,354 |

| Finance Procurement and Audit (includes Chief Executive) | £'000 | £'000 |
|---|--------------|--------------|
| Current Approved Budget 024/25 | | 7,035 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated. Budget held corporately pending final agreement | TBC | |
| Price Inflation. Budget held corporately. | | |
| | | |
| Pressures | | 0 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (300) | |
| Savings and Efficiencies 2024 | (250) | |
| | | (550) |
| Other Adjustment | | |
| | | |
| Net Change in Budget | | (550) |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 6,485 |

| Corporate Budgets | £'000 | £'000 |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| Current Approved Budget 2024/25 | | 65,246 |
| | | |
| Pay Inflation - 3% estimated but Budget held corporately pending final agreement | 5,000 | |
| | | 5,000 |
| | | |
| Pressures | | |
| Write off of Open Banking saving proposal | 300 | |
| Increase in levy for Concessionary Fares levy forecast increase | 1,332 | |
| Increase in Corporate Contingency | 2,234 | |
| Non Pay Inflation | 410 | |
| Creation of Feasibility Studies budget to support the capital programme | 1,000 | |
| Levies forecast increase at 2% | 2,049 | |
| Other minor adjustments | 90 | |
| Pension forecast | 1,413 | |
| Redundancy Provision for Redundancy costs Forecast | 1,250 | |
| Increase in Capital Financing Budget requirement | 6,886 | |
| Reserve movements | 4,252 | |
| | | 21,216 |
| | | |
| Net Budget Reductions | | |
| Cross Council Savings - to be allocated out before 1.4.2025 | | (13,410) |
| | | |
| Other Adjustment | | 2,922 |
| | | |
| Total Change in Spending | | 15,728 |
| | | |
| Draft Budget 2025/26 | | 80,974 |

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Budget Consultation 2025-2026 Report

Appendix 5

January 2025

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- 1. Executive Summary
 - 1.1 Introduction
 - 1.2 Technical Details & Method
 - 1.2.1 Stakeholder Events
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 - 2.2 Summary of Findings
- 3. Detailed Findings
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1. Executive Summary

This year, A total of 169 questionnaires have been completed – All 169 came through the council's online survey platform.

This consultation specifically asked about the extent of the impact of savings proposals and proposals for capital expenditure. For most savings proposals, a majority of respondents selected 'little or no impact', or 'don't know'. However, in some case respondents indicated that neither they or any members of their family had any experience of the potentially affected service.

The exceptions to this, were for the proposals relating to the Residents Survey and a reduction in spending on cultural activities, where a majority of respondents indicated they believed that these proposals would have a negative impact.

When asked for further suggestions around saving money, generating income and council priorities, residents put forward a range of suggestions.

This consultation asked for the extent of the impact of savings proposals and proposals for capital expenditure. For most savings proposals, a majority of respondents indicated 'little or no impact', or 'don't know'. However, in some case respondents also indicated they had no direct experience of the potentially affected service. The clear exceptions were for the proposals relating to Pendarren House and a reduction in spending on cultural activities, where a majority of respondents indicated they believed that these proposals would have a negative impact. Again, not every respondent stated they had direct experience of the services/activities within the proposal.

1.1 Introduction

The Budget proposals for **2025/2026** have been subject to formal consultation. This report sets out the findings of the from the council's consultation for its budget.

1.2 Technical Details & Method

The consultation ran from 28th November 2024 to 6th January 2025. The survey was held on haringeybudget2025.commonplace.is with hard copies of the consultation document also available on request in libraries and customer services.

The consultation was widely promoted via the Council's resident magazine, Haringey People Extra, the Council's business e-newsletter, the Council's website and via social media.

1.2.1 Stakeholder Events

A Business Budget Briefing Webinar was held on 18th December 2025.

1.2.2 Questionnaire Design

Respondents were asked:

- To what extent proposals would impact them and to provide reasons for their response.
- To provide their views on principles behind certain proposals e.g. the fairness of using council resources to give discounts to leisure facilities users based on low income or additional needs.
- To share their views on capital spending reductions and capital investments.

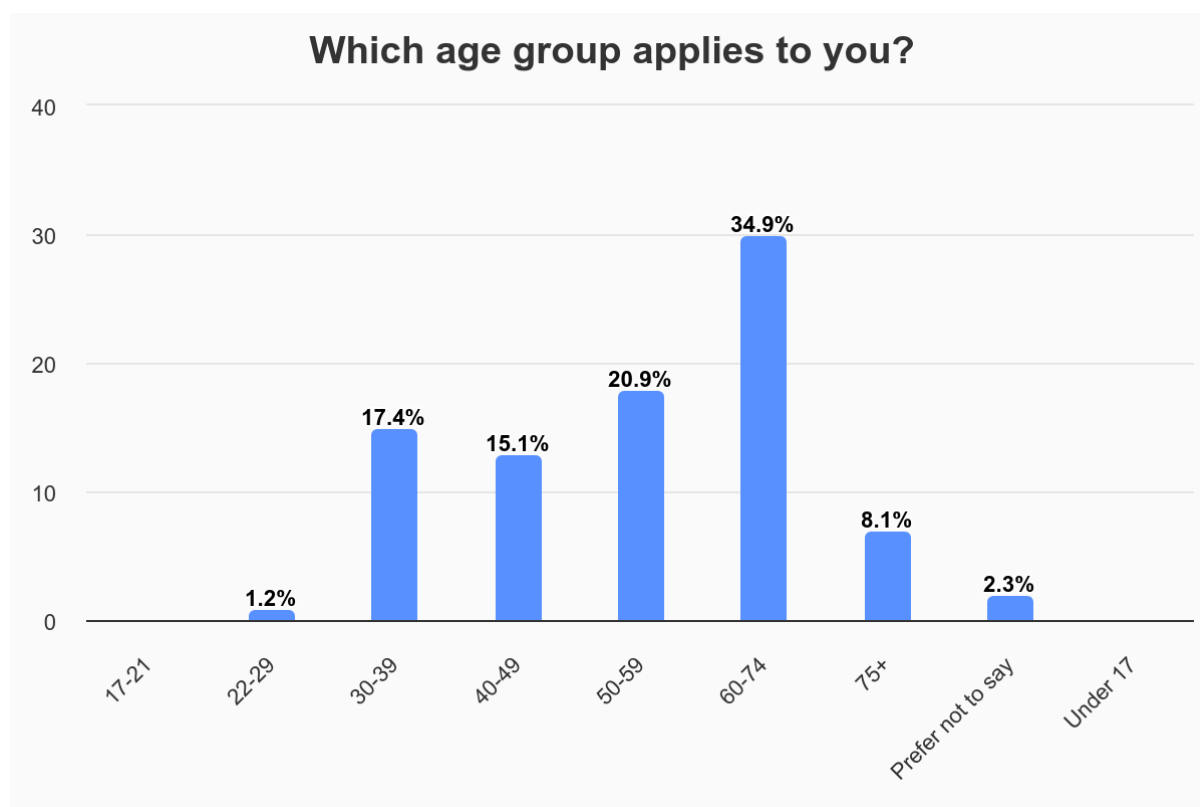
- To share any other changes or proposals that might save money or achieve better value from council spending or generate income.
- Their views on priorities for protecting spending and any other thoughts on the council's proposed budget.

2. Responses to the Consultation

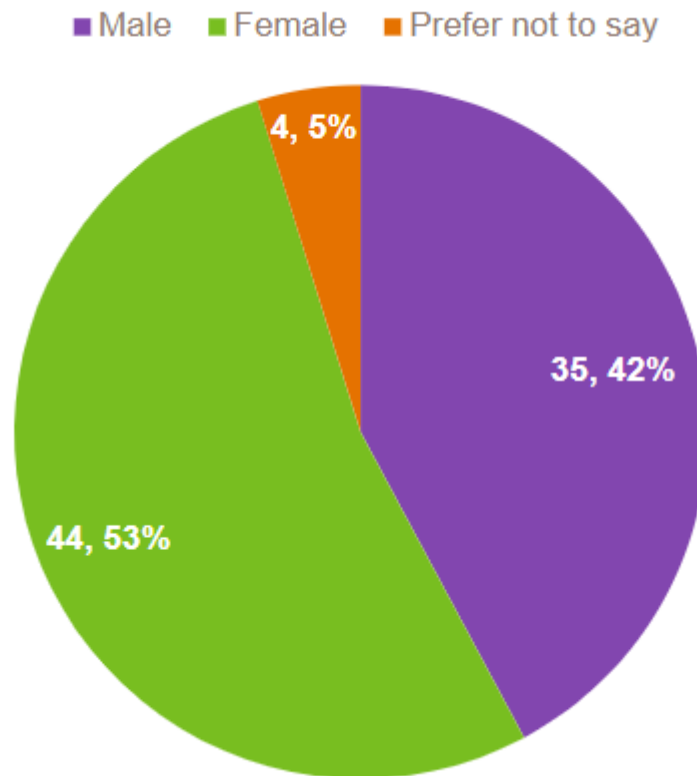
169 responses have been completed through the online survey.

2.1 Respondents Demographic Data

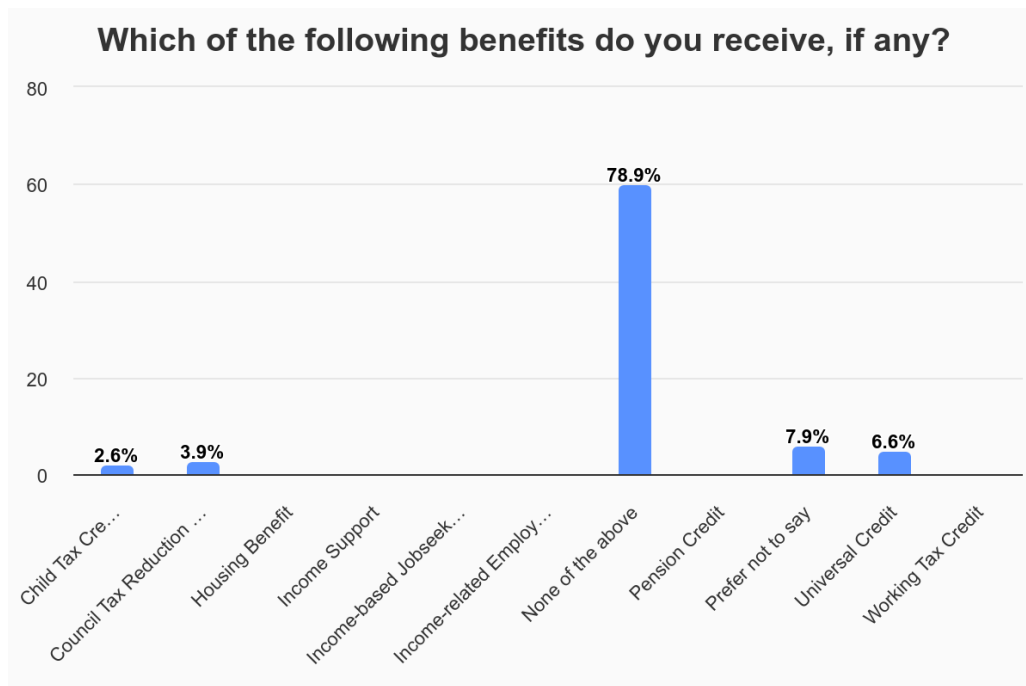
Which age group applies to you?



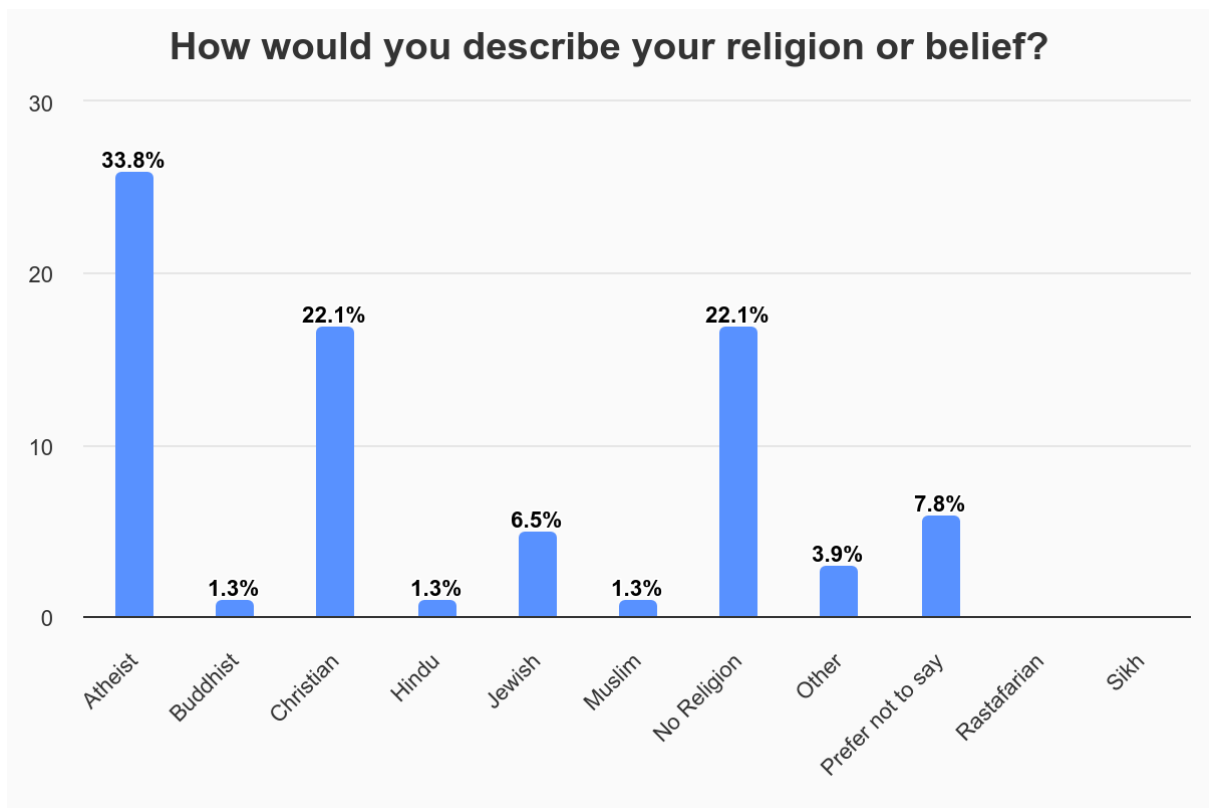
How would you describe your sex?



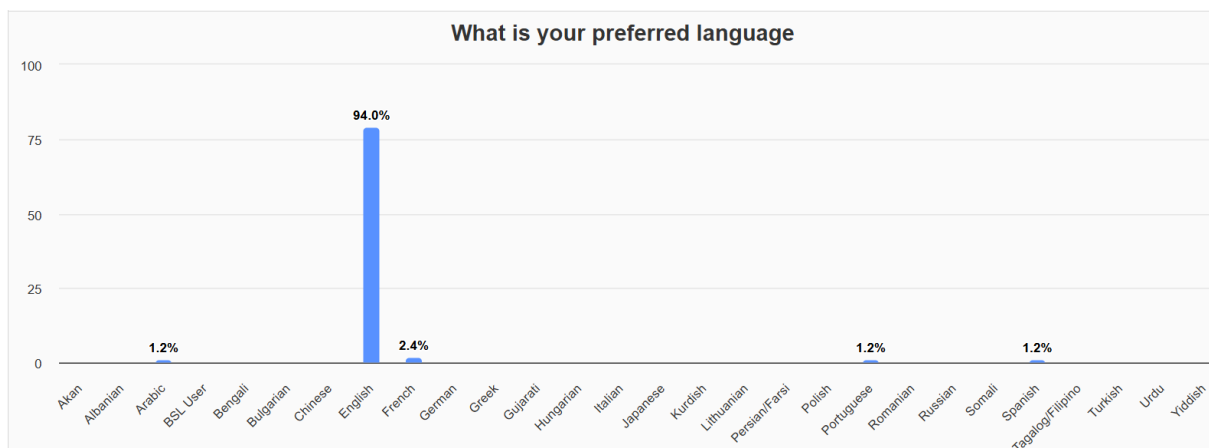
Which of the following benefits do you receive, if any?



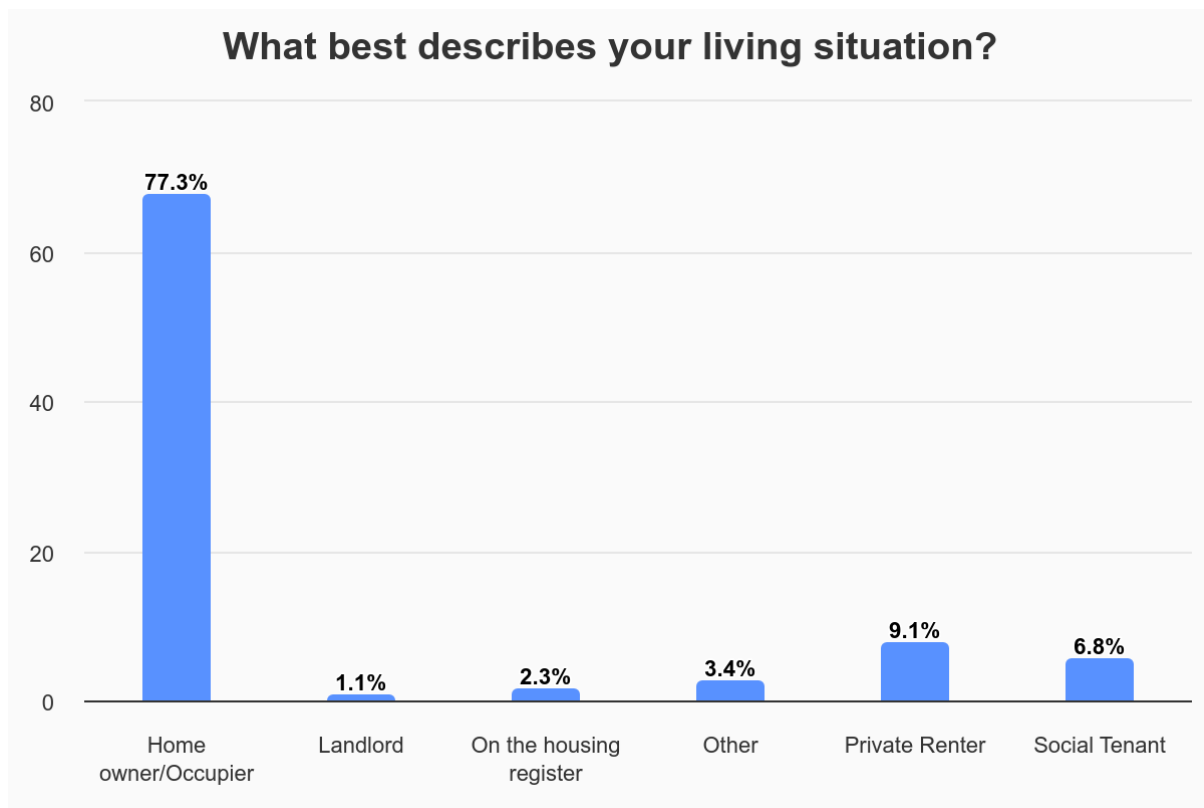
How would you describe your religion or belief?



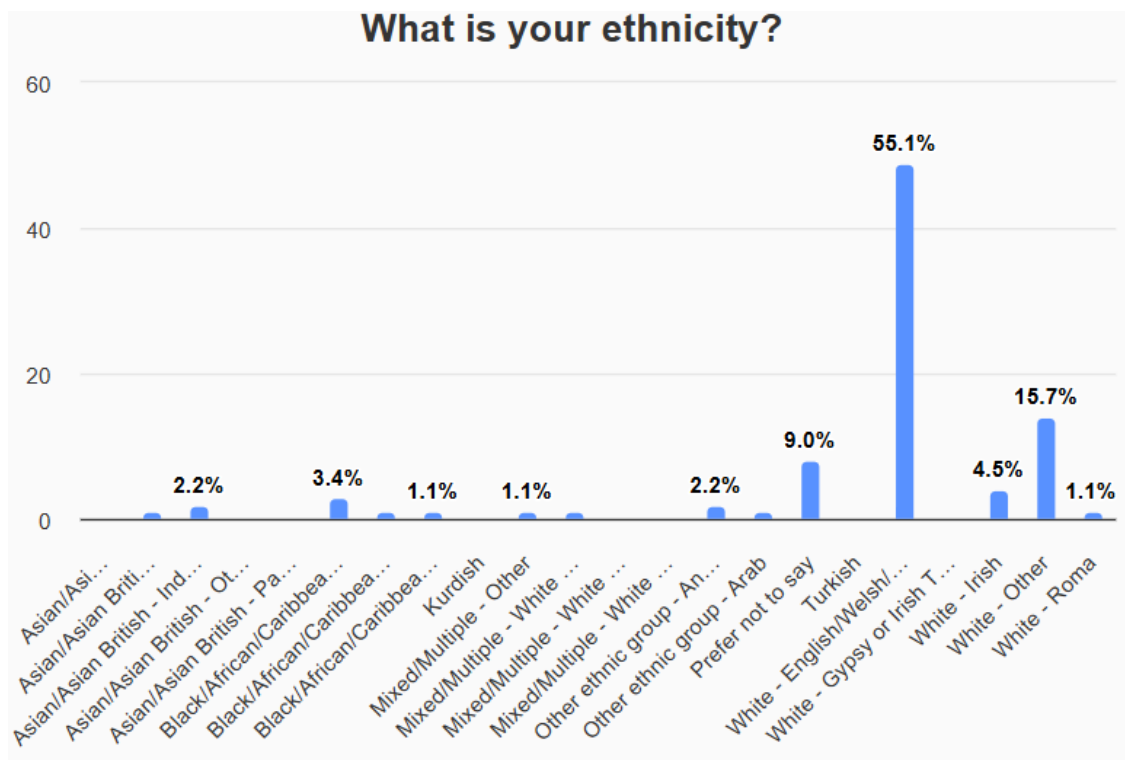
What is your preferred language?



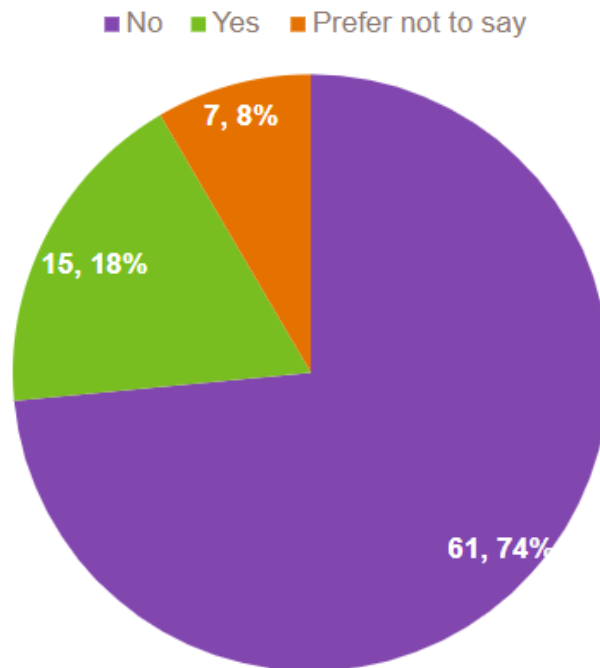
What best describes your living situation?



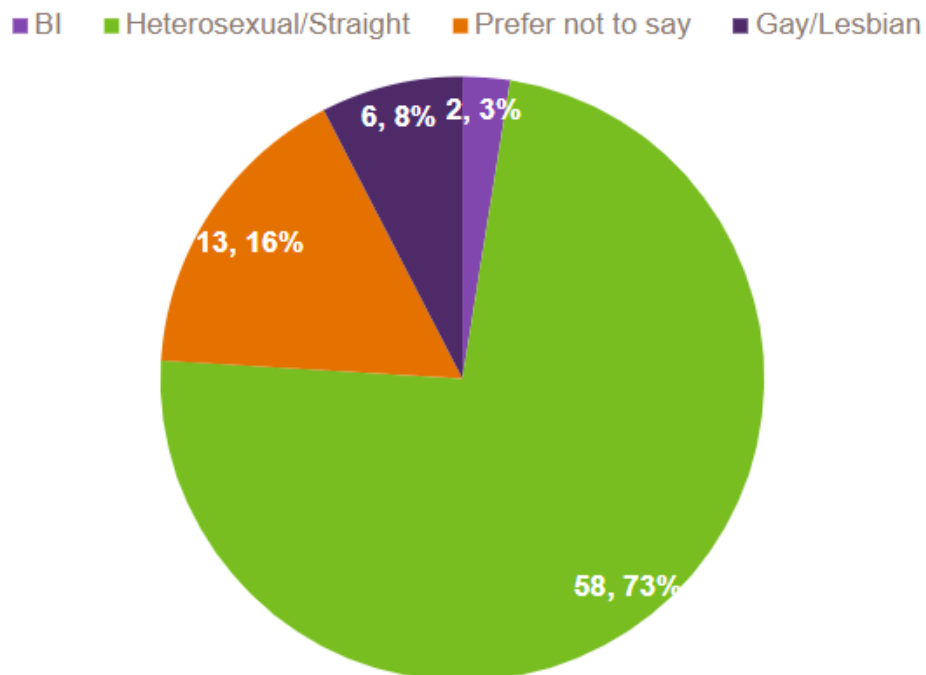
What is your ethnicity?



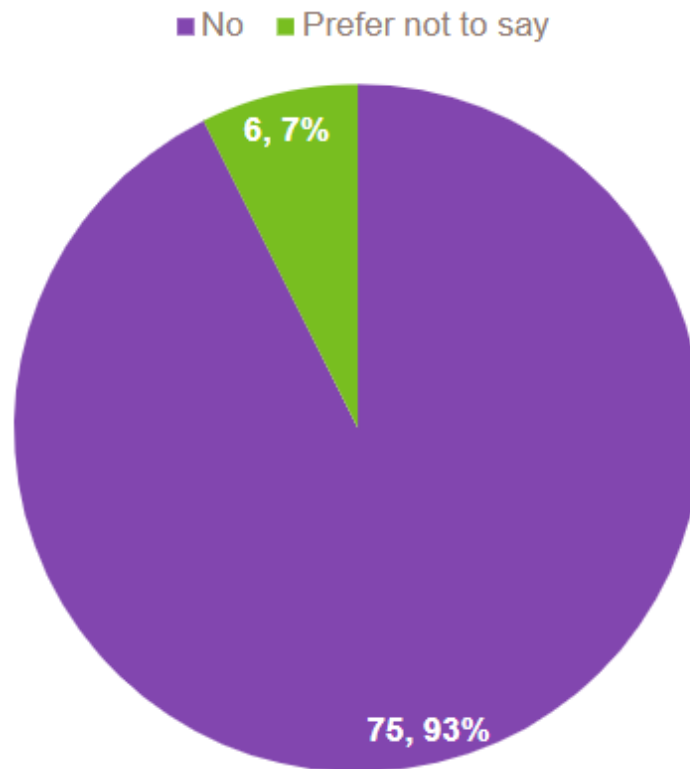
Are you disabled?



What is your sexual orientation?



Are you Trans?



2.2 Summary of Findings

For most savings proposals, and all those in the Adults, Health and Communities proposals, a majority of respondents selected 'little or no impact', or 'don't know'. However, in some case respondents indicated that neither they nor any members of their family had any experience of the potentially affected service.

The exceptions to this, were for the Culture, Strategy and Engagement (CSE) proposals relating to the Residents Survey and a reduction in spending on cultural activities, where a majority of respondents indicated they believed that these proposals would have a negative impact.

For the CSE proposal relating to digital transformation, residents were supportive, providing the needs of those facing digital exclusion were kept in mind with an alternative to digital remaining accessible where needed.

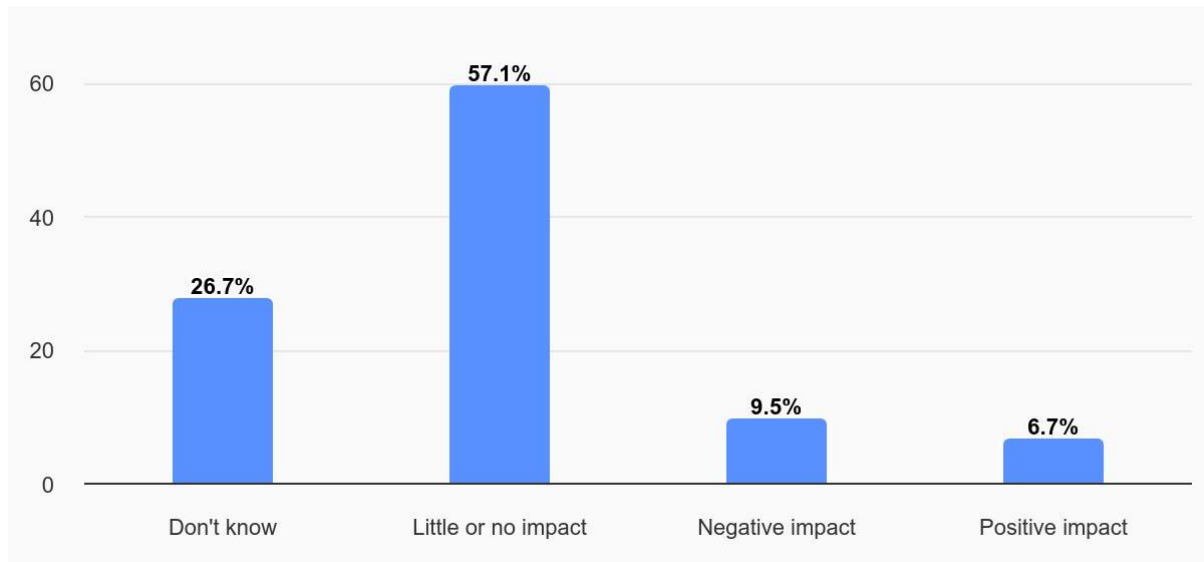
Where asked for further suggestions around saving money, generating income and council priorities, residents put forward a diverse range of suggestions. These are summarised in section 4.5. However these are varied and diverse, therefore it is recommended to consult the 'Verbatim Responses' attached in full in Appendix 1

3. Detailed Findings

4.1 Adults Health and Communities Proposals

4.1.1

Question 7.1 – how would changes to the way the Connected Care Service is provided impact you or someone you care for?



Please give reasons for your answer:

One respondent commented that it sounded more efficient and would free up resources for others.

There were concerns raised about what will happen to those who need support. There were concerns that those who currently use the service and enjoy the benefits may not be able to use it after any changes. Some of the parts of the service that residents may not be able to access if another model were brought in, such as social alarm services, were described as vital. There were concerns raised, in particular for the elderly and for people who have mental health conditions, as the connected care service not only makes their life more manageable but also safer through benefits such as reminder services for medication to benefit those with memory problems.

It was stressed that there is an overarching need for residents to assist residents to stay in their own home. Other ways to support the service such as community-based support and regular wellbeing checks were recommended.

A large number of respondents had no experience of the service so felt it would have no impact on them.

4.1.2

Question 8.1 – Are there any changes the council could make to the Day Opportunities provision that would improve residents' experience and help reduce the cost of providing the service?

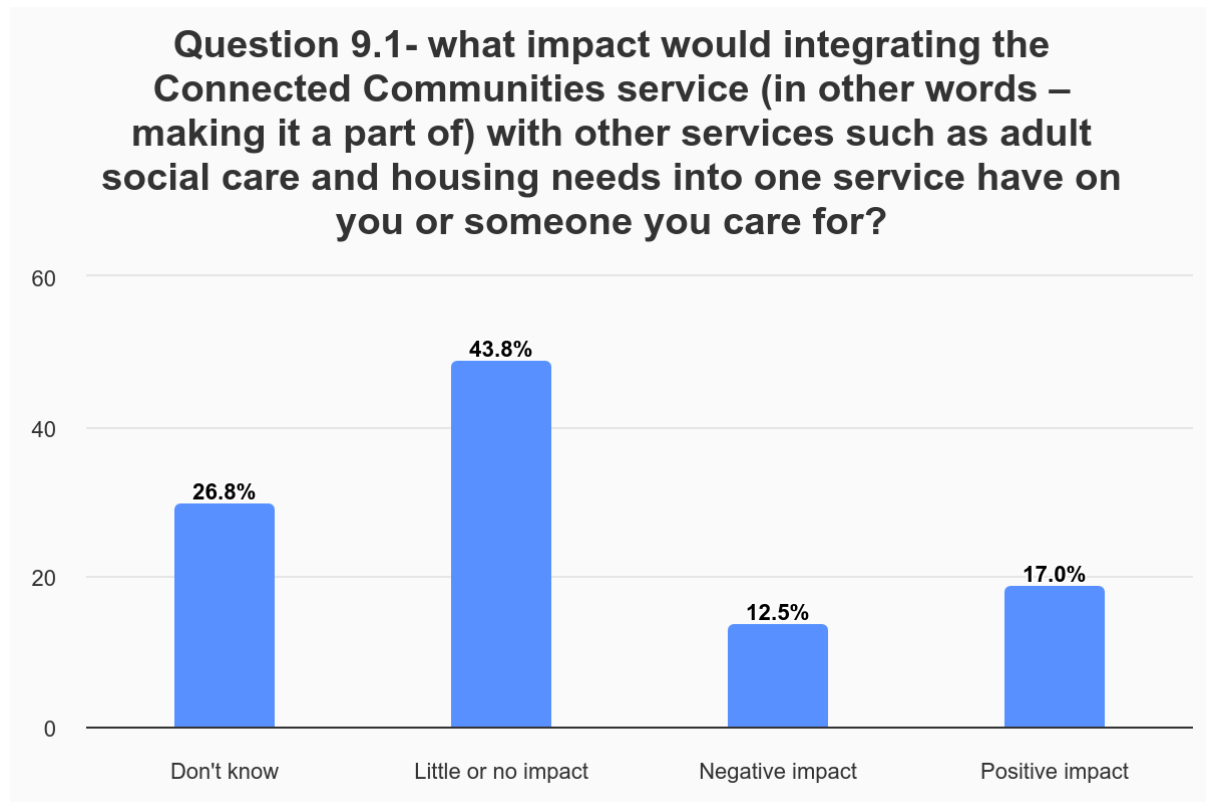
Please describe what these might be:

Some respondents were in favour of exploring new delivery models for a more efficient, cost effective service. This included the potential adding of not-for-profit external support and co-production involving users and their families.

There were members of the public who proposed alternatives such as diverting legal costs to contest claims towards supporting provision, not spending money on cultural celebration periods or heritage months. There were also calls, as an alternative cost saving measure, to reduce costs in other parts of the council such as back-office costs and improving IT systems.

Suggestions to improve costings also included retraining staff for efficiency purposes, streamlining services, focusing on prevention, having outcome based funding and trialling new approaches. There was also a suggestion to use libraries to provide services and working closely with the voluntary care sector and community organisations.

4.1.3

**Please give reasons for your answer:**

It was highlighted that it may be more effective to manage issues such as social care, senior care, child services and housing support separately to make these areas more effective.

Some residents suggested it was hard to see how doing more with less would not impact negatively on the service provided. There were concerns about giving specialist staff wider roles which would lower the overall quality of service provided.

Suggested alternatives included having improved coordination and continuity of care, early intervention and greater prevention, efficient use of resources, enhanced personalization of support and having a more integrated overall service.

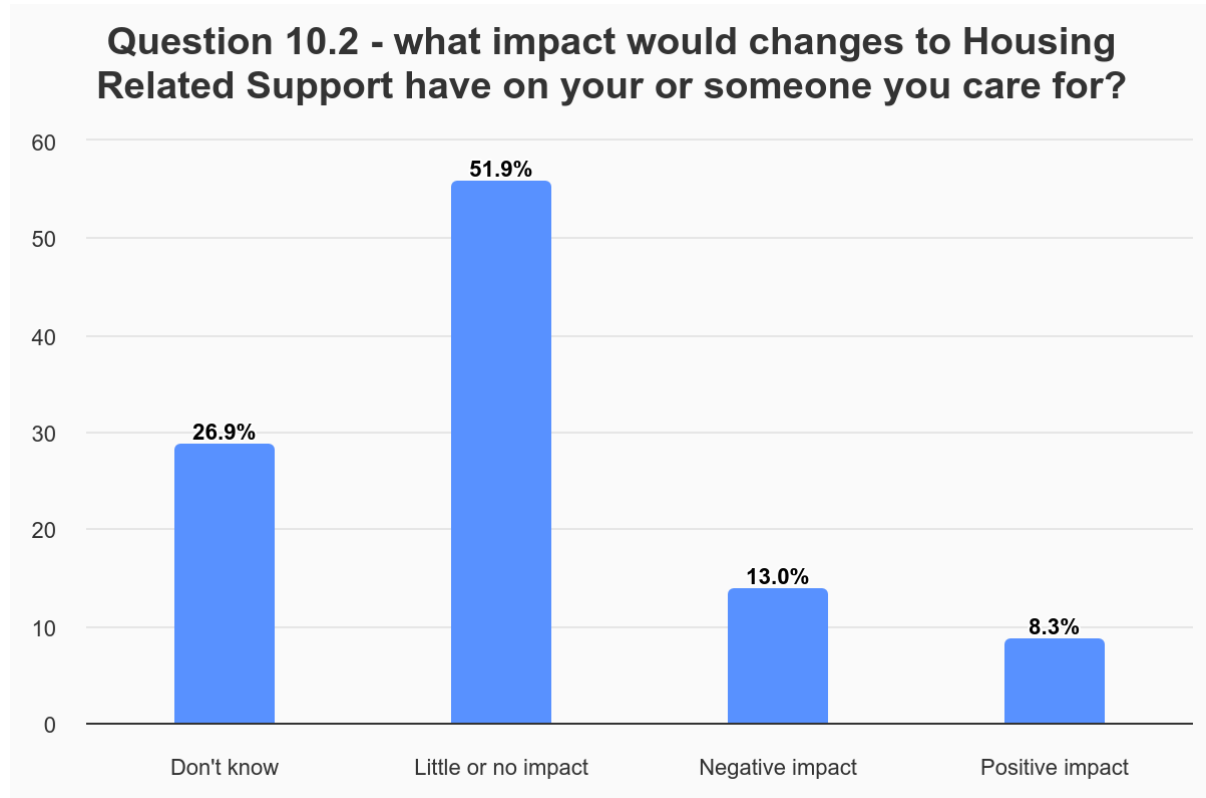
There were concerns raised about the uncertainty of what changes would be made.

A number of residents had no experience of the service so felt it would have no effect on them.

4.1.4

Question 10.1- what Housing Related Support services have you got experience of using – either yourself or someone you care for or work with?

Residents used this option to list a variety of different housing services. See verbatim responses for full list.

Question 10.2 - what impact would changes to Housing Related Support have on your or someone you care for?**Please give reasons for your answer:**

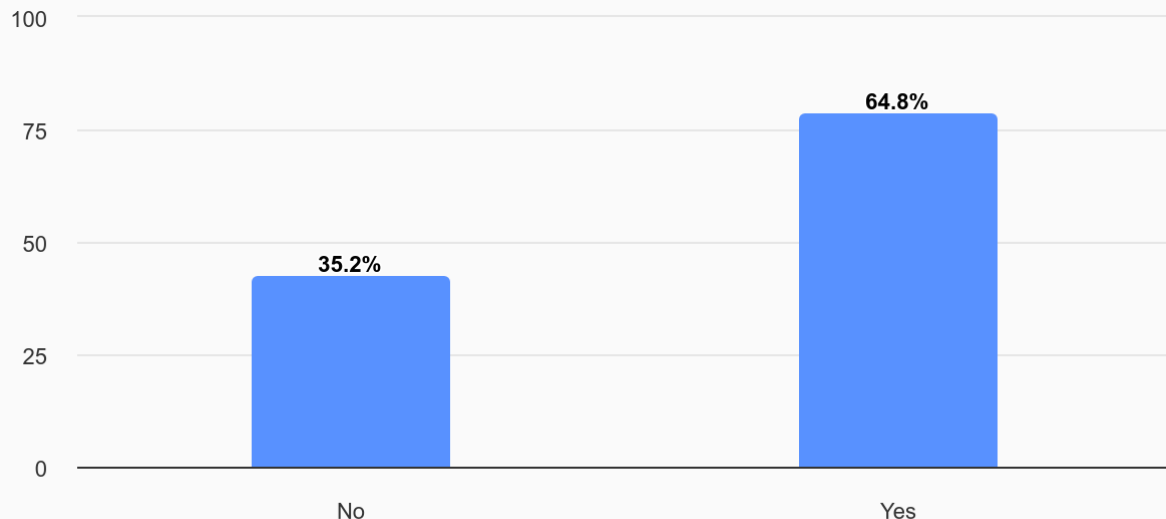
There were concerns about the growing demand for these services. There was also acknowledgment of how important the services were. There were also concerns that this would reduce costs.

There were calls for joined up provision and to fill job vacancies.

Some residents were concerned about the uncertainty of what the plans were so were unable to make informed comment. A large number of respondents were also unable to comment, and felt it had no impact on them as they had no experience of the service

4.2 Children's Services Proposals**Question 11.1 – do you agree with the proposal that the cost of running Pendarren should be met via the income it generates rather than subsidising it from council resources – as long as it can continue to provide a high quality and affordable option for Haringey's families?**

Question 11.1 - do you agree with the proposal that the cost of running Pendarren should be met via the income it generates rather than subsidising it from council resources – as long as it can continue to provide a high quality and affordable option for Haringey's families?



Please give reasons for your answer:

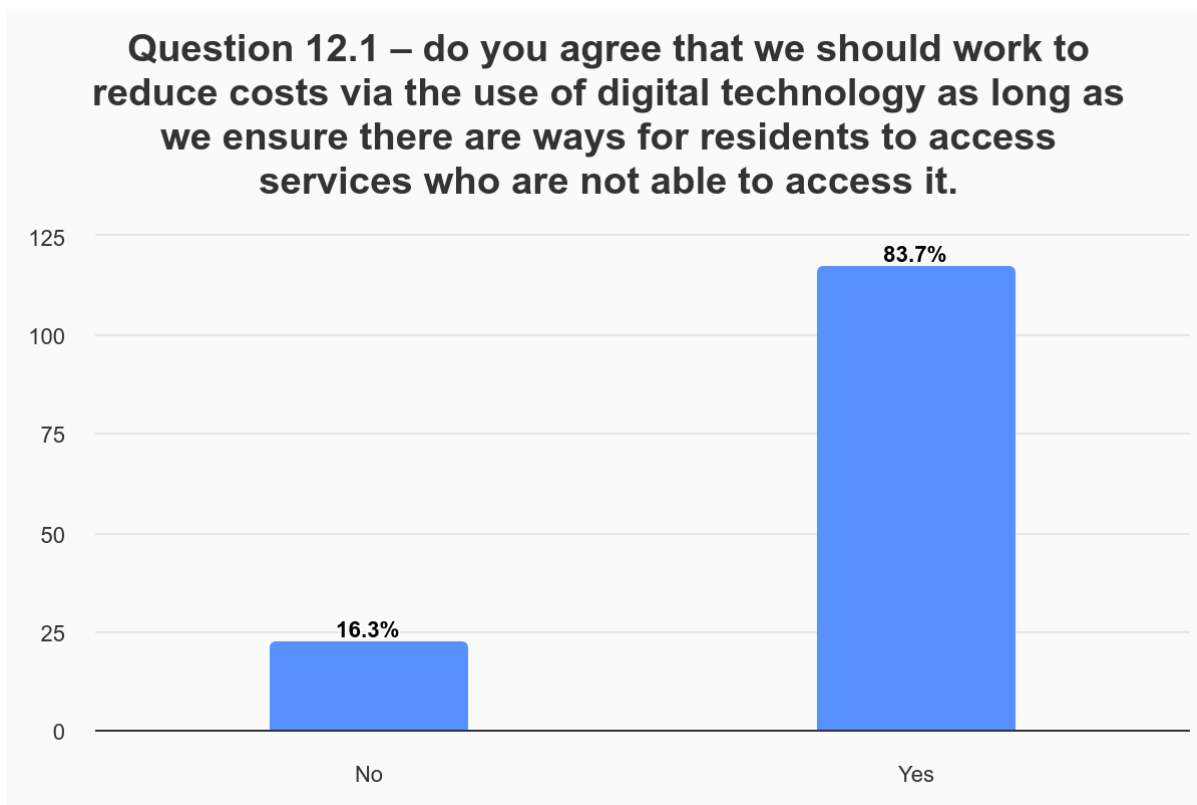
A number of respondents felt that the financing for this option needs to be reviewed. For some it feels like an unavoidable option that would maintain a safe and high quality experience for schoolchildren. It was also highlighted that not all schools visit Pendarren House.

A number of people supported this option, as long as it remained truly affordable and standards are maintained. A suggestion was made for schools to perhaps approach charities. There were also suggestions to have a 50/50 approach with Pendarren in terms of costing. Some respondents were concerned about the potential of a lack of subsidy from the council leading to closure of the site and the impacts that could have. There we also concerns about what the term “affordable” in the council’s plans actually means. It was highlighted that it was crucial for inner city children.

4.3 Culture, Strategy and Engagement Proposals

4.3.1

Questions 12.1 – do you agree that we should work to reduce costs via the use of digital technology as long as we ensure there are ways for residents to access services who are not able to access it?



Please give reasons for your answer:

There was a large support for this as respondents felt that overall digital transformation was making services more efficient as well as cost effective. This included improving communication between residents and officers as it was noted a number of residents are more comfortable using digital options to engage with the council.

There were concerns about the overall experience with IT projects in the public sector, including what came to light in the recent Post Office inquiry. There were also concerns about potential digital exclusion.

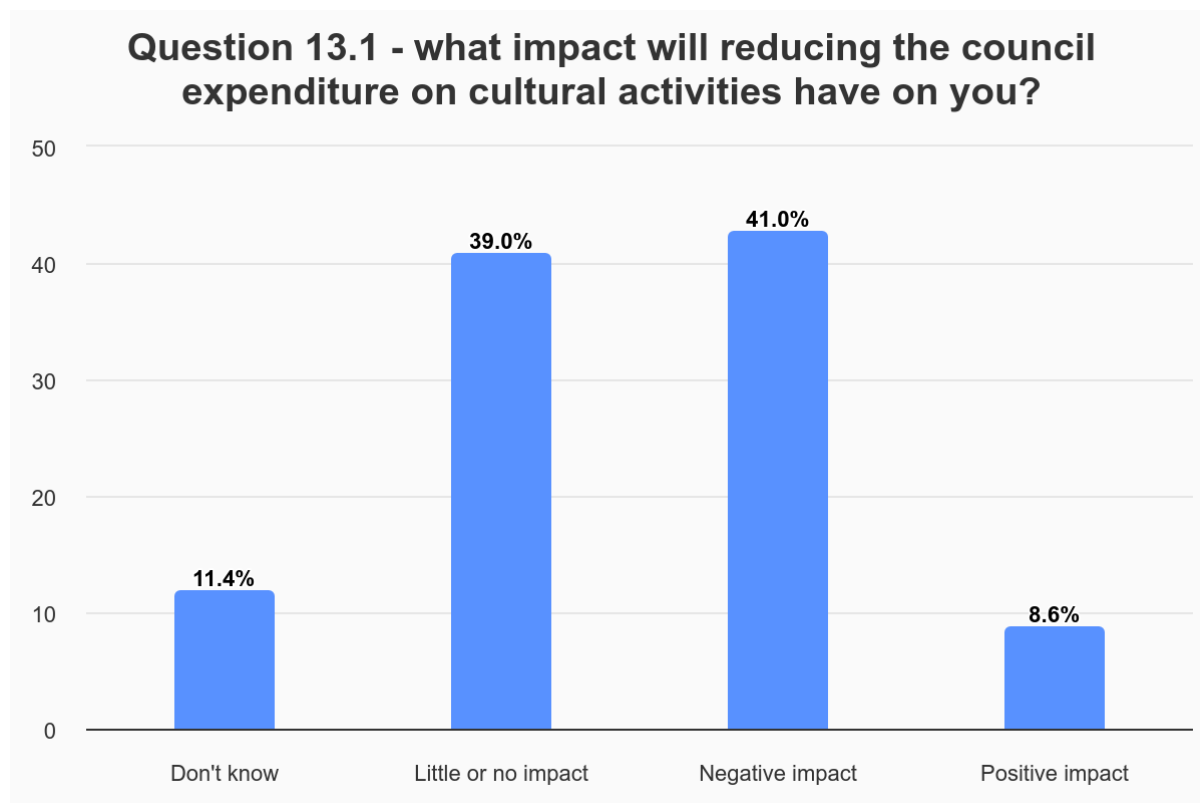
Whilst some respondents thought it would improve services, they had concerns about whether it would bring in cost savings. It was also noted that digital services come with maintenance costs.

Some respondents would like to see the council ensure a hybrid approach to digital technology, using it alongside the traditional approach to delivering services rather than replacing it. There were also concerns about the complexity of moving further towards using digital technologies.

There was a suggestion that all services were web accessible and not just mobile accessible. There was also a concern that going about going for a cheap option that may not be up to standard. There were also concerns about how useful the technology would be.

- Reduction in culture spending** – *We will review all of our culture spending which*

4.3.2

Question 13.1 - what impact will reducing the council expenditure on cultural activities have on you?**Please give reasons for your answer:**

Some residents felt that considering the economic climate, reductions to the culture budget were inevitable. Some felt cultural activities should not be prioritised by the council and should be promoted by communities.

Many respondents spoke about impact of reductions to the library service, which they are concerned will have a large impact, particularly on the least well off in the borough. Cultural activities were considered be a key benefit to the life of children in the borough.

There were concerns about how culture in the borough would be funded if the council stopped investing in it. Some residents felt it was important to ensure we had value for money from our grants.

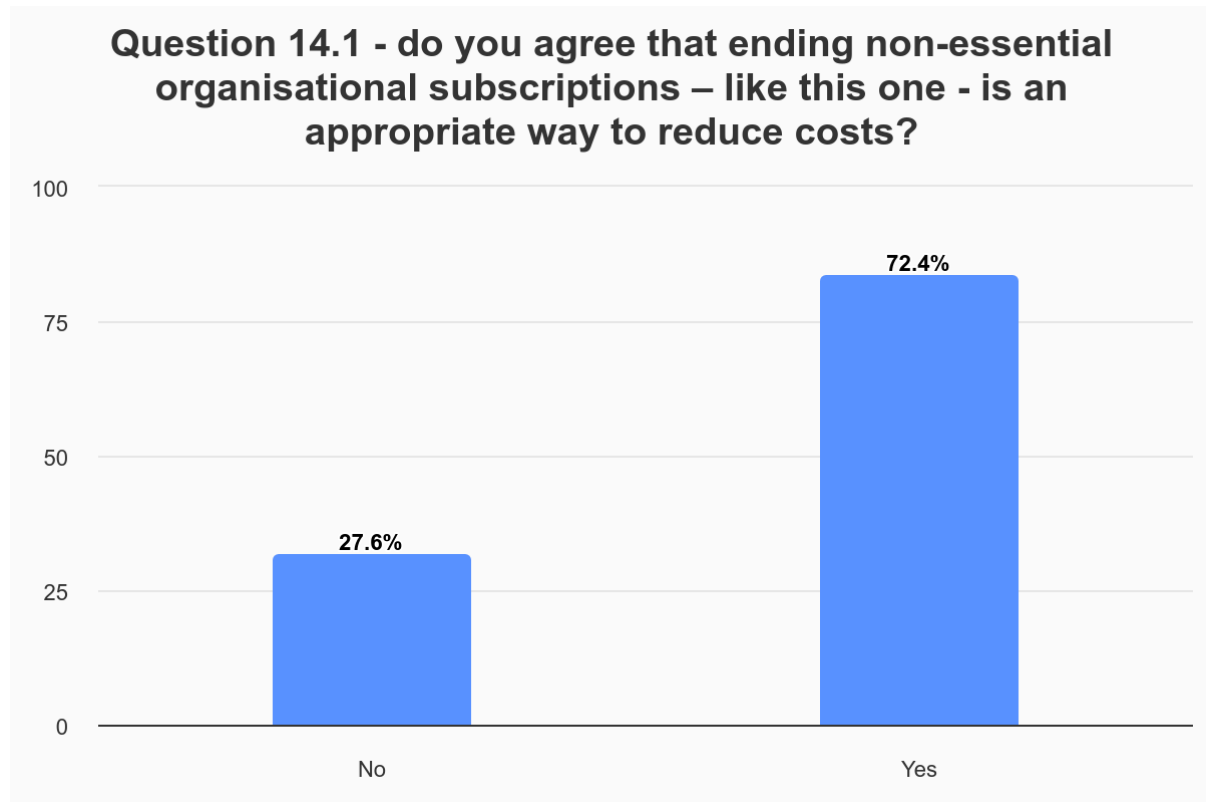
Some felt confused with a reduction in culture spending when the borough has recently been named the Mayor's Borough of Culture. It was felt that culture was one of the most important aspects of living in Haringey. It was also felt with such a diverse borough, that culture is the one thing that brings the community together.

There were concerns over certain programmes and venues, such as Bruce Castle being unsustainable without council funding. It was also felt that it would impact those who couldn't afford to pay to experience culture the most.

Some residents were unsure what cultural activities were being referred to.

4.3.3

Question 14.1 – do you agree that ending non-essential organisational subscriptions – like this one - is an appropriate way to reduce costs?



Please give reasons for your answer:

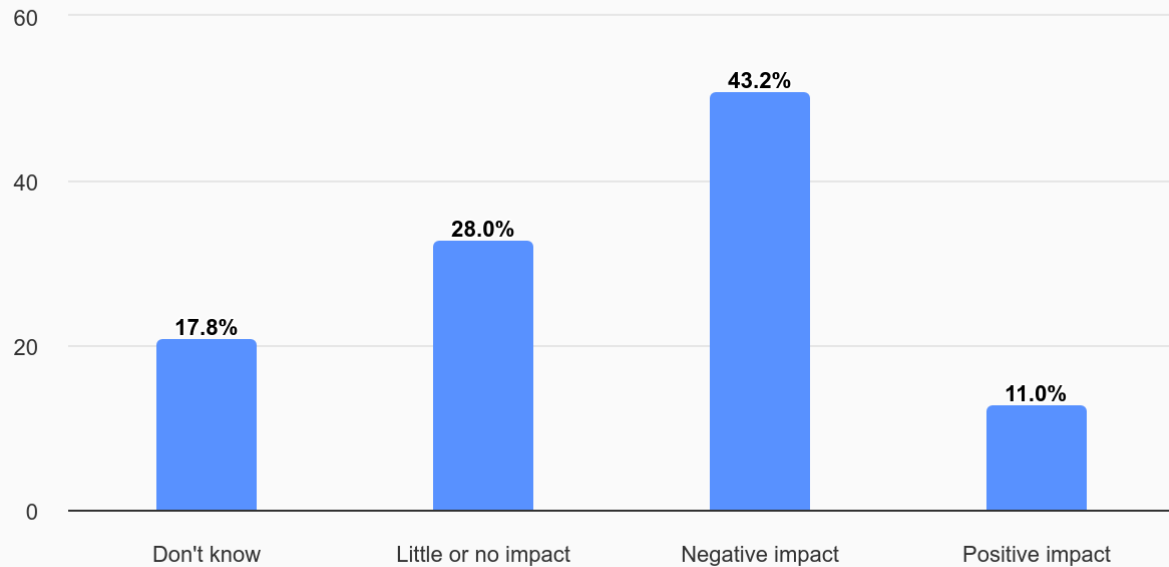
A number of respondents felt there were other, cheaper ways to engage with other groups so all non-essential subscriptions should be terminated. It was noted that the council spends resources bidding for awards across the country and these funds could be better spent elsewhere. The LGA was cited by some respondents as a useful alternative to help networking.

There were concerns that the council were not taking into account the benefits of networking. Some respondents believed that sharing ideas should be treated as an investment rather than a cost. There were concerns that the reduction in engaging with others could lead to a poorer performance from Haringey Staff. Residents also questioned whether or not the cut to these contracts was worth it considering there was not a lot of money saved (compared to other savings options).

4.3.4

Question 15.1 – what impact do you anticipate there may be from removing the budget for the residents survey – this means in future the survey will only be able to take place if new money can be found to pay for it?

Question 15.1 – what impact do you anticipate there may be from removing the budget for the Resident's Survey – this means in future the survey will only be able to take place if new money can be found to pay for it?



People were concerned that without the residents survey, we wouldn't understand our residents and their needs. Some felt the council were better off doing their own survey in-house rather than seeking external support. Others suggested a different approach i.e. solely digital or via phone calls.

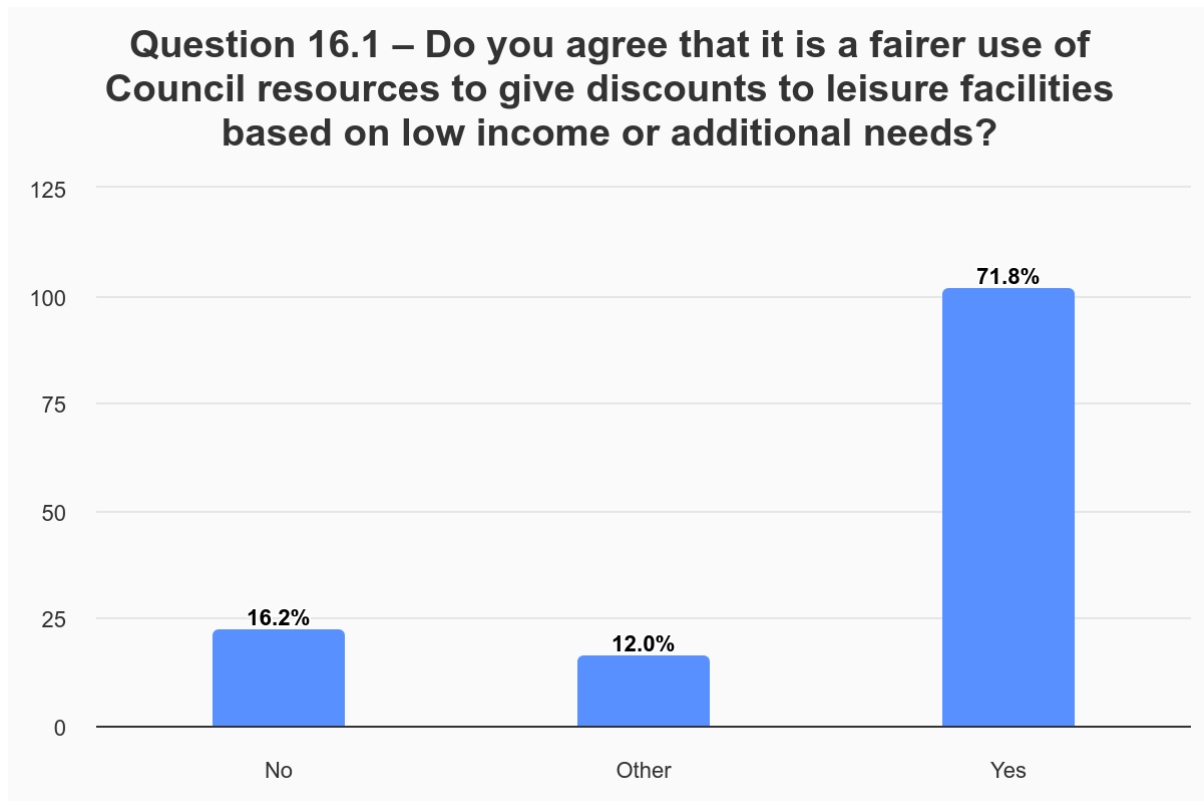
Other residents highlighted that they weren't sure what, if anything, came out of the survey so did not see the benefit of it compared to the cost. Others felt that with ongoing participation and consultation, the residents survey was unnecessary. Some were concerned as they see the data taken from the survey to be integral to guiding the council's strategies.

Some were concerned that removing the survey could be seen as taking away the public's voice. Some felt that the £25,000 currently invested in it was worth it.

4.4 Environment and Resident Experience Proposals

4.4.1

Question 16.1 – Do you agree that it is a fairer use of council resources to give discounts to leisure facilities based on low income or additional needs?



Please give reasons for your answer

Respondents thought that it made sense to have a fairer system of concessionary prices, there were concerns about what decisions would actually be taken.

Some felt that use of leisure facilities was not a necessity, therefore providing a concession should not be a priority, particularly in the economic climate. Some felt that it would impact the least well off in society and could help contribute to an obesity epidemic.

Question 17. Do you have any comments to make on the proposals to increase or reduce capital spending as described above?

Some residents thought digital investment would save money and improve efficiency over time.

Respondents broadly supported digital investment in order to save money and improve efficiency.

There were also suggestions to add speed cameras into the borough, reduce subsidies to Alexandra Palace and spend less money on waste services. There were suggestions to rent council properties at a commercial rate.

Some residents suggested adapting acquisition policies for property, reducing temporary housing.

Safety and investing in lighting were also mentioned.

4.5 Other questions:

18. The council will need to identify additional savings or sources of income between now and February in order to achieve a balanced budget. As we look to develop further measures:

- a. Are there any changes or proposals you think we should consider which might save money or achieve better value from council spend?**

Suggestions included running all consultations in-house, not selling local authority land, turning Alexandra Palace into a community trust, ending Wards Corner funding, maintaining existing hours for libraries, stopping Haringey People and reviewing the amount of external contracts.

Some residents wanted more street cleaning. Renting out space in River Park House was also suggested. Some suggested pressing government for more funding, adapting councillor's allowances, stopping the insourcing of leisure centres, reducing agency workers and focusing on priorities. One respondent suggested prioritising the protection of LIP funding from TFL to invest in cycle lane provision and other active travel infrastructure.

Respondents also encouraged better collaboration with businesses.

- b. Are there any changes or proposals you think we should consider which might generate more income?**

Residents suggested pressing government for more funds, holding onto council property rather than selling, increasing fines and charges, stopping investment in Wards Corner and maintaining library opening hours.

There were also suggestions to revalue property, work with businesses, add 'paid for' services such as access to documentation, having more ticketed community events, renting out office space and public space, increasing council tax and having a community bus service.

Suggestions were also made to reduce ESOL subsidies and Adult Social Care services.

- c. If you were making the decision about savings or income for the council what do you think it would be most important to consider? What would you prioritise to protect spending on? What do you think is less important?**

Some residents thought the council should aim to protect the least well off including the homeless. Other suggestions included keeping public spaces open, prioritising easy fixes along with those policies which would have the highest impact, working to mitigate impacts on the climate, promoting a 'residents first' model, maintaining library services and working with businesses.

People also suggested spending on infrastructure, education, protecting frontline services, children's services, digital services and social care.

- d) Do you have any other thoughts on the council's budget that you would like to share?**

Residents used this question to express the challenges they face such as the impacts of the cost-of-living crisis. The challenges that the council currently face along with other councils in the UK due to funding issues were also noted.

Comments were made on challenges within housing that need to be dealt with such as the right of tenants to be consulted on changes, the impacts of reduction on library hours and changes to Connected Communities.

Suggestions were made not to sell property, work with other local authorities more, lobby government for a London Funding Formula, reduce staff salaries and review staff performance against pay grade and the number of councillors.

3.1 Appendix 1 – Verbatim Responses

How would changes to the way the Connected Care Service is provided impact you or someone you care for?

| |
|---|
| <i>we self fund</i> |
| <i>We are not vulnerable people (yet)</i> |
| <i>Very few people are even aware of the service . I attend numerous groups for Older People and I cannot recently being involved in any effective discussion with regards to this service.</i> |
| <i>Until now, haven't heard of this. It is not clear from the name or your website what it is.</i> |
| <i>This is not applicable to my family.</i> |
| <i>This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to the general public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to the general public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>They've done nothing to stop my neighbours harassing and assaulting me, so I don't see these proposed changes making any difference.</i> |
| <i>They would learn more about inclusion to community and mental health and wellbeing and stop fuelling fire on discrimination.</i> |
| <i>they are useless when needed</i> |
| <i>There is not enough detail on alternative delivery models to indicate their potential impact</i> |
| <i>There is insufficient information provided about the proposals to answer this question</i> |
| <i>The decision gives the figures who think can be saved but no detail on implementation.</i> |
| <i>Thankfully i personally have no need for care at present</i> |
| <i>sounds more efficient. will free up resources for others.</i> |
| <i>Proposal 7: Connected Care Service The arguments for saving in 26/27 of £879,000 on home safety and personal security systems is weak. The overarching need to assist residents to stay in their own homes is evident, both socially and financially. The suggestion that other Local Authorities experiences are adaptable to Haringey should of course be fully explored although the implementation of change needs to be budgeted for. We are also not clear how much is spent on DA survivors when the main emphasis for this group should be on the use of police powers. We also note that elsewhere pooled budgets are used to fund safety equipment for DA survivors. The Government is due to award further funds for this area which may well assist in bridging gaps in spending. We ask that in the light of these points, a review of these savings is made.</i> |
| <i>People need more real community and care services</i> |
| <i>not clear what you are proposing to change</i> |
| <i>not utilising</i> |
| <i>NOT APPLICABLE TO ME</i> |
| <i>never used the service</i> |
| <i>Neither I nor any family members require this service</i> |
| <i>My mother used this service but died in 2023. I don't know anyone else who uses this service. Rapid response to falls seems sensible.</i> |

| |
|---|
| <i>long waiting lists no one answers or takes notice i am disabled waiting for reasonable adjustments for more than 1 ys</i> |
| <i>lack of knowledge or understanding of local issues, short opening hours</i> |
| <i>It's hard to see how savings on this service wouldn't have a negative impact</i> |
| <i>If changes were made to the Haringey Connected Care Service, they could have a significant positive impact on the elderly and people with mental health conditions, making their daily lives safer and more manageable. Many of these individuals already face challenges with memory, organization, and managing their health, so reminder systems and alerts, such as medication reminders or wellbeing check-ins, would be incredibly beneficial. These tools would help ensure they stay on track with important tasks, offering support in maintaining their independence and reducing the likelihood of forgetting crucial actions that could affect their health. The shift towards more flexible, community-based support would also be a positive step. If elderly individuals or those with mental health conditions could access help when needed through mobile apps or online check-ins, it would give them the freedom to seek assistance outside of scheduled visits. This flexibility would allow for better management of their needs, especially for those who experience unpredictable changes in their circumstances or may feel anxious about rigid routines. A lifting service would provide a much-needed safety net for those who are at risk of falls, which is common among older adults or individuals with mental health conditions. Knowing that help is readily available if an accident occurs would offer reassurance to both the individuals and their families. Additionally, regular wellbeing checks would help reduce feelings of isolation and ensure that their health and safety are monitored regularly, catching potential issues early and providing the necessary support to avoid more serious health complications. The monitoring system that responds quickly to alerts could also make a big difference. In emergency situations, elderly individuals or those with mental health conditions may struggle to react quickly or effectively. Having an automatic system that summons help in such instances would reduce the stress and anxiety often associated with emergencies, ensuring that the right support arrives swiftly. Finally, making the service more affordable and accessible would remove financial barriers that can prevent vulnerable individuals from accessing the care they need. Introducing sliding scale fees or flexible payment options would ensure that these services remain within reach for those who rely on them most, without added financial stress. Overall, these changes would greatly enhance the safety, wellbeing, and independence of the elderly and those with mental health conditions, providing them with timely support, reducing isolation, and helping them manage their daily lives more effectively.</i> |
| <i>I sufficient details provided</i> |
| <i>I provide 4-6 hours pw of voluntary support to a friend who herself receives care.</i> |
| <i>I haven't (yet) had a need to call on this service</i> |
| <i>I have not used the service</i> |
| <i>I have a brain injury & the service has been valuable for me</i> |
| <i>I don't use this service</i> |
| <i>I don't use this service</i> |
| <i>I don't know what the Connected Care Service is and have never used it</i> |
| <i>I don't know what connected care is, so can't make a decision. By its name it sounds sensible!</i> |
| <i>I don't know if I know anyone who receives the service</i> |
| <i>I don't fall into any of the groups of people to whom this Service applies.</i> |
| <i>I don't care for anybody; It would depend on what the changes were.</i> |
| <i>I don't know anyone who currently benefits from this service</i> |
| <i>I do not use it at present</i> |
| <i>I do not use any of these services currently</i> |

| |
|---|
| <i>I do not receive this service and don't expect to in the future</i> |
| <i>I do not receive or know anyone close that receives this service</i> |
| <i>I do not know anyone currently using this service, though i agree wholeheartedly that is it important and should continue to be supported</i> |
| <i>I do not currently know anyone receiving this support</i> |
| <i>I am currently in good health and have no need for the service and I am not a carer</i> |
| <i>I am aging and will soon need easy access social alarm services and welfare services in my home. I used Haringey community social alarm services to support my mother in independent living during the last years of her life. These connected care services have a vital role to play in supporting quality of life and independent living for elderly people. Haringey needs to be expanding not contracting these services.</i> |
| <i>Growing demand, no plans for productivity improvements</i> |
| <i>do not use these services</i> |
| <i>Currently I am not impacted by this, but it is an important service to Haringey residents.</i> |
| <i>Currently i don't use this service</i> |
| CONNECTED CARE SERVICE IS SUFFICIENT AS IS |
| <i>Clients are very happy with the options given to them and although some cannot afford the costs, many take up the service and believe it to be of value to them.</i> |
| <i>Caring for dementia member of family never used service. These assertive technologies can be cheaply bought installed cheaply by users family/representatives. The council should be advisory rather than an actualization</i> |
| <i>because it doesn't affect me or someone I care for</i> |
| <i>As an older person living on my own a time will come when I will need support</i> |
| <i>A service many taxpayers do not use</i> |

Are there any changes the council could make to the Day Opportunities provision that would improve residents' experience and help reduce the cost of providing the service?

Working closely with Voluntary and Community organisations to increase their capacity. Developing/expanding befriending or similar provisions

Use libraries, particularly branch libraries and other local buildings, to provide services in the heart of local neighbourhoods and maximise the use and efficiency of local buildings.

To make life better for residents with learning disabilities and mental health needs while spending less on Day Opportunities services, the Council could consider a variety of changes. Here are some ideas:

1. *Personalized Support*****

- *****Individual Plans:***** Create specific support plans for each resident based on their unique needs and goals. This way, services can be more focused, helping to avoid unnecessary spending.

- *****Flexible Options:***** Provide services at various times and locations, making it easier for individuals to get help when they need it, whether in the community or on-site. This could increase satisfaction and lower costs involved in fixed service setups.

- *****Choices for Residents:***** Allow individuals and their carers to pick the services they want, empowering them to choose affordable and tailored options.

2. *Community-Based Services*****

- *****Engagement in the Community:***** Promote activities and outreach programs that help residents connect with their communities, moving away from fixed day center spaces. This encourages social inclusion and can save on the costs of running large facilities.

- *****Peer Support Opportunities:***** Set up peer support or volunteer activities that let residents take on leadership roles, promoting independence and reducing dependence on costly staff.

3. *Use of Technology*****

- *****Digital Tools:***** Use apps and online platforms to help residents manage their schedules, communicate with staff, and track their progress. This can make services more efficient and keep an eye on residents' well-being without needing constant on-site supervision.

- *****Virtual Services:***** Offer telehealth options for mental health support or routine check-ins, helping to lower the need for face-to-face visits.

4. *Streamline Services*****

- *****Collaborate with Local Organizations:***** Work with local charities or nonprofits specializing in support for disabilities. They might provide high-quality services at lower costs, easing the burden on Council resources.

- *****Share Resources:***** Team up with nearby councils or service providers to share staff, equipment, or spaces, reducing overall costs and providing more options for residents.

5. *Reevaluate Existing Facilities*****

- *****Assess Facility Use:***** Look at whether some day services or buildings are underused or costly to maintain. Merging services into fewer locations or moving to smaller community venues could lower expenses.

- *****Multi-Purpose Spaces:***** Adapt existing buildings to serve various functions, such as education, social activities, and health support, maximizing their use.

6. *Train Staff for Efficiency*****

- *****Skills Development:***** Provide training so staff can offer a wider range of effective services. Well-trained staff can reduce the need for additional help and improve service

quality.

- **Flexible Staffing:** Consider more adaptable staffing arrangements, like part-time roles or job sharing, to better match staff presence to resident needs.

7. **Focus on Prevention**

- **Early Support:** Invest in services for individuals showing early signs of needing help, which might prevent the need for more costly long-term care.

- **Wellness Programs:** Offer programs that help residents maintain independence, such as exercise or mental health support, potentially reducing the need for day services over time.

8. **Outcome-Based Funding**

- **Performance Contracts:** Use funding models that reward service providers for achieving specific results, such as improving residents' well-being or social skills, promoting cost efficiency.

- **Data-Driven Decisions:** Collect data on how services are used and how residents feel about them to spot opportunities for savings without compromising quality.

9. **Support Carers**

- **Carer Training and Respite:** Provide training and short breaks for carers, which can lessen the demand for day services and allow them to offer better support at home.

- **Involve Carers in Service Design:** Get feedback from carers when creating or improving services, as they often understand what works best for residents.

10. **Trial New Approaches**

- **Pilot Programs:** Test new service delivery models, such as combining on-site and community services, to gather feedback before fully implementing them. This helps ensure new ideas meet residents' needs effectively.

By combining these strategies, the Council can enhance residents' experiences while managing costs. The goal will be to find a good balance between saving money and maintaining or improving the quality of care, keeping the needs of residents and their carers at the forefront of any changes.

This service needs to be made available to more Haringey residents and could be offered to residents outside the borough to generate income. This question needs information about what this service provides.

This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to the general public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed. Vulnerable service users should be supported to have full access to Haringey's libraries and the service users' local branch library in particular.

This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to members of the public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed. Vulnerable service users should be supported to have full access to Haringey's libraries and the service users' local branch library in particular.

There is already a scarcity in this provision and many carers would be unable to work or have some respite and then would rely on benefits or suffer mental health issues from burn out if this were to be reduced at all.

The present services should be reviewed effectively . I am certainly aware of a review taking place with regards to the Autism Hub . As a result of information received from the latter I believe that the contract needs urgent attention .

Reduce printing documents COUNCIL- CARBON

Get rid of ***** have a Haringey Hub for ***** surgery (Only 3 in the borough) all the others

step down.

All ***** should step down after 4 years. No extensions given to them
get rid of connected communities - it is NOT working

Reduce carbon prints: stop printing

re-train councillors, after 4 years of service all councillors must step down

Most council employees do not answer e-mails that includes you (The leader)

Your computer system's upgrade them: improve IT

Housing: Housing Needs team

housing regeneration & development

all should be restructured

Work with stake holders amiably

Work with landlords to eradicate social housing issues

Accrediate good landlords give incentives to bring the housing stock into the borough

Restructure your cabinet/ councillors, appraise their work & ask them to step down after 4 years give other residents equal opportunity

ALL the council buildings: RRR provide refurbish, renovate, rent DO NOT CLOSE BUILDINGS

Abolish: Selective Licensing fee: not all councils charge this

Children & welfare section: More good youth centers, apprenticeships & careers for young people

Have connections with universities & other so that young people are employed

Animal cruelty: Eradicate animal cruelty: we rescue a cat which was dumped on the cambridge roundabout

Bicycles: Bicycle lanes, as every one with lime they cycle on the payments alarming elderly disabled people

More awareness of womens activities, domestic violence etc

People can participate in action plans for it

Parents should be taking and collecting their children from the day care facilities as other parents do. This will enhance the day to day relationship between child and primary carer and mutual information sharing of that child's triumphs etc can only benefit all parties. Also, helps that child be a visible and accepted part of the wider community; not hidden, and only in the purview of officials/organisations.

not aware. a review seems sensible

No

N/A

Make Dial a Ride more efficient!

I'm not at all comfortable with this it just looks like service cutting and trying to gain a subsidy by driving cost into the voluntary sector or expecting care workers to subsidise service deliver out of their wages. The problem is inadequate central funding. The chancellor needs to come up with what a welfare state costs not what is politically convenient.

I think government is all about priorities and ensuring tax payers money is spent efficiently. Why is it therefore that whenever questions like this are asked it is kicked into the long grass with a review?

I have no confidence that changes would reduce the cost of providing the service.

I have no idea what the impact of the changes will be. All I know is that when I had to use the service for my parents a few years ago, it was extremely good and better than most of the other councils I heard of.

This whole exercise seems to be about saving money rather than delivering better services. I can see why but I think you should be putting more pressure on the government to increase funding.

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| <i>I have been involved with the services & it has been a life saver. It has enormously been beneficial for me too. I have a brain injury & I am by myself. To cut this service would be detrimental for me being a Haringey resident.</i> |
| <i>I don't know. I don't know what will be in the review.</i> |
| <i>I don't know what this service is and the description does not clarify what it is.</i> |
| <i>I don't know -- I don't use this Service.</i> |
| <i>I am not up to date on current provisions but services were appalling when I was the sole carer for my mother who had dementia and needed help.</i> |
| <i>I am not an expert in this area and so I don't know what changes would be viable.</i> |
| <i>I am nor qualified to make any suggestions beyond saying that staff involved in service delivery should be asked for their views on how cost-efficiency can be improved</i> |
| <i>I am in favour of the proposals to explore "alternative delivery models, including full in-house provision; partnerships or external delivery by not-for-profit organisations."</i> <i>Would add more 'co-production involving users and their families.</i> <i>Plus opening up day centres to other community uses - improving community integration and potential income.</i> <i>Could a better service also be achieved by diverting legal costs of contesting claims for support to actual provision?</i> |
| <i>Don't know</i> |
| <i>Don't know.</i> |
| <i>Do not know what it is. Until now, haven't heard of this. It is not clear from the name or your website what it is.</i> |
| <i>cut further or get users to pay for the services</i> |
| <i>Bring full in-house.</i> |
| <i>Big hit. whatabout s, charities, business or school partnerships</i> |
| <i>Agreed. The system needs to be reviewed and needs to be more efficient and cost effective.</i> |
| <i>Abolish/Repeal celebration of Black History in October, Islamophobia in November, LGBT etc.</i> <i>Every other country Celebrates Black History (February that is International Day). Bring down 3/4 costs by having 1 Equality Month in February from 2025. And then you stop the Fire Fuelling Fire problems. Teach people in October and November about real issues. As most have half term anyway in October. And February the Short Month.</i> |

What impact would integrating the Connected Communities service (in other words making it a part of) with other services such as adult social care and housing needs into one service have on you or someone you care for?

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| <i>Would have no effect to anyone Imknow</i> |
| <i>We do not currently have care needs</i> |
| <i>Until now, haven't heard of this. It is not clear from the name or your website what it is.</i> |
| <i>This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to the general public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to the general public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those who are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>This is basic common sense. Agencies need to talk to each other to increase efficiency. Provided the system of communication/action is clear and not disjointed requiring multiple formats, it could work. All agencies involved should have a mutual e-system so every agency can see what, where and how things are done. This will reduce replication of workload and the person being helped has some idea of what is happening so feeling that they included in the decsion making process.</i> |
| <i>There will be reduced attention on the Connected Communities service and they could potentially lose out through prioritisation in other organisations</i> |
| <i>There is insufficient info in the 5 se to be able to answer this question</i> |
| <i>There is a significant lack of support for victims of domestic abuse and adults with learning disabilities. You have not made clear how you would provide sufficient protection from abuse of this nature should this service be terminated.</i> |
| <i>The service would be more impactful as a stand alone service as they provide support around a wide range of support needs. People who need help that doesnt pertain to housing or adult social care or specific council related support may struggle to find the right help from the right services. Also, unless there is change in accessibility of other services, this will only shut residents out who need help and only few will gain support. this is more of a barrier as most other services in the council are not easy to get in touch with as it is. How will the support be accessed in that case? I also feel that demand would be extremely high in these specific teams which means that only a few will be able to access support through these channels. it will not be accessible to people who really need it.</i> |
| <i>The more joined up the better for all.</i> |
| <i>stops wasting money</i> |
| <i>sounds more efficient and joined up</i> |
| <i>Social care, including senior care, children services, protection, and housing support, is highly nuanced and complex. I believe it is more effective to manage these areas separately, allowing focused attention on the unique challenges and requirements of each issue.</i> |
| <i>Services should be joined up</i> |
| <i>rubbish service not needed</i> |
| <i>Proposal 9 and 10 We support the integration of Connected Communities with housing and ASC services but want to ensure that these services are available in all wards. Currently they are piecemeal with many residents not being clear who their contacts are. We also ask if savings of £1.1m allows for the development of alternative services. To cut and not re-develop does not ensure the best prevention and early intervention support leading to savings further down the line.</i> |
| <i>Possible economies of scale and shared back office functions</i> |

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|---|
| <i>Positive if more proactive services for health, wellbeing and reducing social isolation implemented</i> |
| <i>not utilising</i> |
| <i>Not using adult social care</i> |
| <i>not caring for anyone</i> |
| <i>No one I know receives this support</i> |
| <i>No details given of exactly what changes are proposed</i> |
| <i>Need to see what comes out of changes</i> |
| <i>NEED TO BE ABLE TO SEE CC TEAM FACE TO FACE. ISSUES ARE FAR AND WIDE BEYOND HOUSING AND ASC. A lot of people particularly elderly, people with mental health and other disabilities do not have emails or smart phones and are digitally excluded from the council march towards everything online. Who will help with benefits forms such as PIP, Capability for work - which ultimately brings money into the borough. It is short sighted to release a team with local knowledge and connections to support residents' in person - far too many services are back office such as repairs and housing and residents cannot access them despite perpetually trying. CC work with residents to assist with looking for work, housing, getting legal support. the proposed budget to end the service will increase cooperate complaints and legal cases as case progression will slow to a standstill. every £ spent for the CC team saves multiple £s per resident supported in issues escalating requiring more specialist support such as social workers and their budget. CC are creative in their approach getting to the root of issues and accessible to meet residents' face to face to assist them in moving forward. The shortage in responsive services includes Tenancy management, repairs and housing registration for starters.</i> |
| <i>Myself or my family do not need this service currently</i> |
| <i>Many people rely on Connected Communities for support in accessing their benefits or managing their finances and dealing with council services. Without this they would suffer mental health issues, fall into increasing debt and their housing situations would worsen causing homelessness and destitution. This is a crucial service for many families.</i> |
| <i>Mainly are symbolic and palliative interventions</i> |
| <i>lack of knowledge, they serve as a minimal service point</i> |
| <i>Joined up working can only be positive</i> |
| <i>It's not clear how these savings will be made</i> |
| <i>It's hard to see how doing more with less will not impact negatively on adult social services</i> |
| <i>Integrating the Connected Communities Service with other services, such as adult social care and housing needs, into a single, cohesive service could have several positive impacts for both residents and the services themselves. This integration could create a more seamless, efficient approach to supporting residents, particularly those at the highest risk of needing care and support, and help improve the overall quality of service delivery. Here's how: 1. Improved Coordination and Continuity of Care By combining services like adult social care, housing, and the Connected Communities Service, residents would benefit from a more coordinated approach. This would ensure that all their needs—whether related to health, housing, safety, or wellbeing—are addressed in a holistic way. Residents, particularly those with complex or multiple needs, often face challenges when dealing with several different departments. Integration would reduce the need for them to navigate multiple systems and would provide a single point of contact, making it easier for them to access the support they need. 2. Early Intervention and Prevention With a more unified service, there would be a stronger emphasis on early intervention. The Connected Communities Service could work in tandem with adult social care and housing teams to identify residents at risk of deterioration before they reach a crisis point. For example, the wellbeing checks and assistive technology offered by the Connected Communities Service could be linked to housing and social care assessments, ensuring that residents who need support are identified early. By intervening early,</i> |

residents can maintain their independence for longer, reducing the likelihood that they will need more intensive care or support in the future. This could ultimately help reduce the demand on costly, crisis-driven services, such as emergency healthcare or long-term residential care. 3. *Efficient Use of Resources* Integrating services allows for more efficient use of resources. For instance, the same staff or service teams could handle both housing and social care needs, preventing overlap and ensuring that resources are being used where they are needed most. A single, unified service model could eliminate redundancies in service provision, such as duplicate assessments or overlapping support services. This would lead to cost savings and more streamlined delivery. 4. *Enhanced Personalization of Support* When different services are integrated, the approach to care and support can be more tailored to the individual's needs. Information from social care, housing, and connected communities teams could be shared more easily, providing a fuller picture of each resident's situation and allowing for more personalized care plans. For example, if a resident is struggling with housing instability and has mental health challenges, a holistic service would provide a combined support package, addressing housing needs alongside mental health services and wellbeing checks. This would improve outcomes by ensuring all aspects of the resident's life are considered when determining the most appropriate support. 5. *Improved Communication and Collaboration* An integrated service would foster better communication and collaboration between different departments within the council. By working together, teams can share insights, expertise, and resources to more effectively address the needs of residents. This could lead to faster response times and more effective problem-solving, as teams are no longer siloed but work toward common goals and outcomes for residents. 6. *Greater Focus on Prevention and Wellbeing* Integration allows for a stronger focus on prevention rather than just reacting to crises. The Connected Communities Service could be used proactively to ensure that residents are supported to remain independent, reducing the likelihood of needing more intensive interventions in the future. With services like wellbeing checks, assistive technology, and safety alarms integrated with housing and social care teams, residents could receive more proactive, preventative care that addresses issues like social isolation, mental health, and housing instability before they escalate. 7. *Improved Resident Experience* Residents would experience a more seamless service when they do not have to navigate different departments or multiple service providers. This could significantly improve their overall experience, making them feel supported and cared for by a coherent, well-coordinated service. By having a more joined-up approach, residents would have fewer barriers to access and could expect more consistent and timely support, improving both their safety and quality of life. 8. *Cost-Effective Service Delivery* The integration of these services could also reduce duplication of effort and ensure that services are delivered in a more cost-effective manner. By providing a more comprehensive and unified offering, the council could reduce the need for residents to receive multiple, fragmented services from different departments, which can often lead to inefficiencies. Additionally, the integration of services could help free up resources in the long term by enabling early intervention and prevention, which could ultimately reduce demand for more expensive, crisis-based interventions.

If you have less money and more people needing the services, how can the service have a positive impact?

I'd go further and remove it completely or charge individuals. Connected Communities offers services which every adult should be able to do on their own.

I think this needs to be kept separate to ensure that queries are answered quickly and don't get bogged down with delays in social care.

I suspect that this would just be a way of giving specialist staff generic job descriptions and overworking them, which I believe eventually means there will be a lower quality of service provided overall.

I don't use this service

I don't need these services now but who knows what the future holds.

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| <i>I don't fall into any of the groups for people to whom this Service applies.</i> |
| <i>I don't care for anyone that requires</i> |
| <i>I don't (yet) have a need to call on this service</i> |
| <i>I don't know enough about this to make an informed assessment</i> |
| <i>I do not use these services</i> |
| <i>I do not use- or know about- the Connected Communities service</i> |
| <i>I do not know anyone in care locally</i> |
| <i>I do not know anyone currently using this service, though i agree wholeheartedly that is it important and should continue to be supported</i> |
| <i>I didn't understand the description.</i> |
| <i>I didn't know it existed and have never used it</i> |
| <i>I can't answer this as you haven't set out what the changes are going to be so how can say what impact they'll have?</i> |
| <i>I believe adult social care, housing and community services help to provide for a more integrated and civilized society Adult social care, housing</i> |
| <i>I am not using any of these services, nor is my partner nor household.</i> |
| <i>I am not part of the user group for this service</i> |
| <i>How would I know? This is too vague</i> |
| <i>Hopefully</i> |
| <i>Fully agree with the aim of improved ways of working between teams and departments within the council, fostering a more joined-up, efficient offer for residents; but it wil only work if it's managed efficiently; otherwise it could just result in yet more bureaucracy and a 'committee-led' approach!</i> |
| <i>Don't use it</i> |
| <i>Don't know.</i> |
| <i>Details on changes proposed are unclear</i> |
| <i>Connected Communities works in a very nuanced way culturally that is completely different from ASC & Housing Needs, that is likely to be lost in an integration with these services creating a diluted experience for residents</i> |
| <i>Connected Communities works face to face with some of the most excluded residents that have been failed by many services in the Borough. They ensure the residents voices are heard whether this is using our BSL interpreter or Big Word. The support workers work tirelessly to ensure the Haringey values are upheld when many other services fail to do so. Termination or integration into ASC would not benefit the residents of Haringey, leaving many to suffer in detrimental circumstances which will lead to a more traumatised community.</i> |
| <i>Connected Communities serves any resident with any issue. By limiting what they do and how they work will negatively impact support accessibility for all residents. It is a short sighted way of saving money as CC serve and support residents to prevent more costly intervention from the council at a later stage including cooperate complaints and escalation to ombudsman and legal claims against the council</i> |
| <i>Centralising the back office systems and deskilling the staff as and contracting out always looks good on paper. However, you will wind up with a bunch of poorly motivated and qualified clerical staff managing a series of ever more contested contracts. You will become organisationally incompetent in social care and unable to effectively manage these services.</i> |
| <i>Better access to direct services</i> |
| <i>Although one hears of the word Integration , there needs to be more discussion as to how this should be carried out . I certainly support the idea however of a major review being conducted with regards to the delivery of Adult Social Care by both Health and the LA . As there does not seem to be anything positive one can say about the service .</i> |

What Housing Related Support services have you got experience of using – either yourself or someone you care for or work with?

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| yes |
| <i>Volunteering with the Council Resettlement Team and newly eligible refugees to find temporary or PRS accommodation.</i> |
| <i>The only experience I have of the council is that they failed to support a covid widow who is vulnerable and has disabilities simply because she pushes herself to work a few hours a week so as to give to her community. Although the council is prepared to provide unlimited support to others who choose not to work. Disappointing and unfair on disabled and vulnerable people who want to continue to contribute.</i> |
| <i>The ironically named ‘support’ officers have allowed my hostile neighbours to constantly harass and assault me ever since I moved in. These officers have also been abusive to me themselves, causing me huge distress.</i> |
| <i>social rents should be increased with inflation, more help for working residents who cannot private rent hikes should be provided</i> |
| <i>Repairs</i> |
| <i>property investor landlords director the housing department is a shamble</i> |
| <i>Not sure.</i> |
| <i>Not sure about it</i> |
| <i>None at all apart from rubbish collection, street cleaning and lighting</i> |
| <i>My experience with housing has been with consultations over time and I'm aware of ongoing management problems over time with housing. We are all aware of current complaints to the Ombudsman. It could be worth creating a central management team comprising selected managers to consider how best to tackle this and that team would also take responsibility for changes and results.</i> |
| <i>My 86 yr old neighbour had workers to fit a shower room and stair lift. The level of efficiency was extremely low and so wasteful</i> |
| <i>It might make the transition of vulnerable adult residents into appropriate housing quicker.</i> |
| <i>I'm not eligible for most of housing related support</i> |
| <i>I work with resident engagement groups who report extreme difficulties in contacting Housing and having repairs done and having appropriate housing for residents.</i> |
| <i>I work in Early Help wherever almost 80% of our referrals include issues around housing. This places a huge demand on children's social care. This is a massively underfunded service and any cuts in this area would only escalate demands on other statutory services.</i> |
| <i>I see people sleeping on the street and long queues outside the local food bank. In the past during COVID I delivered for the food bank. It was obvious that some of the people receiving food were living in a very difficult situation. This isn't an area where service reduction should even be considered.</i> |
| <i>I have, and it involves going round the houses. The system is stressful, unclear, inconsistent and gives the impression the left hand doesn't know what the right hand is doing.</i> |
| <i>I have not made use of any Housing Related Support services.</i> |
| <i>I have no experience of this service, but I cannot believe that it is not understaffed and overstretched already. The whole homelessness issue needs a complete rethink along the lines of returning to building tens of thousands of social housing units each year.</i> |
| <i>I have experienced supported housing that then became assisted living with reference to my aunt. I spent years putting formal complaints and asking for the contract to be reviewed without any real response!</i> |
| <i>I don't know -- I don't rely on or need this Service.</i> |
| <i>Housing registration, housing needs, and other teams related to housing. income collection etc</i> |

| |
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| <i>Haringey social services, Mace Housing</i> |
| <i>Don't have experience with housing related support, but know a lot of people who ricked being homeless after rent payments were raised. This needs to be controlled in some way to prevent more people being at risk of homelessness</i> |
| <i>already short staffed - making cuts will impact services</i> |
| <i>The Engage Haringey team has provided housing support where residents have been unable to contact or receive support from statutory services. They have also supported people with benefit maximisation. This is extremely important in the more deprived areas of the borough where residents are less likely to be able to advocate for themselves.</i> |

What impact would changes to Housing Related Support have on you or someone you care for?

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| <i>Until I know how the system is implemented, I can't comment.</i> |
| <i>Unless they are trained to deal with antisocial behaviour effectively, and be sensitive and genuinely supportive towards vulnerable tenants, then they're not fit for purpose.</i> |
| <i>Too vague to know what you're proposing, or implications. I don't assume this includes retrofitting of draughty council houses?</i> |
| <i>Too much wastage in council services generally</i> |
| <i>This question is incoherent as no changes are set out. This is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to members of the public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>This question is incoherent as no changes are set out. It is clearly a foolish question to put in a questionnaire to members of the public because this service appears to be a specialist service for vulnerable people who should be consulted directly. Answers given by those are not service users or in need are likely to be misinformed.</i> |
| <i>This is in theory as I don't care for anyone. It would also depend on what the specific changes were & whether they would suit different individuals.</i> |
| <i>These are not universal services</i> |
| <i>the LP plan 2024 is NOT available, homeless people increasing the housing department needs to be restructured</i> |
| <i>Supported housing / Assisted Living projects need to be urgently reviewed .</i> |
| <i>stops wasting money</i> |
| <i>see above</i> |
| <i>please bring in-house and streamline</i> |
| <i>People in the more deprived areas of the borough are often unaware of the support that could be offered and would find themselves in increasingly precarious situations causing homelessness, destitution and severe mental health issues without this support.</i> |
| <i>not utilising</i> |
| <i>Not using housing related support</i> |
| <i>Not used</i> |
| <i>Not relevant to me</i> |
| <i>not applicable to me</i> |
| <i>No experience with this kind of service</i> |
| <i>No comment</i> |
| <i>Never got involved in the subject</i> |
| <i>N/A for me or family</i> |
| <i>N/A</i> |
| <i>Myself or my family don't use this service</i> |
| <i>long waiting lists for OT assessments, elderly people neglected</i> |
| <i>Joined up provision, which appears currently inadequate, would be very beneficial. But not filling vacancies could overstretch staff further unless genuine efficiencies with cutting provision can be achieved.</i> |
| <i>It would reduce support options</i> |
| <i>It would depend on what these changes are. At the moment housing services have been very difficult to get help from and in many cases have not been able to provide accommodation for residents due to high demand. staffing levels would firstly need to be increased so that there is capacity to do the role but also there needs to be an appropriate triage system which leads residents to the correct place. I understand that this does not solve the problem of housing demand but it would help if staff are not so overwhelmed</i> |

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| <i>that people are waiting excessively long periods of time just for a decision about their living situation.</i> |
| <i>It might have progressed (nine years) disrepair issues quicker. Might prevent elderly residents being housed in inappropriate accommodation.</i> |
| <i>Insufficient info is provided to answer this question</i> |
| <i>Impossible to get extra help and assistance as you make the forms too long and don't ask the appropriate questions</i> |
| <i>I'm currently fortunate not to need those services</i> |
| <i>I have no experience on which to base my opinion</i> |
| <i>I don't use this service</i> |
| <i>I don't use this service</i> |
| <i>I don't use these</i> |
| <i>I don't know if I know anyone who receives this support</i> |
| <i>I don't know anyone using these services</i> |
| <i>I don't fall into any of the groups of people who use this Service.</i> |
| <i>I don't believe that the housing crisis in the borough will be reduced by cost cutting</i> |
| <i>I do not know anyone currently using this service, though i agree wholeheartedly that it is important and should continue to be supported</i> |
| <i>i am fortunate in not needing them.</i> |
| <i>Housing is one of the biggest problems for residents in this borough and needs to be given more funding and support.</i> |
| <i>Housing is in crisis in Haringey. The council needs more people, not less to deal with the crisis. The result can only be negative, even catastrophic.</i> |
| <i>Growing demand, no productivity plans</i> |
| <i>For reason given above, unlikely to have an impact. The council doesn't support disabled people who force themselves to work.</i> |
| <i>Don't use these services</i> |
| <i>Don't use</i> |
| <i>Cuts in this area will ultimately result in more homeless people on the streets of Haringey, and so even if you do not use the service you will be affected by the sight of homeless people in a desperate situation.</i> |
| <i>As stated earlier i believe this all contributes to a more cohesive and civilized society</i> |
| <i>£412K savings is a very precise amount but no detail given on how this figure was calculated.</i> |

Do you agree with the proposal that the cost of running Pendarren should be met via the income it generates rather than subsidising it from council resources as long as it can continue to provide a high quality and affordable option for Haringey's families?

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| <i>You haven't said how you generate income for Pendarren. If you said how it makes the income generated, then I would be able to give a considered answer. Otherwise, without sufficient information, the answer is more or less invalid.</i> |
| <i>You have not provided any information on where the income will come from if it becomes a private set up. Please, please, try to learn from the fact that over the last twenty years or so, the taking over of children's homes and homes for the elderly by corporate set up have only resulted in increased costs for local authorities. It is a scandal which you really should be aware of.</i> |
| <i>Yes, it should diversify and act to maximise the asset and try to use the space to generate revenue on its own behalf</i> |
| <i>Yes, but on the condition that provided services don't suffer from proposed changes</i> |
| <i>Would prefer 'don't know' as I don't know whether it's realistic that Pendarren would generate enough income.</i> |
| <i>While it is right to have such an amenity in Wales better value at little reduction in the children's experience could be achieved closer to home</i> |
| <i>users should pay for the services they use. If they choose not to work then they/thier children can't afford to participate, it shouldn't be subsidised.</i> |
| <i>This will impact on ability for most vulnerable to access services</i> |
| <i>This will encourage Pendarren to run more efficiently with a conscious mindset of cash flow. Otherwise inefficiency will be inevitable.</i> |
| <i>This is so popular and therefore with some business acumen must able to generate significant income.</i> |
| <i>This is a poor borough and the council should be funding these schemes instead of wasting funds on things like cycle lanes and LTNs</i> |
| <i>These service need to be able to manage independent of government</i> |
| <i>There should always be a course of redress when the site fails to meet costs.</i> |
| <i>There are options to commission this output if demands are justifiable</i> |
| <i>The quality of service will drop and fewer young people benefit.</i> |
| <i>The proposal is vague. Will the carers/parents of the children need to pay more? What is the self-funding model? If Pendarren is to be self-sufficient, will you open it up to other users? I don't understand the statement. If you expect users to individually pay more, then it could work. If you open up the facility to other users, that's possible. But, it's hard to say as I don't know what your business plan is.</i> |
| <i>The Pendarren Service is funded using the present methodology in order to ensure the service is sustainable and accessible to all school children in Haringey. Changing the funding approach will make the service unviable and unsustainable. These proposals were previously rejected so why are they being put forward again? This is clearly a foolish question to out in a questionnaire to members of the public because this service is a service given to schools. Given the biased question it is disappointing to see that the Council no longer supports the service.</i> |
| <i>The Pendarren Service is funded using the present methodology in order to ensure the service is sustainable and accessible to all school children in Haringey. Changing the funding approach will make the service unviable and unsustainable. Given the biased question it is disappointing to see that the Council no longer supports the service.</i> |
| <i>The current epidemic of Childhood obesity</i> |
| <i>The costs should be subsidised to ensure every child has the opportunity to go. It's a favourite and treasured part of primary school life in haringey</i> |
| <i>spending should equal income</i> |

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| <i>Some families can't afford to pay to use the service. If Pendarren had to break even who will support those children</i> |
| <i>So long as it genuinely remains affordable, without compromising the services offered.</i> |
| <i>Should be done if it is sustainable and families still have access to affordable support</i> |
| <i>Should be a joint partnership in my view with any income Pendarren can achieve being matched by the council</i> |
| <i>Services should be self funding as long as users are not disadvantaged</i> |
| <i>Provided all Haringey children will continue to have the opportunity to go.</i> |
| <i>People Using the service need to realise that services have to be paid for</i> |
| <i>Pendarren has been of real benefit to Haringey children over the years and I think it should be subsidised by the Council.</i> |
| <i>Pendarren has been a wonderful resource for Haringey's children, including my own, and it should continue to be for the benefit of ALL the children of Haringey. If it becomes self-funding, then the more disadvantaged children will be left out.</i> |
| <i>Only if the same quality can be provided; if not, the council should continue to fund/</i> |
| <i>Only if standards can be maintained in this way</i> |
| <i>On the face of it, that appears to be the right approach</i> |
| <i>NOT APPLICABLE TO ME</i> |
| <i>Not all schools use Pendarren and it seems resources are better directed elsewhere.</i> |
| <i>Not a priority for funding sadly.</i> |
| <i>No details given of income generated now or in future years</i> |
| <i>My children benefited enormously from Pendarren. It should be retained for the benefit of Haringey families and schools, but self-funding through generation of income from other sources.</i> |
| <i>Maximum use should be made of the facilities available at Pendarren when not being used by Haringey children.</i> |
| <i>makes sense, so long as it doesn't exclude or cost more for those in greatest need.</i> |
| <i>It would be better to have different arrangements for families that cannot afford, vs families that can afford paying</i> |
| <i>It should be possible to generate sufficient income to allow it to be self-funding</i> |
| <i>It is a relatively small investment by Haringey with an outsize impact on the lives of children who get to use the service.</i> |
| <i>It could work if there's no major challenges with Pendarren itself .</i> |
| <i>Revisit every 2 years to get value for money .</i> |
| <i>Check figures against total over all cost .</i> |
| <i>It could be self funding.</i> |
| <i>Investment in children should be a council priority given the problems with youth gang culture</i> |
| <i>Impossible to answer when you use the words high quality and affordable without saying what they mean.</i> |
| <i>High quality compared with what, affordable to whom</i> |
| <i>Important to give this opportunity to children in Haringey, my children loved it.</i> |
| <i>If this model maintains affordability and quality, and is achievable, this would be appropriate.</i> |
| <i>If these services are not covered by schools they should be self funding</i> |
| <i>If it works without input from council then use it. If it doesn't, think again.</i> |
| <i>If it is able to generate income without this impinging on the time/quality of services devoted to Haringey children. Presumably this is done by running paid courses for other organisations.</i> |
| <i>I would need more information on the cost of running the facility and it unlikely to be successful in self-funding</i> |

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| <i>I would need more details of actual numbers to be able to answer this question</i> |
| <i>I went to Pendarren twice as a child in Haringey; I hold fond memories of it still nearly 25 years later. Given that a number of families in the borough are likely able to pay a little for their child to attend, this seems like an appropriate step to help support the council at this financially troubled time. However, I would ask that the council think carefully about who they provide financial support to and by what metrics, and keep track of social and ethnic demographics of attendees to ensure this cost out a 'middle income' group of student who may, for example, not qualify for free meals but who's family may see this as an additional expense they cannot afford</i> |
| <i>I think families still need support the system</i> |
| <i>I think children's trips to Pendarren should continue be subsidised until Pendarren is able to cover the costs itself, rather than cutting the Council funding before Pendarren is realistically able to be self-sufficient. Is Pendarren sufficiently advertised as a holiday site to the public via non-Haringey resources, e.g. holiday let/ campsite websites when not in use by Haringey schools?</i> |
| <i>I see that this resource which is crucial to children in order to experience the countryside and bond with their peers would fail to be able to deliver the services that they currently do. If they were able to manage this currently why has it been previously subsidised? I am confused with regards to the question. How could they continue to provide high quality affordable trips without the Council's financial support. Where would the savings be? I would need to know more about the situation to give a valid and considered response.</i> |
| <i>I loved pendarren House and used it as a child. My family would not have been able to use it if I had to pay. It is more valuable than ten psychologists</i> |
| <i>I have no evidence that Pendarren House generates any income, outside provision by Haringey Schools. Not to subsidise funding suggests a lack of support for financially challenged students.</i> |
| <i>I don't have any children, but agree with the proposal.</i> |
| <i>I choose Yes, as in principle it would be great to match costs with income, but no information has been provided regarding how Pendarren house can generate income?</i> |
| <i>I certainly agree that some income should be generated - but this could be done in a staggered approach. My view is that people often fail to fully value services which are free. They often take these for granted, whereas if users are required to make some financial contribution, then they will value the service much more.</i> |
| <i>Hard to really judge from the information but I assume it means charging more (whilst staying cheaper than the competition). Not great but probably reasonable in the circumstances. I'd never heard of Pendarren so interesting to read about it.</i> |
| <i>Given the current financial pressures, this seems unavoidable</i> |
| <i>Don't know. Too vague.</i> |
| <i>Crucial for inner city children to retain access to the countryside. If Pendarren can fund itself then this is an ideal solution.</i> |
| <i>council cannot subsidise services inevitably</i> |
| <i>Could it be 50% paid from pendarren and 50% from haringey</i> |
| <i>comment reserved due to legal reasons</i> |
| <i>Children from low cost families will be squeezed out by those who can pay in order for the service to pay for itself.</i> |
| <i>Child poverty is now so severe that nothing should reduce what the council can do to provide support</i> |
| <i>Cannot comment. Not familiar with Pendarren and the service it provides.</i> |
| <i>Because you used the word 'affordable', which means people should be able to afford it. if Later there are no poorer people using the service, your measure is wrong.</i> |
| <i>Because if running this site depends only on income generated, if you don't make income, we run the risk of having to close it down, if this happens kids have one less resource, this</i> |

can lead to antisocial behaviour and more crime- this should be funded by the council, we can find a way for money to be raised another way through the council though

Any income generation that preserves quality and safety of services should be pursued

Although it is an excellent project, I believe it could be self funding.

Although , I fully support the work that Pendarren delivers particularly for some children who otherwise would never experience a holiday ! However , the financing needs to be reviewed. Schools maybe able to help in approaching Charities etc.

Proposal 11: Pendarron

Saving £25k on providing an outdoor pursuit week to thousands of inner-city kids is denying them the right to opportunity.

Can Pendarron continue as it is without this money? If not, other means of finding this money need to be identified. £25,000 is not a large sum and could be found elsewhere in the budget.

Do you agree that we should work to reduce costs via the use of digital technology as long as we ensure there are ways for residents to access services who are not able to access it.

You could try but practice will show the envisaged reduction in costs will be negligible; digitalisation has its own problems and costs associated with upkeep and maintenance are often overlooked

Yes, I agree that the Council should work to reduce costs through digital technology, as long as it is done in a way that ensures accessibility for all residents. Digital transformation has the potential to significantly improve efficiency, streamline processes, and save costs by automating manual tasks and making services more accessible online. It can also help deliver services more quickly, improve communication, and enable residents to engage with services at their convenience.

However, it is critical that this digital shift does not leave behind vulnerable residents who may not have access to technology or struggle with its use. Many individuals, particularly the elderly, those with disabilities, or people experiencing financial difficulties, may find it challenging to navigate digital systems. Therefore, the Council should ensure there are alternative ways to access services, such as offering telephone support, in-person assistance, or paper-based options, for those who cannot or prefer not to engage digitally.

Additionally, clear digital literacy support and training could be provided to help those who are willing to adapt to new technology but need some assistance in doing so. This could include providing support in community hubs or through outreach programs, ensuring that no one is excluded from accessing vital services as digital solutions are implemented.

In short, while the focus on digital transformation can drive savings and improve efficiency, it's essential that these changes are inclusive and provide accessible options for everyone. By doing so, the Council can ensure that the benefits of digital technology are enjoyed by all residents, without anyone being left behind.

Yes, but you have to improve the access to services for those who find it difficult to use digital technology. It's shamefully bad at the moment.

Yes, but only if the digital solutions are then used to their full effect and the appropriate ways. For example, the digital parking permit solution could be used as a way of identifying & appropriately financially penalising individuals who are misusing daily visitor parking permits. Per the consultation that just closed, the council has no evidence of the scale of this misuse or who is responsible, meaning they have instead to chose to financially penalise the east of the borough in their decisions to discontinue daily permits. Use your power for good!

Yes, but I would like to read more about the plans to ensure access for residents with barriers to access services online. There is a risk here for some residents who cannot access services online ending up with worsened circumstances that will make their lives worse and cost the council more than it can save with its digital transformation.

Yes but there must be a fault help desk function. E.g. there is a fault in the online planning portal which removes the button which allows residents to feedback. This requires notification to planning who then do a manual fix.

Would need to see the actual proposal with numbers to be able to answer this question. Digital is bot necessarily cheaper.

we are always thriving

We all need to keep up with advances in technology

Using tech is more efficient, you just have to make sure there are no issues with digital security, and make sure those in the community who are less tech savvy are taught how to use the technology

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| <i>Time and time again digital initiatives to reduce costs have been shown to be ineffective and frequently a waste of money that does not deliver reduced costs or improved efficiency. The Council should concentrate on delivering good frontline services. It should be cutting management layers and increasing spans of control in order to improve efficiency and reduce costs.</i> |
| <i>Time and time again digital initiatives to reduce costs have been shown to be ineffective and frequently a waste of money that does not deliver reduced costs or improved efficiency. The Council should concentrate on delivering good frontline services and cutting management layers and increasing spans of control in order to improve efficiency and reduce costs.</i> |
| <i>This makes sense in our changing world</i> |
| <i>There will always be many people without access to digital technology & they should not be excluded. Councils often say they will make sure of this but rarely do in practice once digital solutions have been implemented, as they get rid of the people who could help the digitally excluded access services. This is the point of technology isn't it - to sack staff & save money !</i> |
| <i>There are many residents of Haringey that are digitally excluded due to many reasons. unless this is addressed, it would only create another barrier for people to access support from the council. Yes having an option for digital services helps but there should also be an alternative to this for residents who may not have a smart phone, can afford data or simple know how to use this technology. The web pages and apps which would provide this service would also need to be user friendly and robust so there are no instances where people are unable to access the services they need because of technical issues on Haringey's part.</i> |
| <i>The Council should beware of spending significant sums on digital technology and digital transformation because evidence shows the anticipated savings do not generally materialise.</i> |
| <i>The are very large numbers of digitally excluded residents in the borough, residents having access is paramount to them gaining support that they need</i> |
| <i>Technology has limited intelligence and skills</i> |
| <i>Some older residence do not have access to technology or are not ident confident in using technology</i> |
| <i>Sensible if done well.</i> |
| <i>sensible</i> |
| <i>Residents need to know they can use Manuel technology, hacking , cyber attacks are become more relevant now .</i> |
| <i>Data protection etc must be maintained at all levels</i> |
| <i>Provided there are ways for residents to access services who are not able to access it, i agree. This is not happening in my view with digital stuff across the board (e.g. bank closures) and am concerned about what happens when digital stuff is hacked.</i> |
| <i>Proposal 12: Digital Transformation</i> <i>We are uncertain how this can be achieved in the coming year. Surely there needs to an initial increased spend with savings beginning in the longer term. The procurement contract is one example of this. We suggest that this is reviewed with a further breakdown of the budget.</i> |
| <i>Only if the cost reductions and benefits are identified up front as part of the management process. We need to avoid simply creating more bureaucratic constraints on accessing services. The overall strategy (including specific objectives) needs to be designed and set out up front, and delivery needs to be assessed so that the results are achieved</i> |
| <i>Obviously there are possibilities to increase efficiency and, maybe, reduce costs in this area. Just remember 'cheapest' doesn't mean 'value'. Haringey's website cost considerably more than other councils websites, back in the day, but it is immeasurably better than, say, Camden or Islington.</i> |

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| <i>Not all people are comfortable or understand digital technology and therefore should not be isolated from those who understand and use it.</i> |
| <i>Most younger people use digital services. However, it's essential that there is a human to get in touch with if there are issues. Invariably when I use digital services, whether in the public or private sector, the service doesn't cover the request I need. Digital services are only as good as the parameters placed on it and how fast responses are made. It will be all in the organisation. Perhaps Haringey should have a trial run and test for user experience before it fully commits. The thing with IT specialists is they over-say and under-deliver, and even the most tech-familiar individual can find it confusing. So, unless you have a model already used, proceed with caution.</i> |
| <i>More people are more comfortable going digital but processes must be data protection savvy, user friendly and avoid digital exclusion</i> |
| <i>More efficient.</i> |
| <i>more digital, less back office staff.</i> |
| <i>More and more people are capable of using it</i> |
| <i>Make sure residents who are not computer savvy still have access to services</i> |
| <i>Lots of residents would really rather use digital services so (if done well, with lots of user testing) this seems fine.</i> |
| <i>It seems self-evident</i> |
| <i>It is the way forward</i> |
| <i>INSUFFICIENT SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY, LET ALONE THOSE WHO HAVE NONE. IT IS TOO EARLY TO MAKE MASSIVE CHANGES AS HAS BEEN PROVEN BY SOME PEOPLES' LACK OF ACCESS</i> |
| <i>Inevitable but don't tt overestimate the scalr of digital illiteracy</i> |
| <i>Increased expenditure on digital technology sounds like an excuse for Council officers to be given shiny new computers without any overall strategy for reducing costs. It is well known that much money is wasted by councils and private businesses on ambitious IT investment schemes that prove to be fatally flawed - remember the Post Office scandal - and rarely result in the hoped-for cost savings. I wonder wonder why past Council expenditure on digital technology has not reduced costs to the optimal level.</i> |
| <i>If you adopt a mobile-first strategy to digital development, involve residents in the initial user research and usability testing, then digital services provide the best opportunity to raise service standards while reducing costs for the majority of citizens, enabling you to focus budget on those who need more-resource-hungry services.</i> |
| <i>I'm worried about a decrease in access to services to people who may not be IT literate or have access to the necessary resources. I also don't think that taking humans out of the communication system is of value as it is more prone to error (against common belief).</i> |
| <i>I would like to see evidence from you that increased expenditure on digital technology has reduced costs significantly. Why have you not provided us with this information. Digital technology systems are expensive to set up and it is a well known fact that the private sector use the public sector to experiment in this area, meaning that the public sector bears the costs for systems that are ineffective. In addition, reducing Council expenditure on libraries, at a time when Haringey is preparing to be the London Borough of Culture makes no sense.</i> |
| <i>I think this is ok as long as there is a responsive back up team, which hasn't been the case so far. Also all digital services need to be web accessible and not just built for smartphones. I am concerned about elderly and disabled residents' access to these services too.</i> |
| <i>I think technology should be used to make back-end processes more efficient, therefore freeing up more time and capacity for more direct work with residents. I don't think the aim should be for everything to be digital with very little face to face interaction.</i> |
| <i>I propose that, as a first step, the Council undertakes an impartial review of its internal rules and regulations with the goal of simplifying them. Experience shows that as</i> |

organisations grow and mature, numerous requirements often accumulate over time, many of which no longer serve a clear purpose or are even counterproductive. By streamlining these rules, regulations, and procedures, the Council can unlock significant internal efficiencies and cost savings.

Only after completing this simplification process should the Council explore the adoption of digital technologies. Implementing digital solutions without first addressing unnecessary complexity risks amplifying existing inefficiencies rather than reducing costs.

I do not believe it will reduce costs. However it will improve access and speed of operations. Do you remember all the claims once made about the paperless office or that computers would fall in cost? No they didn't what happened was people got better access to more powerful tools.

Human touch is always needed. When people need service they should talk to a person ,not waist time listening to recorded messages pushing them to go on the web, when all recourses are already tried

How do people who are digitally excluded have their say? Do they know they are excluded? What is the demographic of those who are digitally excluded and how does this exclusion hinder them from seeking help?

Haringey needs to push for a digital future now more than ever. No more paper, no more manual processes.

Everything should be digital by now and if people need help with anything digital you need to have drop in centres where people can provide assistance

Digital technology is used in the private sector to effectively cut costs and the same should happen with publicly funded services

Digital technology is nothing but a menace many people do not understand. The only thing that will happen is that more people will be shut out of the wider picture and connection with the community.

Digital technology does improve quality of service in many occasions.

Currently there is a problem with residents being excluded from digital support causing an inequality with regard to those people who are digitally excluded. How would you ensure that residents can access services without the use of the technology? What are the solutions to this. It is already difficult and sometimes impossible for older people to access the internet and the same for some with learning difficulties. Where would they access this alternative support?

Clear cost cutting possibilities providing you realise that Human to Human contact is also required and not just AI

But only if you first make the online services much better than they are now

Better use of digital tools will not only reduce costs but often improve delivery of services with a more customer orientated manner that is in keeping with current times and expectations.

Better more equal access alongside better technology would be good ONLY IF residents know about it and have the means to access it AND money isn't wasted on consultant schemes that fail to achieve this.

As long as you remember that not everyone uses digital technology

As long as some residents are not excluded.

Although the principle is laudable and if done well I would support, however experience of public sector IT projects shows this is a diversion and an excuse to cut front line services. Examples include the Post Office scandal, plethora of public sector technology project overruns, self interest of IT firms, use of capital spend as an excuse to generate savings and benefits which don't materialise etc. What is more important is to protect front line services and keep any IT spence very close to the operational services. For example on library projects, Friends of Muswell Hill library would like to work closely on setting out a

strategy on how digital technology can help, rather than relying on some completely separate capital spend with a consortium that does not meet local needs.

A I should be used more and more with regards to administrative work including areas like the development of the localities.

1. I would argue that the technology has increased the communication between residents and officers within reasonable times.

2. Having residents How To Complain work shops would really benefit residents and officers.

What impact will reducing the council expenditure on cultural activities have on you?

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| <i>With the rapid advances in AI the council can use those to automate more processes</i> |
| <i>With Haringey being the future LB Culture, this is a big loss and missed opportunity.</i> |
| <i>We are a high income family who don't rely on access to council-funded cultural services. I appreciate that this is not the case for everyone. However, I think that cultural activities probably have greater opportunity to access charitable and social enterprise money than some of the other services which the council must fund - e.g refuse and social care.</i> |
| <i>THIS COUNCIL HAS DESTROYED SO MUCH ALREADY IT IS UNTHINKABLE THAT THEY WANT TO DESTROY MORE. THEY SHOULD TRY TO SAVE THAT WHICH IS SUFFERING</i> |
| <i>There will be less cultural activity for residents of Haringey, especially low cost ones for people on low income.</i> |
| <i>There will be benefits if we make it clear we expect reasonable value for money from our grants; so that our investment is focussed on projects that actually deliver. I agree that smaller local groups are much more financially deserving than the big charities many of which spend far too much money on salaries and administration!</i> |
| <i>Theatre and culture are a lifeline for many- an uncultured society is an uncivilised one</i> |
| <i>The reduction in Council expenditure on culture at a time when Haringey is preparing to be the London Borough of Culture makes no sense. Public libraries are integral to the cultural life of the Borough: they are its cultural lifeblood. Drastically reducing library opening hours will have a serious impact on access to the resources and activities that are on offer at branch libraries, and will be particularly damaging for the young, the elderly, the unemployed, the homeless and the disabled who will not able to travel extensively around the Borough when their local library will be closed.</i> |
| <i>The reduction in Council expenditure on culture at a time when Haringey is preparing to be the London Borough of Culture makes no sense. Public libraries are integral to the cultural life of the Borough: they are its cultural lifeblood. Drastically reducing library opening hours will have a serious impact on my access to the resources and activities that are on offer at my branch library, and will be particularly damaging for the young, the elderly, the unemployed, the homeless and the disabled who will not able to travel extensively around the Borough when their local library will be closed.</i> |
| <i>The impact will be greatest for the most vulnerable and poorest in Haringey if the Council cuts its free culture - libraries - offer. The Council should reverse its 50% to branch libraries and its 20% cut to main libraries. Libraries are the only offer of culture that is free for those on low incomes, homeless people, children and toddlers, the elderly, disabled people, working people, students and others who are vulnerable. Branch libraries are particularly important for disabled and elderly residents and parents with young children who may not be able to travel to another library. The Council should not be subsidising Ally Pally or JLAC as these arts venues mainly serve non-Haringey residents. The Council should reduce non-customer-facing culture staff and delete all culture roles costing over £50,000.</i> |
| <i>The impact will be greatest for the most vulnerable and poorest in Haringey if the Council cuts its free culture - libraries - offer. The Council should reverse its 50% cut to branch libraries and its 20% cut to main libraries. Libraries are the only offer of culture that is free for those on low incomes, homeless people, children and toddlers, the elderly, disabled people, working people, students and others who are vulnerable. Branch libraries are particularly important for disabled and elderly residents and parents with young children who may not be able to travel to another library. The Council should not be subsidising Ally Pally or JLAC as these arts venues mainly serve non-Haringey residents. The Council should reduce non-customer-facing culture staff and delete all culture roles costing over £50,000.</i> |
| <i>The cultural activities (and/or cultural diversity of activities) is rather limited and not fully reflective of the communities and/or ethnic mix of the borough.</i> |

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| <i>The council fail to manage things manually, so making them do things digitally will be disastrous. They don't even keep accurate records as a way of avoiding being held accountable for their negligence.</i> |
| <i>The borough is one of the most diverse local authority in the country, cutting back on these undermines the value of this privilege to have that claim and a let down for residents support in principle but need to recognise that not all residents can access services online.</i> |
| <i>Sadly, if Council funding is reduced, cultural activities that depend on them will suffer. However, maybe there is a role the council can play in advising the organisers of cultural events to seek funding elsewhere.</i> |
| <i>Sadly we've come to a place where life in the context of the cost of living crisis is more about functional things as opposed to nice cultural add ons.</i> |
| <i>Sadly not a funding priority when so many other needs.</i> |
| <i>Reducing library opening hours will diminish our opportunities for cultural enrichment by limiting the time we can spend using our library's rich cultural resources and participating in cultural activities at the library. Reducing access to libraries will also have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of the community who depend on free access to cultural activities.</i> |
| <i>Reducing library opening hours will diminish our opportunities for cultural enrichment by limiting the time we can spend using Highgate Library's rich cultural resources and participating in cultural activities at the Library. Reducing access to libraries will also have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of the community who depend on free access to cultural activities.</i> |
| <i>Proposal 13: Cultural Activities</i> |
| <i>Although we agree on some possible savings eg street festival lighting, we disagree that savings should be made in this space. Cultural growth and recognition bring assets to Haringey. We are reluctant to see the cultural life of Haringey reduced and further,</i> |
| <i>Please allocate additional monies to the library service to maintain the current service levels.</i> |
| <i>Only ok if fully worked out and agreed with cultural organisations to avoid reducing their invaluable contribution to Haringey's rich cultural life. Some organisations are also potentially cost effective by offering an alternative to marginalised/antisocial behaviour.</i> |
| <i>one of the ways to reduce the costs is to have Connected Communities on the ground to assist residents with things like the council housing benefit reviews sent to pensioners who cannot navigate a digital platform and do not have an email that is necessary to complete the form. Other council e.forms that require an email is homelessness, housing benefit and council tax reduction to name a few that require an email address - many residents simply do not have an email and are digitally excluded</i> |
| <i>not utilising</i> |
| <i>Not using any culture services</i> |
| <i>Not sure who or what this would effect. I suspect it won't affect me directly as it doesn't feel like there are many cultural activities for me locally but hard to say until there's a list of what will be stopped.</i> |
| <i>Not sure what this refers to</i> |
| <i>Need to ensure digital sustainability and protection against hacking data</i> |
| <i>more resources should be put in cultural activities</i> |
| <i>Many of these initiatives are a total waste of money and just box ticking exercises</i> |
| <i>Many of the cultural activities are in places I don't normally visit. However, I M aware that other people benefit from them.</i> |
| <i>Make the BG arts centre self funding but cutting all grants. They need to do more commercial stuff to subsidise the arts side.</i> |
| <i>I've got difficulties in identifying in what ways the Council's cultural activities - whatever these might be - have enriched my life</i> |

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| <i>It's already visible how little cultural expenditure there is in the borough, and further cuts will have a negative impact</i> |
| <i>It won't impact me as I can pay for my own cultural activities, however it could greatly impact people in need; deprived people, children, young people, youths, old people, disabled, disadvantaged, if the cultural activities are important to them and give them a lifeline or divert them from crime et cetera. The impact could be devastating. It could have a negative impact on them and the community and the whole of Haringey in an indirect way.</i> |
| <i>Increasingly our population will be digitally literate so as long as there are staff to help those of us who need it this should be an ever decreasing need.</i> |
| <i>In my view, cultural activities play an important part in building social cohesion.</i> |
| <i>I'm not aware of the present council expenditure on cultural activities therefore I don't think I would miss them</i> |
| <i>I would not like to see fewer local cultural events as they are important for community cohesion.</i> |
| <i>I have applied for funding being rejected in 2017 it was better to secure funding</i> |
| <i>I don't think this is an appropriate role for a council especially given the scope given the diverse residents and impossible to meet expectations</i> |
| <i>I don't know what council provided of subsidised services I'd miss. I'm not sure what they are but there are lots of cultural activities available in the area.</i> |
| <i>I do not currently avail of activities funded by the council and I am lucky to be in that position.</i> |
| <i>I am the current chair of the Friends of Bruce Castle, the independent support group established in 1995, when the Museum appeared to be threatened with closure. We are concerned that reduction in funding for cultural activities could again raise this possibility, despite the fact that the building -- Haringey's only Grade 1 listed structure -- is currently undergoing restoration work funded by the council and the Arts Council's MEND scheme. It must remain open, and its opening hours not be reduced!</i> |
| <i>I am sorry but I see very little evidence of it now .</i> |
| <i>I am one of the many residents who do not seem to be included in "Haringey's chosen cultures</i> |
| <i>I am not sure of the current provision</i> |
| <i>I am not aware of any cultural activities available to me</i> |
| <i>I am lucky enough to access London wide cultural activities.</i> |
| <i>I am confident that I can use digital services</i> |
| <i>Hopefully my council tax will decrease, council should use precious resources on essential services for the residents. Culture should be cared for by the art councils and other agency. Ideally the culture should be self funded. The council should set priorities right and concentrate on essential services first.</i> |
| <i>Has great potential, but must be balanced with digital literacy and access support.</i> |
| <i>Haringey is obsessed with multi-culturalism. Just promote British culture and insist people integrate.</i> |
| <i>Haringey is a very divided borough. cultural activities can be used to bring it together. Cultural activities enrich life and can make it worth living in one place rather than another.</i> |
| <i>Easier and more convenient.</i> |
| <i>Digital system fails to much. Staff are not trained up to high standards as they are becoming to reliant in PC's. And AI. They need to be prepared and deal with social and communications skills if they are going to be able to connect and care for themselves and others in future, by working on switch boards and customer services. This is why so many people have break downs. As they are becoming dominant. Not moved around, and not thinking for themselves and listening to others, or having ideas listened and taken on</i> |

board by senior management, so everything gets over looked and never moves forward realistically in the best way.

Cutting back on the money the council spends on cultural activities in Haringey could affect the community in many ways, especially regarding access to cultural programs, community involvement, and the local economy. Here are some possible effects:

1. Less Access to Cultural Events and Programs

- *Impact on residents' experiences:* Cultural activities are important for making life enjoyable, allowing people to enjoy art, theatre, music, festivals, and community events. If funding is cut, there might be fewer events, which could limit the variety and number of cultural activities people can attend.
- *Impact on vulnerable groups:* For some residents, especially those who are less well-off, these events provide essential chances to experience culture. Reducing funds could hit these groups the hardest, making it harder for them to feel included and enriched.

2. Impact on Community Connection and Wellbeing

- *Weaker sense of community:* Cultural events bring people together, fostering community spirit and pride. Cutting funds could mean fewer chances for residents to meet, connect, and celebrate their identity, hurting the sense of community.
- *Impact on mental health:* Cultural programs are good for mental health, offering ways to express creativity and unwind. A reduction in these programs could take away an important way for residents to feel better and connect with others.

3. Economic Effects on Local Culture

- *Impact on local organizations:* Many local cultural groups, artists, and venues rely on council money to keep going. Budget cuts could force some organizations to close or reduce what they do, leading to job losses and fewer cultural options.
- *Impact on visitors:* Cultural events draw visitors to the area, helping local businesses. Cuts to cultural spending might make Haringey less appealing to visitors, hurting local shops, restaurants, and hotels.

4. Pressure on Partner Organizations

- *Strain on partnerships:* Haringey's cultural programs often work with outside organizations. Cuts might make it harder for these partnerships, forcing them to reduce their events or seek other funding, leading to fewer cultural activities.
- *More reliance on outside funds:* Smaller cultural groups may struggle to find consistent funding elsewhere. This could result in less stability and diversity in available cultural programs.

5. Opportunities to Address Cuts

- *Delayed reductions:* If the council delays cuts, it can give cultural groups time to look for other funding options, minimizing the immediate impact on residents.
- *Chance for new funding:* Getting involved in initiatives like the London Borough of Culture could bring in additional funds and new opportunities, helping to make up for some cuts, though it's uncertain if it will cover everything.

6. Long-term Changes in Culture

- *Changing cultural focus:* Reducing spending could change what types of cultural activities get support in the future, possibly prioritizing more commercial activities over community-focused ones.
- *Potential for innovation:* On the upside, less funding could push cultural organizations to be more creative in how they engage people, possibly using digital platforms or forming partnerships with private groups.

In conclusion, while cutting council spending on cultural activities might present some

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| <i>challenges for residents and organizations in the short term, it also opens doors to explore new ways of delivering programs and finding funding. The outcome for Haringey will depend on how well the council addresses these cuts and supports local cultural groups to secure alternative funding while making the most of chances like the London Borough of Culture. Ultimately, it's important to find a balance between saving money and maintaining the rich cultural life that supports community spirit, local identity, and economic health.</i> |
| <i>Culture is the responsibility of the community. The council may enhance ie safety, lawfulness licences etc, not determine and this council leads in this aspect rather than acts as an advisory agent.</i> |
| <i>Culture is the future. Increase, not decrease spending on the culture.</i> |
| <i>Culture is one of THE most important aspects of life in Haringey; we have an amazing diverse, multi-cultural borough and we should be celebrating this. Haringey is the London 'Borough of Culture' in 2027 - HOW will we actually HAVE any culture to present to the rest of London if we don't start building up resources and networks NOW, & instead we cut the funding for cultural activities?! Doh.... [Response Moderated by Platform] This is the stupidest thing I've heard from a Council that's 2 years off being the London Borough of Culture! It's clearly NOT the time to slash the culture budget! We've also had riots and violence in Tottenham & culture is one of the key ways of bringing people together. It's also crucial to provide cultural activities for young people to keep them away from crime etc.</i> |
| <i>Cost reductions will be passed on to savings in council tax.</i> |
| <i>Considering the borough has been named the Mayor's Borough of Culture for 2024 and had funding and support, it seems difficult to come to terms with the idea that Haringey would not want to build on the creativity, pride and celebration that has taken place throughout 2024. People have come together at a time of great upheaval, disruption and financial hardship to celebrate their individual cultures and come together rather than divide. There is a reason Haringey has been named a REBEL borough and its diversity is its strength. We need to feel that our different cultures are admired and respected and a reduction in funding does not give this message.</i> |
| <i>Communication about funding for the community group I am using is non-existent and gives me no confidence in the Council's strategy in this regard.</i> |
| <i>Can't afford to do cultural activities due to the rising cost of living</i> |
| <i>But need to allow for people who are not digitally savvy.</i> |
| <i>As long as you find another way to fund it, and we don't loose it all together the plan should work</i> |
| <i>As an older person I find technology quite hard to understand and find my way around. If you really can make it functional to all and it's cheaper than do so.</i> |
| <i>As a family, we use cultural activities regularly. These bring joy and child development that the council benefits from further down the road.</i> |
| <i>Art is a major income stream in the UK. Haringey needs to build the skills in the residents so they can benefit from this and not be just another brick in the wall.</i> |
| <i>Again, in the current circumstances, this seems unavoidable</i> |
| <i>Again, how can I answer this when you've not said where and on what you'll be cutting expenditure. You have to provide more info if you want people to be able to contribute meaningfully to this.</i> |
| <i>"cultural" activities are not aimed at me as a taxpaying, working Brit. If certain groups want cultural activities they should pay for it themselves</i> |
| <i>Public libraries are integral to the cultural and economic life of the Borough: they are its cultural lifeblood. Drastically reducing library opening hours and staff will have a serious impact on my access to the resources and activities that are on offer at my branch library, and will be particularly damaging for the young, the elderly, the unemployed, the homeless and the disabled who will not able to travel extensively around the Borough when their local library will be closed. In addition, reducing Council expenditure on culture at a time</i> |

when Haringey is preparing to be the London Borough of Culture makes no sense particularly as libraries are locations where culture is not just experienced but being created by residents.

Do you agree that ending non-essential organisational subscriptions – like this one – is an appropriate way to reduce costs?

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| <i>You should really be aiming to get good quality staff at the interview stage; people who are committed to the borough. I have worked in local authorities in the past and I know that if you are committed to your role, there are many ways that you can keep up to date with important changes. It seems strange that at a time when our society is basically saturated with social media, the internet, Zoom meetings etc, that the council is not thinking of these routes as a means of keeping up to date.</i> |
| <i>You said it. 'Non-essential'</i> |
| <i>You need to listen to what the residents want and not the political fashion, ideologies and parasitic middle class mysticism that brought us the LTN debacle.</i> |
| <i>You have a website and a digital team that can create these services.</i> |
| <i>You can read about successful ideas and network without that expense.</i> |
| <i>Yes if it's not effective. No if it could be made more productive and increase council efficiency</i> |
| <i>Working in silo can be narrowing in perspectives and ideas for improvement.</i> |
| <i>We need the connection with Haringey.</i> |
| <i>Very important for staff and Members to interact with people in other authorities</i> |
| <i>Until now, haven't heard of this. It is not clear from the name or your website what it is. Their website suggests it's non-residential.</i> |
| <i>Unfortunate for council staff, but preferable to cutting services.</i> |
| TOO MUCH MONEY IS WASTED WITH THESE GROUPS WHO NEVER SEEM TO PROVIDE ANY POSITIVE OUTCOMES |
| <i>Times are hard</i> |
| <i>This seems an obvious way to save money, but the savings appear to be small.</i> |
| <i>This seems a miniscule amount to sustain a partnership with other boroughs, access best practise [sic] and generate a positive attitude</i> |
| <i>This is the first time I've heard of the particular 'Think Tank', which by the way are mostly useless talking exercises</i> |
| <i>This is a great way to give our opinion, but many do not believe that Haringey Council listens to consultations, nor takes these consultations into account. We are aware of the fact that difficult decisions need to be made, but so often it appears that rash and rushed decisions are made and implemented without considering the implications. Only when there is mass outrage does anything change. Hence there is little faith that these subscriptions are of any practical use to residents. Trust needs to be restored.</i> |
| <i>There's more than enough free resources / networks (LGA for example). It would be good to know what impact past subscriptions have had on service delivery.</i> |
| <i>There need to be effective lines of communication</i> |
| <i>There are various other networks, e.g. the Local Government Association, which do provide a similar benefit. It's a minor saving anyway.</i> |
| <i>There are other ways to network and share best practice.</i> |
| <i>The council should set priorities right and concentrate on essential services first.</i> |
| <i>The Council has spent a vast amount of resources bidding for awards, attending awards ceremonies across the country, paying for accommodation, travel and guest tables, and residents have seen nothing to show for this. Yes, there should be an end to this.</i> |
| <i>The Council has spent a vast amount of resources bidding for awards, attending awards ceremonies across the country, paying for accommodation, travel and guest tables and residents have seen nothing to show for this. Yes, there should be an end to this.</i> |
| <i>Shutting out learning from others</i> |
| <i>Sharing best practise with other Councils is valuable for staff and a saving of just £20k is paltry. Keep it</i> |

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| <i>Same as above. Council should focus on essential services and delivering those well</i> |
| <i>Not an essential</i> |
| <i>Not always. It's a question of the benefits delivered against what might be modest costs. Sharing best practice with councils in similar circumstances could be helpful; other memberships might not be</i> |
| <i>New Local is an excellent network and Haringey would do well to be able to share and learn from the good practise they can get from NL</i> |
| <i>Logical</i> |
| <i>Locals must have a voice</i> |
| <i>Learning about how others can save money is helpful and we can emulate it.</i> |
| <i>Lack of consultation and positive input from others can only be negative.</i> |
| <i>It's absolutely crucial that there are ways for residents to voice their views and opinions on things the Council is doing. It's essential that any major changes - to services, roads, parks, infrastructure etc - are properly consulted on with residents, and this is a very good vehicle to do that.</i> |
| <i>It would be better to learn from other councils best practice and experience. The cost saving is small. Depends whether there are other ways to share and learn from best practice if this membership is not continued. There's no explanation here of the assessment of the benefit of this membership so its hard to give a proper response.</i> |
| <i>It sounds as though the subscription to the New Local Think Tank and attendance at its events have been a complete waste of money. The Group Think mentality of local authorities has proved to be spectacularly disastrous in the case of the Grenfell Tower cladding which so many councils decided to install on such a large number of their tower blocks.</i> |
| <i>It is evident that, like many other local authorities in the UK, Haringey Council faces significant challenges in adapting to the realities of the post-COVID world. Having a forum to exchange ideas and share solutions with other local authorities would be immensely beneficial, enabling the Council to learn from best practices and collaboratively address common issues.</i> |
| <i>It depends what is considered non-essential which is vague. Giving people input into your plans and transparency is essential. However I'm sure there are certain subscriptions can be cut.</i> |
| <i>Information can be obtained elsewhere.</i> |
| <i>In this particular case it might lead to missing opportunities for cost savings or income generation identified by others</i> |
| <i>If you are bringing you are standard policy where necessary inline with Government, Parliament and Mayor's Office etc . That is good. Where you stand on your own you need Individual. And there policy advice wording they provide you is outdated. You should generally be following gov.uk for ethnic minority groups etc and school standards and wording and football. That changes have come in. Find a better Independence where you need one. That the government approval.</i> |
| <i>If we have done any cost-benefit analysis of this, I'm sure it will confirm the proposal</i> |
| <i>If it is not sustainable get rid off</i> |
| <i>If it hasn't proved that useful it makes sense not to renew it.</i> |
| <i>I'm sure this takes up council staff time and is little benefit to the community</i> |
| <i>I think cross fertilization of ideas/experience across similar organizations is important to avoid a "bunker" mentality.</i> |
| <i>I have no idea what this organisation is for.</i> |
| <i>I don't know what a non-essential organisational subscription is it says "like this one" that doesn't make sense. Like what one? How is this a non-essential organisational subscription? I don't pay anything, what does this mean? The question needs to be clear</i> |

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| <i>before you get a helpful answer. If the question isn't clear then the answers are meaningless, you are assuming background knowledge that is not there or been given.</i> |
| <i>I do not see any evidence reference the benefits of such involvement.</i> |
| <i>I do not know what benefit staff/Haringey get from this but likely to minimal</i> |
| <i>I do not know enough about the New Local Think Tank to opine.</i> |
| <i>I agree that this is not essential</i> |
| <i>Haringey need to maintain relationships and learn from other councils. This is a very small sum to sacrifice for what I would consider very high value.</i> |
| <i>Group think initiatives tend to fail (e.g Grenfell tower cladding fiasco).</i> |
| <i>Ending non-essential organizational subscriptions is a reasonable strategy to reduce costs, especially when the membership does not directly contribute to the core objectives or deliver significant benefits. The savings from these kinds of cuts can be reallocated to more critical areas, ensuring that the council continues to focus on services that directly benefit its residents. However, it would be important to ensure that any alternative methods for gaining policy insights and sharing best practices are found, so the council can continue to stay informed without unnecessary costs.</i> |
| <i>Don't know. Too vague.</i> |
| <i>This questionnaire is ridiculous.</i> |
| <i>Depends on whether the positive impacts of being a member outweigh the cost of membership.</i> |
| <i>Depends on how you look at things like this, but I'm my opinions being in a organization subscription could be looked at as an investment as opposed to a cost, if you are part of a group that comes up with ideas for the local community and the only saving seems to be a very small amount it's worth staying on</i> |
| <i>Council staff may miss out on ideas and suggestions for good practice, but perhaps they will develop their own ideas.</i> |
| <i>Can't believe that if "good practice" were to include sharing of value for money ideas this organisation could not produce at least £20K of savings pa</i> |
| <i>Because sharing good practice itself can help to reduce costs</i> |
| <i>Anything that promotes good practice should be continued until they actually provide a good service. More training is needed, not less.</i> |
| <i>Anything non-essential needs to be cut in order to provided services of benefit to the community</i> |
| <i>All non-essential membership subscriptions should be terminated.</i> |
| <i>£20k/year seems cheap for access to good ideas from other councils. That depends on the quality/feasibility of the ideas of course...</i> |
| <i>A shame to reduce knowledge sharing but understandable in the financial situation</i> |

What impact do you anticipate there may be from removing the budget for the Resident's Survey - this means in future the survey will only be able to take place if new money can be found to pay for it?

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| <i>You won't know what your residents want from you. How are you supposed to get detailed understanding of the residents reaction to the events taking place in the borough?</i> |
| <i>You need to seek input from residents otherwise you are not doing a good job and are not getting broad enough perspectives.</i> |
| <i>You need to listen to residents but you ignore what you are told</i> |
| <i>You need to know what residents think, you should keep</i> |
| <i>You don't explain what happens as a result of the survey so how can I give an opinion on this? I agree its non essential.</i> |
| <i>you don't deliver anything in the borough anyway</i> |
| <i>You could make it every five years and target those that don't respond to a digital survey.</i> |
| <i>Would minimise the voices of those who can't participate otherwise. You could try to source volunteers for the door to door research and fund a coordinator for this instead.</i> |
| <i>Why can't you just run a digital/phone survey and those residents who chose not to engage then that's just what it is. Saying you need to stop the survey altogether is nonsense</i> |
| <i>What benefit has the Council gained from previous surveys? Has anyone put a monetary value to this benefit so the relative value of the survey can be measured?</i> |
| <i>We already collect a lot of information from consultations about residents (e.g. our Turnpike Lane Customer Survey, Tottenham Quality of Life survey etc. If we have much increased co-working across Directorates, we can easily use existing consultations to share results and inform policy. Also our in-house consultations are better focussed than the Residents' Survey.</i> |
| <i>Until now, haven't heard of this. It is not clear from your website how the residents are randomly selected and how you ensure it is fully represented of the borough which over the past 5 or so years has become a two tier borough - where the needs of one half are favoured over the others as has been the case with LTNs etc. Proper representation is required.</i> |
| <i>Undemocratic</i> |
| <i>Undemocratic</i> |
| <i>Two heads are better than one. The council can learn from other councils and collaborate and share info</i> |
| <i>This survey can be created inhouse and accessed from your web site.</i> |
| <i>This is the broadest and most reliable source of quantitative evidence that the council has at its disposal. Being a truly representative survey means that the results represent the population of the borough; this particularly important when the council needs to ascertain whether across the borough's neighbourhoods and communities there is equality of access, experience and outcomes of the services it provides to residents. Removing the survey is removing a key element of evidence to guide strategy and activities, resource allocation and to guarantee accountability.</i> |
| <i>This is necessary to understand the community's needs and wants but should be delivered using IT - QR code rather than people knocking on doors.</i> |
| <i>There will be fewer channels for gathering residents' views</i> |
| <i>There could be other cheaper alternatives.</i> |
| <i>The whole point of a consultation is to tell people what they're going to do. Consult, then do what they were going to do irrespective of the answer.</i> |
| <i>The survey could be conducted online more cheaply. This could be combined with an in person survey using a random sampling approach (e.g. 500 residents are surveyed in person and selected at random and all residents can answer the survey online). surveys are also cheaper to implement if you use closed questions and AI to analyse the answers).</i> |

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| <i>The same reason as above.</i> |
| <i>The Council's surveys and consultations are notorious for being token operations the results of which do not influence the action or inaction already decided upon by the Council. Council policy appears to be established by a small elite group of senior officers and the Leader of the Council - and implemented without comprehensive scrutiny, democratic control, or public accountability. Most of the majority party councillors have no input into policy decisions and - based on observation of full Council meetings - merely act as a rubber-stamp for decisions already taken by the elite inner group.</i> |
| <i>The Council will be more disconnected from the needs and make up of residents</i> |
| <i>The council needs to listen to residents' complaints and resolve them. Without the survey, how will anything stand a chance of improvement?</i> |
| <i>The Council must have a thorough understanding of its residents to deliver the best possible services. Investing £25,000 to gain accurate insights into the community is a relatively small price to pay, especially when it helps prevent costly policy mistakes that stem from a lack of understanding of the residents' needs and circumstances.</i> |
| <i>The council is there to serve it's residents and so needs to know what they think</i> |
| <i>The council fails to listen to any feedback from residents anyway so this would be a good way to recoup money</i> |
| <i>survey must be done, online only, stop wasting on printed resources</i> |
| <i>surely you need to know what residents issues are</i> |
| <i>surely a combination of complaints and councillor enquiries would yield the same picture</i> |
| <i>stops wasting money</i> |
| <i>so many are digitally excluded or and have language barriers.. residents who respond are more able and a small proportion</i> |
| <i>residents need a voice and should be able to express their concerns in a way that is open and accessible. decisions should not be made without a proper consultation or survey to gather the views of the people that will be affected by it.</i> |
| <i>Removing the budget for the Resident's Survey will likely result in reduced insight into the needs, concerns, and satisfaction levels of Haringey residents. While alternative research methods can be used, they may not offer the same level of inclusivity or accuracy, particularly for those who are hard to reach. Moreover, not having a dedicated budget could lead to uncertainty in future planning, making it more difficult for the council to make data-driven decisions and track progress over time. The impact on transparency and community trust could also be significant if residents feel their feedback is no longer actively sought. The council should carefully consider how to maintain robust engagement and evidence-based decision-making if the survey is to be discontinued or limited.</i> |
| <i>If the Council decides to cut funding for the Resident's Survey, which is done every three years in person, it could lead to several important issues that affect how well the Council understands and addresses the needs of local residents. Here are some possible effects:</i> |
| <p>1. **Missing Out on Resident Opinions**</p> <p><i>The survey gathers feedback from a wide range of residents, especially those who might not speak up through other ways like phone calls or online surveys. Without it, we might miss important viewpoints and needs from certain groups, particularly those who are harder to reach, like the elderly or those with limited internet access.</i></p> <p>2. **Less Reliable Information for Decisions**</p> <p><i>The survey gives the Council important data to help shape policies and provide services. Without this feedback, there may be less reliable information to determine what residents need and whether the Council is doing a good job. This could lead to decisions being made without solid evidence, missing chances to tackle issues effectively.</i></p> |

3. ****Reliance on Different Methods****

While other methods, like online surveys or phone calls, might save money, they likely won't reach as many people, especially those who are hard to reach. The personal touch of face-to-face surveys helps capture a more diverse range of opinions, which would be tough to achieve through other ways.

4. ****Budget Concerns****

If the survey's budget is removed, it might be harder to justify future surveys without dedicated funding. This could slow down getting necessary data or even stop surveys altogether if money isn't available. Planning for future surveys would also become uncertain, making it challenging to engage with residents effectively.

5. ****Trust and Openness Issues****

Regular surveys show that the Council values residents' input and is committed to transparency. If the survey is cut or made harder to fund, residents may feel their opinions matter less, possibly damaging trust in the Council's openness and responsiveness. Additionally, if surveys are infrequent, residents might think the Council is avoiding certain topics.

6. ****Challenges in Improving Services****

The Resident's Survey helps the Council understand what services are working well and where they need to improve. Without it, targeted improvements may be neglected, and it could be difficult to identify community needs or issues, especially from groups that are usually overlooked.

Not impressed by these surveys.

No-one has ever knocked on my door

No idea because i don't know what's done with the data and what negative effect it would have if this kind of activity wouldn't continue

Need to save money for other things.

Make it electronic

It's important that the council continues to reach residents who otherwise would not respond to surveys

It means the council would not be accountable. Officers already ignore foi requests and the local councillors say officers ignore their calls and emails.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO INVOLVE RESIDENTS. HOWEVER BETTER FORMAT FOR THE SURVEY WOULD MAKE IT MORE BENEFICIAL

It is good to have residents input

It depends on how much the results of the Resident's Survey are normally used. If it's mainly a tick-box exercise anyway then cutting it won't change much but if it is used to shape decisions then those decisions will be poorer for being less informed. Would it be possible to replace the external polling company with volunteers from within the Council who would be allowed a few days off from their day job to do the polling (as at election times)? Then the data analysis could be done in house by one of the data teams.

Insufficient info is provided. I don't know how many people were spoken to the last time this survey took place

In theory should be good for democracy. However, my experience is that all the responses on not cutting library hours fell on deaf ears, in that the cuts went ahead even though there was a hugely negative response from residents. This undermined the public's confidence in Haringey and the use of it's surveys.

In 35 years no one has EVER knocked on my door for a survey of this sort

I've never had anyone knock on my door to complete a resident survey

I won't answer a stranger at the door, but online surveys in my own time are doable.

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| <i>I think the Resident's Survey should continue. The problem is not with the survey, but the fact that the information in the survey is not acted upon by the council officers or cabinet. I believe that information provided by surveys is valuable and if the resident survey is not carried out, then this will provide an opportunity for officers and councillors just to go ahead with plans which will have an even more negative impacts on the lives of residents. Without a survey, I can a situation where the actions of officers and councils and the needs and requirements of residents drift even further apart than they are now.</i> |
| <i>I think residents will not have an opportunity to have their viewa heard properly. Non professional surveys can have questions slanted to get answers required,</i> |
| <i>I sort of assume the survey doesn't really influence actions much so, whilst it's bad not to be trying to consult a representative group, it doesn't make sense to spend money on information that will only be lightly used.</i> |
| <i>I query the value of these surveys, given that people are not necessarily able to give informed views when approached on the doorstep. I would imagine it's usually just an opportunity for people to complain about things, rather than provide considered or constructive feedback.</i> |
| <i>I generally respond to a survey if I feel strongly one way or another.</i> |
| <i>I don't know whether the results of the survey are used appropriately by the council- do I'm not in a position to judge the impact.</i> |
| <i>I don't know what value this has at the moment.</i> |
| <i>I don't know what is implemented or changes as a result of the surveys</i> |
| <i>I don't believe i have ever been surveyed and what is the point of every 3 years? If move into digital era this could be done by those means with opportunity for those unable to access to participate.</i> |
| <i>I don't approve people knocking on my door.</i> |
| <i>I don't recall being interviewed for a residents' survey, but I feel you will get a better response from a door-to-door survey than an online or telephone one. What is the evidence?</i> |
| <i>I do not believe that the information obtained is put to any use .</i> |
| <i>I did not know there was a rolling residents survey so what is the point. I've been resident nearly 40 years</i> |
| <i>I can't provide a positive or negative answer here because this is the first time I've heard that there is a Residents' Survey.</i> |
| <i>I</i> |
| <i>How will you know what residents think about services.</i> |
| <i>How on earth are you supposed to understand the implications of this? Without knowledge of what activities were undertaken, at what cost, with what results or benefits?</i> |
| <i>How else will you know what residents need? This proposal is ridiculous.</i> |
| <i>How do you know what's needed locally without asking the community you serve?</i> |
| <i>Given the lack of competence demonstrated in this questionnaire it would seem that Haringey Council does not have a competent manager to oversee such surveys. So competent is the manager overseeing the Libraries commonplace questionnaire that it was thought inconceivable that someone might visit a library in order to read.</i> |
| <i>Given the lack of competence demonstrated in this questionnaire it would seem that Haringey Council does not have a competent manager to oversee such surveys. So competent is the manager overseeing the Libraries commonplace questionnaire that it was thought inconceivable that someone might visit a library in order to read.</i> |
| <i>Getting residence views is very important, proper consultation is important in the lives of the people whose decision it affects. However, these resident surveys are of little use because they often don't make sense and I think it's a tick box exercise. However, if you got rid of them, this should not be used as an excuse to just do what counsellors want without any regard to what the residence themselves want. There has to be a way where</i> |

you can gauge residence opinions and the impact that decisions will have on them. This could be targeted surveys, focus groups of representative residents, or a proper peoples assembly. You can't just stop these surveys and say no one wanted them because the reason people may not want them is because they're useless to start with and it's up to the council to employ a firm that can do them properly, or the council do them properly themselves.

Doubt whether it is a representative survey, so scrap it.

don't know what difference it makes at the moment. It may well be money well spent.

detailed understanding of residents is good value for decisions

Could do a cost benefit analysis

Be useful to know what questions are asked, what the data is used for, and what other means you will use to understand residents' views, needs, and characteristics

As long as the gold standard approach remains a target

Already, people feel disengaged from local government. The surveys could certainly be made more meaningful but at least, when they are there, you can pretend to be engaging with people.

Do you agree that it is a fairer use of Council resources to give discounts to leisure facilities based on low income or additional needs?

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| <i>Yes if the discounts are linked to recognised needs/eligibility criteria and do not undermine the universal nature of local service provision.</i> |
| <i>Yes but consider using income from leisure centres to offset this (ie put price up for other people to pay for it)</i> |
| <i>While I benefit from a free service based on my age it is unfair given my level of income and this is the case with many 65 + in the Borough</i> |
| <i>We want people to be fit and healthy. This saves money on health and social care so it's a no brainer. It pays to prevent!</i> |
| <i>Use of Leisure facilities is not a necessity but choice as such we should all pay equally for what we use. Subsidizing for some is not fare for others. We are all stretched to a limit.</i> |
| <i>Those who live on less would require council services more, and things like leisure services are important for overall health and well-being. Subsidize for those who need it most in the area</i> |
| THOSE WHO LIVE NEAR THE POVERTY LINE AND ELDERLY WILL HAVE MUCH TO GAIN FROM BEING ABLE TO AFFORD TO ENJOY LEISURE FACILITIES |
| <i>Those who can pay should but there needs to be some incentive to use facilities to promote a healthier lifestyle</i> |
| <i>This would be another policy aimed at people with low incomes, what is the point of being financially independent if you are always being penalised. There is no incentive for people on low income to improve their situation. They are better off claiming every benefit available.</i> |
| <i>This should come together with a through reorganisation of services so that no member is neglected. So far the leisure centres have mainly focused on members with concession memberships which made that full paying members had little to no options available (e.g. no lane swimming able swimmers; no high intensity classes or group exercises for appropriate level of ability)</i> |
| <i>This is money well spent as it does allow people to keep fit and be less of a burden on the NHS, for example. It is also a good thing that those from poorer background have the opportunity to participate.</i> |
| <i>This helps the NHs and other services, its also a way to help older people feel less lonely.</i> |
| <i>the staff at the counter they are lazy i have gone there 5 times & have been denied as a dance practioner I have taken my business outside the council, very incompetent staff (Saturday , Sunday) workers at Marcuse Garvey/ Tottenham Leisure centre</i> |
| <i>The majority of people with gym membership don't use it, even when paying for it. I would prefer to have accessible leisure facilities subsidised for people who need to use them for health reasons. Having said that, promoting exercise activities to improve physical and mental health should be pursued more aggressively, perhaps through social prescribing. The same should be considered for cultural activities.</i> |
| <i>The council wasted so much money previously letting a shambolic company run its leisure centres, now the council want residents to make up for the wastage by paying for their mistake</i> |
| <i>The cost is too high. If discount has to provide, there must be some restrictions, e.g. the discounted users shouldn't be allowed to use facilities during the peak times.</i> |
| <i>That would be great</i> |
| <i>Supports those who need access most.</i> |
| <i>Should be discounted for all Haringey residents.</i> |
| <i>Residents who do not need discounts as they have enough financial means should not be getting any discounts</i> |
| <i>residents who can afford leisure activities will create long term savings for health</i> |
| <i>Provided low income or additional needs are assessed efficiently</i> |

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| <i>Prices for children and seniors should always be low/free to encourage healthy living</i> |
| <i>People with less money should attract higher discounts</i> |
| <i>People with disabilities should be given free or cheaper access. Those on low incomes should still pay for these facilities as there are other free options for exercise for most able bodied people, such as going for a walk or run.</i> |
| <i>People already pay for these services through council tax- they should be subsidised for all residents and are a good way to promote healthy lifestyles rather than 'active travel' which is not a viable option for the majority</i> |
| <i>Open to abuse</i> |
| <i>Old people can benefit</i> |
| <i>Often those on regular income are paying full council tax, full rent, full cost with very little left, using very minimal of the councils resources.. being excluded exacerbates the ability to engage in local resources</i> |
| <i>Not sure who is getting discounts other than low income and additional needs so this seems a bit cryptic.</i> |
| <i>More social equity</i> |
| <i>Makes sense to offer discounts where they are genuinely needed.</i> |
| <i>Makes absolute sense to subsidise people who can least afford and would most benefit these facilities, including asylum seekers and refugees. Improving their well being could also prove cost effective.</i> |
| <i>leisure, health and wellbeing should be available for everyone. Those of us who can contribute a little more to pay for it have a duty to do so to ensure this is case</i> |
| <i>Leisure services should be accessible to all and at discounted prices for Haringey residents.</i> |
| <i>In all honesty, those on really high incomes usually choose to go to private leisure centres.</i> |
| <i>Leisure is essential to the wellbeing of all</i> |
| <i>Lack of money might never be a reason not having access to these kind of health promoting activities</i> |
| <i>It's important for people mental and physical health and reduces need of medical care</i> |
| <i>It sounds only fair.</i> |
| <i>It sounds fairer, but if you make people 'claim' discounts, the uptake is usually lower.</i> |
| <i>It is right that the council s have control of its Borough facilities for its residents and not be subject to a profit making private organisation.</i> |
| <i>Fusion did not prioritise the welfare and benefit of residents.</i> |
| <i>It is part of a Council's function to look after the interests of the more disadvantaged members of the community, and discounted or free access to leisure and cultural facilities is most important for these people. I think it is fair that the system is reviewed from time to time; but the state of the economy at the moment means that even people with jobs etc are struggling. The council needs to be aware of that. Also, health wise investing in leisure services ultimately saves money for the council and the health service, as it provides a means for people to keep well mentally and physically. A simple and comprehensible scheme of discount is obviously desirable but please take account of the fact that due to the failing economy a lot of people with jobs are basically still poor. A lot of people are working in insecure jobs and the gig economy and it will be difficult to set up a system to meet their needs as their job situation is constantly in flux.</i> |
| <i>It is part of a Council's function to look after the interests of the more disadvantaged members of the community, and discounted or free access to leisure and cultural facilities is most important for these people. A simple and comprehensible scheme of discount is obviously desirable. Discounts will not however produce savings: so those residents who</i> |

are in full-time employment and those who are retired but not on benefit should be required to pay reasonable fees e.g. £10 per hour to use a tennis court.

It is much fairer and simpler to establish discounts based on age: child, student, elderly.

In principle I think discounted access to leisure facilities for those who need it is a good idea, but if it results in a large increase in the cost for other users it may reduce numbers and put the leisure centres in a deficit. Would the local NHS Board be able to contribute any funding as they are the ones who will see savings from improved local health outcomes more directly than the Council? Could there be instead an increase in the number of genuinely very low cost classes in community settings (£2 or under per class) on a pay as you go model that anyone can attend without being means tested?

In general terms this sounds reasonable, but it really depends on the specific proposals and who is affected.

Improving physical and mental health is good in itself and will save local and national govt money

important safety valve which more affluent areas can pay for themselves

I'm well enough off to afford many things others can't. I'm happy to pay a bit more.

If people choose not to work, they don't deserve to get amenities. Why should taxpayers pay full price while those who don't work get their housing paid, "cost of living" payments, benefit handouts, council tax reductions and ALSO get discounts at leisure facilities?! NO

I would rather subsidise council services through the payment of higher levels of council tax but, as that is not an option, I think that wealthier households in the borough should subsidise access to leisure services for lower income households.

I support this as I believe that the benefits are highly effective .

I feel that this could be shared between council services and the NHS as a primary preventative intervention. In both adults and children, physical activity contributes to prevention and management of obesity and noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer and diabetes and reduces symptoms of depression and anxiety, enhances brain health, and can improve overall well-being.

I believe it's fairer for the Council to offer discounts for leisure activities based on people's income or special needs. Here's why:

1. ****Helping Those in Need****

Many residents are struggling with rising living costs, making it hard for them to afford basic necessities and leisure activities. By offering discounts to low-income individuals or those with additional needs, the Council can help those who need it most enjoy leisure facilities that they might not otherwise be able to afford. This also promotes inclusivity, allowing people facing financial hardships, disabilities, or health challenges to benefit from physical activity and the health perks it brings.

2. ****Promoting Health and Wellbeing****

Giving discounts to those who need them can encourage more people to be active, which is a key part of staying healthy. This could lead to lower healthcare costs in the long run and benefit the community as a whole. Plus, access to leisure facilities can significantly improve mental health, as exercise is known to help reduce stress and anxiety. By focusing on those with additional needs, the Council can help create a more inclusive environment where everyone has the chance to improve their wellbeing.

3. ****Using Resources Wisely****

Currently, the discount system might not be helping those who need it most. By simplifying the program and targeting discounts more effectively, the Council can better support those truly in need, making sure that resources are used where they'll have the greatest impact. This approach promotes fairness and ensures that public funds support the residents who will benefit the most.

4. ****Tackling Inequalities****

Some residents, especially those with lower incomes or disabilities, often face challenges when trying to access leisure services. A focused discount program can help break down these barriers, making sure that everyone, no matter their financial situation or abilities, has equal access to leisure activities. This promotes a sense of community and belonging among residents from various backgrounds.

5. ****Making It Simple and Clear****

The existing pricing system is seen as complicated and confusing. A simpler, clearer approach that directly targets low-income individuals and those with additional needs would make it easier to understand and access discounts. This could encourage more residents to participate in activities and make the most of the services available. Involving residents in creating the new pricing scheme ensures it meets community needs and preferences, making it more likely to be successful.

In conclusion, offering discounts for leisure facilities based on income or special needs is a fairer way to use Council resources. It helps vulnerable residents access health, social, and community benefits that leisure activities provide. This strategy not only supports health and wellbeing but also moves us closer to a fairer society, where everyone can enjoy leisure options regardless of their financial situation. By simplifying the pricing and working with residents, the Council can create a more transparent and inclusive system.

I agree with this proposal.

I agree with this in principle but I also don't think discounts to those on low income should be very much at all. I would much rather have better leisure services that charge more.

For example, in Tottenham Green, the pools and the soft play are not high quality, however at least for the soft play it is incredible value. I can pay £6 to go with my 3 children, whereas equivalent in Waltham Forest would be nearly £25.

That said, the facilities in Waltham Forest are much nicer and cleaner.

So, I believe Haringey have a duty to generate revenue from its leisure services to invest back in the provision, which is why I say a discount is fine but maybe say 10-20%.

How do I know? I've never had leisure benefits provided by the council.

Health. Access to healthy life styles reduces mental and physical ailments thus reducing health care budgets. The more access a child has to facilities the better. E.g. i would like to take my child swimming once a week but the cost is prohibited instead we go on average once every two months. And every time the cost of living go up activities such as swimming reduces.

Has health and wellbeing benefits

Fusion were absolutely useless. Hopefully the council will do better.

Fairer than what?

everyone should pay, discount should be minimal

Epidemic of childhood and adult obesity

Energy should be directed towards addressing exercise description using non gym resources unless there are the only way

Ending concessions can be a false economy. Having expensive leisure services can price people out even if they're working. The country has an obesity, mental health crises and due to lockdown skeletal and muscle strength issues. All can be mitigated by people doing more exercise. It may save money in the long term if people are healthier. If the council is not doing so, they should work with the NHS to see if access to cheaper leisure will give long-term savings by encouraging people to exercise. Exercise can reduce social care costs treating people who are obese and there is evidence exercise can reduce

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| <i>depression. Furthermore, I know people with mobility problems could benefit from exercises such as yoga and swimming. This is especially true if they are under-going physiotherapy. Look at Sports Clubs, boys and young men might be particularly interested in activities such as boxing, whereas females may be more into dance. Ultimately, it depends on how you plan, organise and what market research you do to maximise this resource.</i> |
| <i>Encouraging more use.</i> |
| <i>Definitely because it will pay for itself through people having healthier activities, better mental health, more community spirit et cetera. It is essential that regardless of how much money people have they can use leisure facilities. It's beneficial for everyone in the long run.</i> |
| <i>Council should be looking after interests of disadvantaged members of the community.</i> |
| <i>Council leisure services are important to those who are less well-off and therefore have fewer alternatives</i> |
| <i>Concessions for the elderly and less abled are vital to enable them to stay fit and have social intercourse.</i> |
| <i>Discounts for those on benefits should be reviewed as they already receive so much it discourages them from finding employment</i> |
| <i>Because seniors or those with health conditions would benefit healthwise from encouragement to get fit, saving costs to social services</i> |
| <i>As someone who falls outside the traditional low income band, I would find it increasingly difficult to access exercise centres without a concession rate. I have no ability to increase my income. I know of many older people who would feel they would have to stop using the centres if prices increased or spend less on heating or food. A healthy population is better value for money for the borough in the long run.</i> |
| <i>As long as the pricing is fair to everyone as some residents are not able to claim anything even though they have been told that they can</i> |
| <i>As long as all people with a need to use the services are included not just people on benefits</i> |
| <i>And over 60s</i> |
| <i>Also for young people and older residents</i> |
| <i>All residents that pay the council tax should get the discount. Some people who are unemployed do not request money from the government and therefore do not have the correct documents.</i> |
| <i>Again the ***** is in the detail but it is known that subsidising leisure activities can have a significantly positive impact on welfare of community, learning and crime. However the scheme has to be open transparent and easy to manage (eg Leisure passes/membership schemes) available throughout borough and not usual chosen communities</i> |
| <i>Absolutely. Should always be means tested</i> |

Do you have any comments to make on the proposals to increase or reduce capital spending as described above?

With Asset Management- Many Staff have/ Councillors have left onto other roles etc. If all their equipment has been returned/retrieved and much IT has now become redundant. All that is sitting in storage should be checked . If the IT Specialist have done their jobs correctly then all the redundant in storage that will not take new Haringey Council Software could be sold, to reduce cost.

Why is there a reduction in "Tottenham streets and spaces" and not the rest of the borough? For eg Crouch end.

*We have No NHS HUB in Wood green , Drs surgeries are smaller , less multi services given . Yet it is central to Haringey .
New drs surgery for Green lanes - Haringey and Ferry Lane Ashley Road.
But leaves nothing for Wood green .
Resource centre , needs to be maintained , as its is a strong forum point for an area with a diverse population/ crime / Health etc
Alexandra Palace is a major plus to this area . More joined up thinking with the voluntary sector could be useful .
Trafford Hall just outside Chester is a wonderful Residents/ commercial training centre.
Maybe AP could look at that side again a joint approach so less monies taken back
Road spending : Accidents , higher insurance claims . Floods , sunken drains
Haringey residents safety. PLEASE LOOK AGAIN AT ROAD FUNDING*

*To introduce tax reductions to people are taking responsibility for the community in the sense of working in a voluntary position.
Also encourage organic food consumption via organic food schemes organised by the council*

Thumbs up for digital investment. But contractors have to be carefully managed by people with digital project experience or you risk contractors taking the piss.

This needs to be looked at in much more detail. The reductions make sense but some of the increases need more focus e.g Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) . We've already installed these where they are wanted, and residents' main concerns now are LTNs - which many of them hate! and our perceived obsession with reallocating roads to cyclists. We need to sit down and discuss these issues as many highways schemes are seen as vanity projects, Actually we do very little road resurfacing and pothole repairs, so, again, we need to examine policies in detail and make changes where required.

There needs to be a place where residents can see all public tenders and RFPs and see which companies are ultimately awarded them. They need to be public before they are awarded so a broad number of companies can to ensure contracts are not being awarded in back rooms and that the council is getting the best price and quality for their services.

The spending needs to be monitored for its effectiveness. So much money is wasted on unnecessary things, whilst urgent matters are neglected. Decent management is imperative.

The review of CPZ does not include the possibility of their removal where it is clear they are not wanted by the residents.

It is frequently claimed that parking in the borough is a racist policy. The poorest and most vulnerable areas experiencing the highest charges. The review should include parking charges and ensure equality across the borough.

Many cycle facilities unused or use minimally during summer months. These cost the borough to build and maintain. There should be a review of these and those not used by residents in sufficient numbers should be removed and the road space reallocated.

The reduction of wards corner funding is an excuse for the council to give the regeneration back to Grainger after the local residents have been fighting for over a decade to keep the

local residents plan. A simple refurbishment of wards corner as the local residents plan, cannot be more expensive than the plan grainger proposed.

The Placemaking and housing (P&H) funding for wards corner should end now. The aging council plan has just caused planning blight for years in order to satisfy an out of date vision of shopping centres. Release all compulsory purchase and re-let the 4 council owned buildings to raise income from today.

The entire network of parking for the disabled needs to be reviewed as I regularly witness people abusing these parking permits, which seem to be given out like sweets. I am fully aware that many disabilities are not visible. However surely those with parking needs should have visible disabilities? I'm also aware that this is probably not a politically correct comment, but it's my opinion nonetheless.

As for ridiculous schemes, such as Harringay, the rebel borough are concerned. These are a total waste of money and whoever thought them up should be fired so we could save money there too

The Council's proposed changes to capital spending reflect a balanced approach, with some reductions in non-essential projects and targeted increases in areas such as housing, infrastructure, IT, and environmental resilience. The focus on essential services and long-term investments that offer cost savings or social benefits (e.g., housing, flood management, IT tools) is commendable. However, careful attention must be paid to the impact of cuts, particularly in areas like road maintenance and festive lights, which contribute to community well-being. Moving forward, it will be critical to monitor the effectiveness of these changes and ensure that the capital programme continues to reflect the borough's evolving needs and priorities:

The proposals to increase or reduce capital spending in Haringey reflect a mix of prudence, targeted investment, and cost-saving measures, in response to the current financial position of the Council. Here are some comments and considerations regarding the changes:

Reductions:

Osbourne Grove Nursing Home Scheme:

Comment: The decision to cancel the Osbourne Grove Nursing Home project seems prudent given the financial challenges due to rising construction costs. Repurposing the existing building for another use ensures that the resource isn't left idle, although it will be important to clearly communicate the new purpose of the building to the community and stakeholders to manage expectations and maintain support.

Wood Green Integrated Care Hub:

Comment: The NHS's decision not to proceed with the scheme removes the Council's financial burden. It's important that the Council continues to explore alternative healthcare or community-driven projects in the area to meet the needs of local residents, especially given the significant demand for healthcare and social services in Wood Green.

Locality Hub Scheme Neighbourhood Resource Centre:

Comment: Narrowing the focus to just refurbishing the Neighbourhood Resource Centre is a sensible step in light of budgetary constraints. However, it's essential to ensure that the refurbishment meets the needs of the community and that the remaining resources are effectively allocated to other priority areas.

Alexandra Palace Funding Reduction:

Comment: A reduction of £1.5m for Alexandra Palace seems reasonable, given the financial pressures. However, the Council must balance cost-saving measures with the ongoing need for maintaining and preserving the Palace, a key cultural and historical

asset.

Festive Lights and Road Resurfacing Reductions:

Comment: Cutting back on festive lights and road resurfacing is understandable in light of the budgetary constraints. However, these reductions may impact community engagement and local satisfaction, particularly in areas where festive lights contribute to local morale or tourism. The impact on road safety should be closely monitored as the reduced number of resurfacing schemes could lead to deteriorating road conditions in some areas.

Decentralised Energy Network (DEN) Scheme:

Comment: Pausing the DEN scheme due to its reliance on significant borrowing is a pragmatic decision given the current financial challenges. Exploring other delivery methods with key stakeholders is wise, but the Council should ensure that it does not lose momentum on environmental and energy sustainability goals.

Wards Corner and Place Shaping Projects:

Comment: Removing the Wards Corner scheme from the capital programme seems like a necessary step due to financial viability concerns. It's crucial that the Council works closely with local partners to develop a more feasible plan. Additionally, the review of other place shaping schemes should focus on ensuring the projects are truly impactful for the communities of Wood Green and Tottenham Hale.

Increases:

Housing Initiatives to Reduce Temporary Accommodation Use:

Comment: Increasing investment to reduce reliance on temporary accommodation is a very positive initiative. The Council's efforts to purchase homes for permanent use can have long-term financial and social benefits by reducing the costs of temporary accommodation while providing stable housing for residents. Each purchase should, however, be carefully assessed to ensure it delivers savings and long-term value.

Investing in IT and Digital Tools:

Comment: The increased investment in IT and digital tools is essential for improving service delivery and efficiency. Technology is a key enabler of streamlined services, and such investment will not only improve the resident experience but can lead to long-term cost savings. The Council should ensure that any new digital systems are user-friendly and accessible for all residents, particularly those with limited digital skills.

Urgent Infrastructure Works and Flood Management:

Comment: The proposals to invest in urgent works for Cornwall Road, Ferry Lane, and Wareham Road bridges are necessary to maintain road safety and structural integrity. Additionally, addressing flooding and surface water management is a key step in future-proofing the borough against the impacts of climate change. However, it's important that these investments are closely monitored to ensure they meet both short- and long-term resilience goals.

Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance:

Comment: Ongoing investment in parks and open spaces is crucial for maintaining the borough's green infrastructure, which provides numerous social, environmental, and health benefits. Regular maintenance and equipment replacement will help ensure these spaces remain accessible and attractive for residents.

Disabled Parking Provision:

Comment: Increasing the provision of disabled parking facilities is a positive step for inclusivity and accessibility. Ensuring adequate parking spaces at key locations like high streets and medical centres is essential for enabling people with disabilities to live more

independently and engage more easily with their communities.

Communal Refuse Collection:

Comment: The investment in additional vehicles for communal refuse collection aligns with the Council's need to manage waste effectively. The cost-saving potential from moving away from leasing vehicles could benefit the Council in the long term. However, careful planning is needed to ensure the new vehicles meet the growing demands of the borough's waste collection needs.

Operational and Commercial Estate Maintenance:

Comment: The £13m required for essential maintenance and compliance of the Council's non-residential buildings is a necessary investment to ensure that these buildings remain safe and fit for purpose. This investment should be seen as a long-term commitment to the upkeep of critical infrastructure, as failure to invest in maintenance now may lead to higher costs later.

The council should withdraw all LTNs and not introduce restricted parking permits for resident's visitors. We have a right to travel about the borough, have visitors and services come to our homes. Hiding behind greenwashed BS is shameful

See earlier comments on digital technology capital investments. In principle these are a good thing if benefits can be proven which if focused on residents needs they can well be. However, experience to date has not been positive in that they can often be cited as an excuse to cut front line library services. What is needed is for the council to work closely with Friends of library groups on the library strategy and then include digital and building investment projects as part of this. It is nonsense to invest in refurbishing all the libraries with the capital budget, only to cut their hours drastically when the refurbishments are complete. This results in all the spend going on capital budgets to outside firms, with all the benefits to residents then being cut, resulting in an undermined business case. Similar thing as to what happened with HS2, when the government gave lucrative construction contracts to suppliers, but then cut the plans half way through, leaving residents / taxpayers footing the bill and not getting the benefits of improved transport links to the North. The same is happening with libraries in Haringey as benefits have been cut as libraries hours of the newly refurbished libraries are cut, denying all the benefits of their use to just a reduced number of hours.

Roads maintenance will be a major issue if we are cutting funds for this, everything else seems reasonable though

Road works can be funded by introducing speed cameras in the borough. Not only would that reduce speeds, and accidents, but it would generate income, through fines, which could be recycled back into roadworks.

Reducing the use of temporary accommodation would be good.

It is a shame that Osborne Grove will not be progressing.

Reduce all.

Reduce all

Please do not use the creation of new unneeded CPZs as a way to raise new income.

Personally I won't benefit from any of the investments the council is making. I think it is a shame to reduce the Christmas lights. Being able to create a good atmosphere during the holidays by decorating and organising events to bring people together shows the true character of a community. From what I am reading in your investment plans we are a community of potholes and dark streets who have no interest in culture and no care for those in need.

Firstly, you need to campaign this consultation better and also organise council meetings to get a proper vote from the residents on how we want our money to be spent. Secondly,

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| <i>it would be useful to involve the community and businesses to create events & decorations for holidays and festivities.</i> |
| <i>Object to any revenue raising through unfair raising of resident permits More spending is required on traffic reduction schemes</i> |
| <i>Noting your reference to CPZ Investment Plan, and the absence of reference in detail to the proposed changes to daily parking permits, I confirm I am NOT in favor of using this consultation to affirm support for that measure</i> |
| <i>Not sure why funding for the Broadwater Farm Leisure Centre should only come from Housing. Are there not other sources such as Community Safety, Family Hub, other sectors making use of the building?</i> |
| <i>Not enough information to scrutinise. On what basis do you think you can fund waste vehicles cheaper than Veolia. This could prove to be a huge risk in the long term</i> |
| <i>Not enough information to form a valid opinion</i> |
| <i>None at all - all seem sensible at present but important to keep this expenditure under constant review .</i> |
| <i>no comment</i> |
| <i>No - I do not have the knowledge nor expertise on council budgets to comment. I don't understand how the roads are underfunded when there has been such an uptick of finances due to the fines imposed on so many residents. I was under the impression that this funding was ring fenced for road works. Currently, parking restrictions seem to be weighted very unfairly on the more deprived areas of the borough. which means that there is less time to park for free and more visitor parking tickets (which have to be paid for) are required and yet the same amount of visitor parking tickets can be bought across the borough.</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>Need to reduce or eliminate funding to all building work for new residence particularly for one in Muswell Hill area where the project is not being supported by residence, infrastructure and parking requirements are not met and does not fit in with the ability of the area to have more housing.</i> |
| <i>Disagree on increasing disabled parking lots as parking is at a premium. More work should be to reduce the number of people that get disabled parking when it is not required for them.</i> |
| <i>More income can be generated by enforcing fines for speeding. I think it is a very good idea to reduce spend on festive lights, but investment in green spaces and litter clearing is essential for resident morale and safety. Could the council also reduce spending on streetlights / bulbs? The ones local to me at least are overly bright and numerous - more like floodlights than streetlights.</i> |
| <i>Lighting essential for safety - not mentioned here?</i> |
| <i>Just reduce non essential</i> |
| <i>I've often wondered why so much is spent on roads around us. It seems there was never ending work on our road over the last couple of years disrupting public transport and I wondered how some of it could be justified as some of it seemed to be 'nice to have' rather than 'need to have', so if that budget is reduced I'd be o.k with that. Essential safety work should be continued though.</i> |

It's very difficult. I think, Haringey will be in a worse position next year. The reason being the increase in population due to mass migration -legal and illegal and domestic, an aging population which require social care and increasingly people with numerous needs which require supporting, Until Haringey Council stops blaming the Tories and austerity for their position and start looking at what is causing the downward pressure for resources/services. This will never be resolved. Banging your head against a brick wall would be more productive.

It's imperative that the Council minimises savings on services related to maintain and improve health of its citizens. As the general population is ageing, the low cost availability of gym and sport centres is essential to achieve this. Most pensioners aren't in the position to pay the often high fees for attending commercially operating gyms and sport centres.

It's absolutely insane that there is no proposed spending to filter roads, reduce car traffic, install safe cycling infrastructure in line with WCAP - for example in Shelbourne Rd N17 there was a funded LTN and protected cycle lane shown in October 2021 but nothing was implemented despite showing as 'funded', and again in Turnpike Lane there is a protected cycle lane up to Muswell Hill and Finchley in the WCAB confirmed future cycling network, and Turnpike Lane is on a strategic TfL cycling corridor, but current proposals fall foul of this and will thus lose TfL funding and partnership.

Alexandra Park should have had an LTN years ago but the money was diverted to BG LTN. It has up to 5 hours of traffic jams all the way to Wood Green most nights.

All these areas suffer from high levels of air pollution, noise, congestion and inability of public transport - buses - to get through. This mismanagement costs the council a fortune in delays, deaths and road repairs.

There is also a complete misconception about spending on disabled drivers. 81% of disabled people are pedestrians! But the council wants to do more and more expeditions and street spaces for car owners -this is neither fair nor equal! Equality for disabled people would mean strengthening and widening pavements, access to reliable quick busses and trains, better air quality, safe cycling for disabled and cargo bikes. Not more car spaces in the road that hinder buses and cyclists.

It would be good to understand in more detail what these reductions in capital spend will mean in practise. Eg: what is the impact of reducing money to Ally Pally by £1.5m? I'm likely to agree that it sounds sensible but how can I judge without all the facts?

it is short-sighted to continue to invest in digitalising the council for residents to access services. It creates a backlog for back office staff who do not communicate in a timely fashion, which then goes on to create a raft of cooperate complaints, rent and council tax arrears with no in person support to assist residents with things like budgets to make repayment plans - inevitably this costs the council more money. This is where connected Communities offer tailored in person support for residents

Invest in more enforcement officers and cameras. There's too many bad drivers, drunks, druggies, people who cant see red lights, cycling on pavements etc. Lets crush and make those sort of people pay before looking at increasing tax of decent hardworking people

Instead of selling council property (in the building sense) why's re these not rented at a commercial rate to bring in income? In terms of temporary housing, rather than spending the limited resources we have on this, why does the council not invest in tackling the cause of this need e.g. by training and adjustments to help people get back into work; lobby for fairer wages in line with inflation and cost of living? The amount for IT appears excessive - is this truly the most cost efficient option? Given the lack of care given to our parks, I am surprised by the cost of proposed machinery.

Increase the income: Councillors step down, have a Haringey Hub: the whole of Haringey integrated into one hub (HH)-HARINGEY HUB The councillors can work hybrid. No allowances to be paid to the councillors or cabinet members.

Housing: Have a good regeneration Manager/ Acquisition Manager to bring properties, bring empty homes into use. Give accreditations to landlords work in partnership with RSL's stake holders

Bicycle: Limes scheme scrap it outsource it obstructs the payments people thrown bicycles on the payment & the disabled people & others inconvenienced

Environment: Reduce carbon print by the council

Implementation and maintenance of CPZs is expensive. When you revisit the CPZ restrictions, this should also include the opportunity for those of us with extremely long CPZ restrictions to advocate for a reduction in hours, especially if the council moves ahead with its decision to discontinue daily visitor permits. Two hours a day has proven sufficient in many wards in the west of the borough, and these should not be increased for the purpose of income generation for the council. Yes, money from parking is 'ringfenced' but wherever the income is spent still represents spending that doesn't need to be taken from elsewhere in the budget, so the argument does not hold true. I also sincerely hope that the answers from this very broad survey with no specific detail will not be used to support the TMO to remove daily visitor permits, as that would be highly disingenuous.

I'd be interested to know what the estimated £1.96m for "Digital investment" will be getting residents and tax payers. That's a huge sum. My concern is that the council are going to be rinsed by tech firms thinking a big pay day has arrived.

I'm not sure what you're going to do with the CPZs. it just says you're looking at it. But from what I saw of the council proposals it would be a disaster if you carried them out and didn't take residence needs & views into consideration; to reduce visitor parking to such a drastic extent is basically stopping residents from receiving outside people, workers, friends, family, guests et cetera. If there is abuse of the system then deal with it, collective punishment is not an option. The council has no right to do this; it's supposed to regulate parking, not bring it to an almost standstill.

I would not want to see any reduction in spending on roads and pedestrian areas.

I think the wards corner scheme could produce planning gain in partnership with a private developer which could reduce the current high levels of street crime in that area

i THINK THAT VEOILA PROVIDE A GOOD SERVICE AND I AM SCEPTICAL OF THE COUNCIL BEING ABLE TO TAKE BACK CONTROL OF SO MANY PROJECTS/CONTRATS, ESPECIALLY AS THEIR TRACK RECORD FOR WASTING MONEY IS SO BAD

I think consideration should be given to how any currently under-used Council-owned buildings could be better utilised. By thinking imaginatively about each space there may be new options that can make use of the space, either to generate income by hiring out the space (e.g. as communal workspaces, event spaces for pop-up events, storage for local businesses who need it etc) or by savings on the costs of hiring/ buying other spaces for Council run activity (e.g. shelters, playgroups, training).

I strongly support a reduction in the use of temporary accommodation and replacing it with more suitable homes.

I object to proposals to remove daily permits for residents to hourly as we rely on family for childcare and have no alternative means. It will impact us and our children hugely

I am opposed to Wards Corner being deleted and strongly support this rare initiative. Nothing here about the proposed massive increase in visitor parking charges which I realise are part of a separate consultation. But I hope that a change of mind on those increases has been factored in here.

I am broadly in agreement with the proposals. However, I add the significant caveat that I disagree with the linked proposal to remove the daily parking permits in all CPZs and replace them with concurrent hourly permits. I would hope that this isn't an attempt to gain support for this move indirectly, as this would undermine the consultation which was conducted by traffic services in which residents were asked to comment explicitly on the transport proposals.

I agree with the implied suggestion in Environment and Resident Experience 1 that rubbish and recycling collections should be brought back in house.

| |
|---|
| <i>I am concerned that further deferral of the Wards Corner scheme under Placemaking and Housing will allow further deterioration of the structure(s), meaning that any eventual work done is likely to be more expensive and/or could lead to the eventual demolition of the building(s).</i> |
| <i>I agree with reducing spend on festive lights; this is unnecessary & bad for the environment apart from anything else. I'm concerned about the reduction of the road repair programme. Many of the borough's roads and especially pavements are in an atrocious state, & elderly people could easily trip over the uneven paving stones. I myself have almost fallen over several times, although I'm not elderly! I'm very concerned about Wards Corner; this needs to be prioritised before the year of culture. WHY on earth can't it be re-furbished so that the indoor market can return downstairs and the upper floors be used as studios ; galleries etc which would bring in an income? It's been many years since it closed and NOTHING has been done with it. It is shameful that you first tried to get it knocked down, yet it's a fantastic building and could be a source of serious pride for the borough, by showcasing the amazing communities we have here. You could hold exhibitions there during the year of culture; instead people will come to Tottenham & just see this wreck of a building. Shameful.</i> |
| <i>Get rid of unnecessary LTN schemes which are not supported by residents and cause traffic chaos and congestion.</i> |
| <i>Get rid of the place shaping. Good to see less spent on roads</i> |
| <i>Get more money from property developers who benefit from these plans</i> |
| <i>Fully support all</i> |
| <i>Festive lights are not important. Each shop has its own decorations which are quite enough. NOTE: Spending on maintenance of parks is unfairly raised by the damage done by Music Festivals. Council needs to balance money raised by them against the misery they cause to locals (Not being able to access while they are being set up, during and after, mess and noise). I believe relatively little is raised once this is taken into account.</i> |
| <i>Excellent plan to purchase properties instead of paying for temporary accommodation. IT only good investment if properly tendered to specify optimum improvements. Shame about excellent Wood Green Integrated Care hub. DEN should be scrapped with more spend on local community energy and retrofit. Is retrofit programme safeguarded?</i> |
| <i>Environment , specifically roads/disabled bays/£ighways projects; is it unreasonable to expect these activities to be paid for from the Millions received from parking fines by haringey Council. Secondly where is the data that justifies the expansion of disable bays , Especially when a blue badge holder can virtually park any where. Save the money for prosperous times.</i> |
| <i>Ensure that the leisure centres have a long term capital funding plan I.e at least 20 years</i> |
| <i>Impose more CPZs etc to increase revenue</i> |
| <i>Do not reduce funding to improve walking and cycling</i> |
| <i>Does it pay for the council to be maintain a large estate??</i> |
| <i>Culture, strategy and engagement (CSE) a) Alexandra Palace should not be a drain on the Council's resources. It should be run and maintained on the income it generates and if it cannot do this it should be disposed of so as to no longer be a burden on the Council. b) Digital Investment. At a time of financial stress when everybody has to tighten their belts and many people are finding it difficult to put food on the table it is unacceptable for the Council to splurge out on unnecessary digital investment, the tired old solution thought up by managers chasing the elusive phantasm of reduced costs.</i> |
| <i>Culture Department</i> |
| <i>Ensure that Haringey Council funding does not go to organisations providing services to</i> |

people who are not resident in Haringey. End general subsidy of charities and voluntary organisations that are based in Haringey but deliver activities for those who do not live in Haringey, e.g. Jackson Lane Arts Centre, Alexandra Palace Theatre.

Delay the proposed digital transformation expenditure until a clear strategy and plan for improvement is in place, and in the meantime use some of the funding to invest in libraries.

CSE

The Council should delay the planned spending on digital transformation until CSE has a plan in place which has the support of the majority of residents. Spending £3 million on digital transformation without clarity as to what the shape of services is going to be is incompetent and will be a waste of money. The technology might be unused or even binned. The Council should use some of this funding to invest in libraries and training staff. This will ensure that the Council has professionally qualified librarians as apparently there are none at present.

The Alexandra Palace arts venue should be self-financing, as should Jackson Lane Arts Centre since they are national venues, e.g. for Darts and Circus. National and regional arts subsidy needs to come from central government, the Mayor of London and the GLA, not from scarce council resources in Haringey.

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Cranwood Nursing Home has been lost to (delayed) council housing development and the Osborne Grove Nursing Home development has been abandoned. Where are the rising numbers of elderly people needing nursing home residents to be housed? Why has the Wood Green Integrated Care Hub implementation been changed? I thought the Diagnostic Hub was a success. Is that just hype?

Bad idea to reduce spending on road resurfacing and pedestrian footpaths. As a wheelchair user I can tell you that some pavements are like a roller coaster, without any fun.

Could a change of use to Osborne House, and any other buildings, be to turn it into some kind of temporary housing a that may mean savings from not using private landlords? A targeted homogenous group could perhaps share communal facilities in such a place?

Can reduce the amount in borough parking plan without material impacts on borough residents.

As I was involved in the coproduction process with regards to Osborne Grove , I feel that the way that the project was terminated should be urgently reviewed particularly as some of us involved thought that a cheaper version could have been developed at the start ! An opportunity has been lost as monies could have been brought into the borough by the development.

As I have already mentioned above, at a time when people are facing financial hardship, it is not appropriate for the Council to spend vast sums of money on digital investment. It is also not appropriate, in contrast to this for the council to stop putting up lights in front of

the town hall in Tottenham at Christmas. The savings you would make by not having the lights and Christmas tree would be so little, compared to the pleasure they give. You would I believe just be turning off the lights at Christmas. Things are already bad enough as it is. The residents in Tottenham do not have access to their own town hall. It now mainly functions as a food bank and I believe some private organisations are located there. Turning off the Christmas lights would just be totally Scrooge-like behaviour in light of the tiny amount of savings that would be achieved.

Agree that we can cut the festive lights.

Agree re Osbourne Grove and Wards Corner: neither ever looked viable. I don't see how the £25.1m expenditure on refuse vehicles can be made in advance of knowing the outcome of the tendering exercise. Is this assuming the service will be brought in-house?

Absolutely no to reduces festive lights across the borough. These provide cheer to many residents and create a sense of positivity in a gloomy time.

“Place making’ is a shocking waste of public money and deserves to be cut. Road repairs however surely are funded by the appalling fines from the LTN cameras so I struggle to see how they cannot continue as those funds can only be spent on the roads? Or is it the councils aim to continue to raise revenue by scamming residents every way possible?

A shame to take the funding away from Ally Pally when it is doing so well and there is a risk that it regresses or that we lose key personnel. I'd like to know what is happening with the Penstock Tunnel. You should bring in external money for Wards Corner. A wasted opportunity when Grainger left.

A general observation: the Council should avoid reducing its investment program. Facilities that cater to the needs of the older population, as well as well-maintained roads and pavements, significantly enhance the area's appeal and contribute to its overall quality and reputation.

1. It is to be regretted that investment in Alexandra Palace has to be cut, though the logic is understandable. I hope this can be kept under review for the future.

2. I don't have a car myself, but from observation i think the policy of trying to squeeze more and more from motorists has gone as far as it can. The amounts of money targeted to be raised will not compensate for the economic and social damage to the borough caused by further impositions.

Are there any changes or proposals you think we should considered which might save money or achieve better value from council spend?

Yes, we should coordinate council consultations so that all are done in-house at minimal cost. Similarly, a lot of studies and surveys currently farmed out can easily be done in-house.

Yes - local authority land and property should not be sold - it should be used as an investment to generate income for the borough and the people it serves. Too often local authority property is being sold for an uncompetitive rate. This is wrong.

The council has wasted a lot of money on creating a two tier system in the borough through LTNs - such arbitrary and/or discriminatory ideas need to be halted and our collective resources not wasted in this way. This was money better spent on the roads which are littered with potholes and drains which are blocked and flooding our roads. The council has a duty to all residents, not some. Also spending millions on changing a road name was irresponsible use of public funds during a pandemic and cost of living crisis.

Withdraw all LTNs and stop running ridiculous consultations which you ignore. Act on the requirements of the majority of your residents not a privileged and entitled few who do not care about their neighbours.

Wasteful spend on DEI positions in the council and unnecessary work

URGENT: Your library needs δŸ«μ you!

Haringey Council's 2025 Budget Consultation

The Council is planning to reduce Highgate Library opening hours from 57 hours per week to 32.5 hours per week.

The simplest way for you to respond to the Consultation is by answering just one question, Question 18.1 "are there any changes or proposals you think we should consider which might save money ...?"

<https://haringeybudget2025.commonplace.is/proposals/sample-questions/step7>

We suggest you answer:

a) I am opposed to the reduction in opening hours at Haringey's libraries and at Highgate Library in particular.

b) The Council has sufficient funds to maintain a full library service. (See FOHLSH February 2024 paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - suggesting savings and revenue enhancement of approximately £50 million)

Update some of the older properties that have not been part of the new homes updates like for example Arundel court Yet you are going to build new flats and not look after the properties that you already have

Turn Ally Pally into a community share holding trust concern and that would raise money to invest im the building.

The Placemaking and housing (P&H) funding for wards corner should end now. The aging council plan has just caused planning blight for years in order to satisfy an out of date vision of shopping centres. Release all compulsory purchase and re-let the 4 council owned buildings to raise income from today

The paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - from Friends of Highgate Library Shepherds Hill was circulated to every Haringey councillor in 2024 and, the Director of Culture and the Chief Executive. The paper demonstrate that the Council has funds to maintain a full library service across all 9 libraries and the £46 million

identified should help to fund other services as well.

In addition, the Council has become increasingly inefficient and unresponsive over the last 25 years. In 2000 all councillors' contact details including address and phone number were published on the Haringey Council website. Councillors were only able to claim expenses rather receiving an allowance. This meant that a councillor who was inactive received no payment but now allowances are paid regardless. The allowances for Cabinet members and the Leader of the Council are substantial and greater than average salaries. This raises the question of whether Cabinet members who are in full-time work are delivering value for money in terms of their allowances. Are they really working 80 hours per week?

Lastly, local government responded to the Local Government and Finance Act 2001, the Audit Commission and the requirements to bid competitively for funding, e.g. Decent Homes, by adding layers of management and support services. Senior managers have had vast increases in salary with no improvement in performance. This has depleted resources from frontline services. We have a situation where the Council has closed every children's home and is now paying £1 million for one child in care for one year. Haringey is not unique in having done this but clearly more managers and paying managers more isn't working. The senior managers - in Post Office Paula Vennells style - do not understand their services because they have so little or no contact with their services and service users. De-layering and expanding the span of control of managers to the private sector average of eight FTE would save significant money. The current situation where most members of the public can get no further than the Haringey call-centre when they need to speak to someone is counter-productive. Managers cannot comprehend how to improve their services in these circumstances. Those services with direct contact with staff have far greater satisfaction rates. Many organisations have a virtual call centre, e.g. Nationwide, where a phone goes to customer-facing members of staff in a branch. This would avoid the current 'pass the parcel' found in Haringey Council's call centre.

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The council should seriously consider investigating possibilities and options to cooperate with adjoining Boroughs of Enfield and Barnet for sharing the provision of services.

Support for young people services - youth clubs and mental health services should not be cut - vital to future of civic society

suggestions that could help the council achieve savings or better value from its spending:

1. Greater Collaboration with the Voluntary Sector

The voluntary and community sector (VCS) often provides services that align closely with the council's objectives, particularly in areas like social care, housing, and community engagement. By deepening partnerships with VCS organisations, the council could access a network of services at a lower cost, leveraging the goodwill and expertise of non-profit organisations. This could also help reduce reliance on expensive external contractors.

2. Expand Shared Services with Neighbouring Boroughs

The council could explore opportunities for shared services with other local authorities, especially in back-office functions like HR, IT, finance, or legal services. By pooling resources, councils could reduce administrative costs and benefit from economies of scale. This is particularly relevant for areas where there's a significant overlap in service delivery (e.g., waste management or public health).

3. Increase Use of Digital Services

While the council is already making strides with digital transformation, there could be further opportunities for savings by expanding the use of technology across a wider range of services. For example, developing more robust online platforms for residents to access services (e.g., applying for permits, renewing benefits, or reporting issues) could reduce the demand for face-to-face interactions and call-centre support, leading to cost reductions in staffing and resources.

Additionally, investing in digital platforms for community engagement (virtual consultations, surveys, etc.) could reduce the costs associated with physical events and increase the participation of residents who may not be able to attend in person.

4. Review External Contracts and Supplier Agreements

Regularly reviewing the terms and conditions of contracts with external suppliers could reveal opportunities for renegotiation or switching providers to more cost-effective options. This includes contracts for cleaning, security, or facilities management. Tendering processes should prioritize both cost efficiency and quality to avoid over-reliance on a single provider at the expense of better alternatives.

5. Implement More Energy-Efficient Measures

Investing in energy efficiency for the council's buildings and services could yield long-term savings. This could include improving the insulation of council properties, upgrading lighting to more energy-efficient options, and investing in renewable energy sources like solar panels. Reducing energy consumption would lower operating costs, particularly in

the council's larger buildings or community centres, while also helping the council meet sustainability goals.

6. Consolidate and Streamline Service Delivery Models

A thorough review of service delivery models could help identify areas where consolidation or restructuring could lead to cost savings. For example, the council could look at merging overlapping services across different departments (e.g., housing support, adult social care, or community outreach) to reduce redundancy and improve efficiency.

A more integrated approach could provide better support for residents, reduce administrative complexity, and allow for a more streamlined allocation of resources.

7. Explore Alternative Revenue Streams

The council could explore innovative ways of generating additional revenue without putting additional strain on residents. For example, if there are underutilised public assets, such as council-owned land or buildings, they could be used to generate income through development, leasing, or other commercial activities. The council could also explore introducing fees for services that are currently free, provided this doesn't negatively impact vulnerable groups.

8. Reassess Council Staffing and Temporary Positions

Reevaluating staffing levels, particularly for non-frontline positions, could help the council achieve savings. There may also be opportunities to reduce the number of temporary or agency staff, especially if there are long-term roles that could be filled with permanent staff at a lower cost. However, this should be approached carefully to ensure that service quality doesn't suffer, particularly in areas like social care and community support.

9. Targeted Support for Vulnerable Groups

Redirecting resources to provide more targeted, preventative services for vulnerable groups could reduce long-term costs. For instance, investing in early interventions for mental health, substance abuse, and housing stability could reduce the need for more costly crisis management or emergency interventions down the line. The council could also explore creating more community hubs or outreach services that address multiple needs in one place, reducing duplication of services and improving residents' access to help.

10. Review and Streamline Capital Projects

While some capital projects are essential (e.g., road and bridge maintenance, housing), the council should regularly assess the viability of larger infrastructure investments, ensuring they align with the council's long-term strategic priorities and financial capabilities. Projects like the Decentralised Energy Network and Wards Corner should be re-evaluated to ensure they provide the best value for money and are not overly reliant on external funding or borrowing.

In particular, it may be beneficial to consider phased implementation of large capital projects to spread costs over time, rather than committing large sums upfront, especially during periods of financial uncertainty.

11. Encourage Shared Ownership Models for Housing

Instead of solely focusing on building or purchasing homes for temporary accommodation, the council could explore mixed models such as shared ownership or part-rent, part-buy schemes. This could help support residents who are struggling to access affordable housing while also reducing the overall cost burden on the council's housing budget.

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| <i>By considering these proposals, the council could generate savings while improving the efficiency of service delivery and enhancing the quality of life for Haringey residents.</i> |
| <i>stop wasting resources on printed materials nobody is taking them in public places</i> |
| <i>Stop wasting money on social housing projects and associate people, if you want to do something that improves the area then key worker housing would be better. Focus on productive people, not scroungers and those who won't help themselves.</i> |
| <i>Stop wasting money on cycling lanes and use it for NHS services. Police.</i> |
| <i>Stop using agency workers, wasting money on poorly attended cultural events.</i> |
| <i>Stop producing haringey people and avoid actions which cost money but produce little benefit for local people like street name change. increase parking permit prices for the most polluting vehicles and introduce charges for motorbikes to park for both residents and visitors</i> |
| <i>Stop printing and distributing the People magazine. It is an utter waste of money.</i> |
| <i>Stop paper copy of Haringey People</i> |
| <i>Stop building project in Muswell Hill</i> |
| <i>Stop allowing private vehicles to be stored on public streets for small sums of money. Charge the full rate for land usage.</i> |
| <i>So much money is wasted as a result of poor management, and departments no liaising effectively with each other. Get decent managers in who know what they're doing. Prioritise what people need most, such as property repairs and maintenance.</i> |
| <i>See the February 2024 paper from Friends of Highgate Library Shepherds Hill suggesting revenue enhancement and savings amounting to £46 million. This paper was produce with the aim of showing the Council that funds could be found to maintain a full library service across all 9 libraries, but £46 million would help to funs other services as well. The paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - was circulated to every Haringey councillor.</i> |
| <i>See previous comment. Also more proposals need to go into thinking about reducing costs of adult social care considering the proportion of the budget spent here. It feels unsustainable based on current trajectory.</i> |
| <i>See above regards intro more CPZ LTNS MORE cameras to enforce 20 mph ETC</i> |
| <i>Review all contract, work farmed out that could be completed in house</i> |
| <i>Restructure council organisations and staffing. I know you are doing this already, but after being a resident of Tottenham for 5 years and engaging with many council staff across many areas, I don't get the impression they are proactive, and are simply too comfortable in their roles for many years. They don't want to change and feel that Tottenham is 'fine' as it is, despite being one of the most deprived areas in London and the country at large.</i> |
| <i>We need fresh sets of eyes in the council and making staffing more efficient is a great way to do this. I would advise however that the council needs to hire new people that are much more in tune with current trends and the way the world works.</i> |
| <i>Reshuffle your Departments, so where you have different offices that deal with the same policy issue they are under same Supervisors leading to same Directors. And are on same floors so they know each other and can talk to each other and get work done faster with improved synergy.</i> |
| <i>Remove the LTNs to allow residents access to facilities and businesses to recover lost custom- it will encourage growth and in term council tax payments.</i> |
| <i>Reduce the use of expensive interim senior managers and management consultants.</i> |
| <i>Reduce senior management posts and merge responsibilities. There are too many people employed to cover bureaucracy like the overview and scrutiny committees</i> |
| <i>Reduce or remove completely all the financial benefits.</i> |
| <i>Reduce mismanagement? Reevaluate council tax banding?</i> |

Reduce drastically the number of senior managers. Having been employed by LBH in the past we need more frontline staff to do the work needed and far fewer high paid managers.

*reduce carbon foot print
have more IT*

Reduce car parking and through traffic drastically, make cycling safe on all major roads with protected cycle lanes and floating bus stops. It's a win-win situation: quicker and safer active travel, better roads, cleaner air, fewer injuries and deaths and NHS health costs, better quality of life, achievement of Net Zero transport within 15 years -by 2040. It will also attract TfL funding and support.

Reduce excess employers

Rationalise Street and drain cleaning, tree cutting so it is done where and when needed.

Stop inventing, replacing, renewing street furniture

POTENTIAL SAVING AND REVENUE GENERATION FOR THE COUNCIL

NB The amounts of Saving or Revenue shown below are conservative estimates which the Council's Finance Officers would certainly be able to refine.

1 Financial Management

1.1 The 2024-2025 revenue budget over-inflates the borrowing costs for capital expenditure. The capital programme of £800 million is too ambitious and cannot be achieved, partly because of market conditions, but also because the Council's track record shows that full capital expenditure has never been achieved in recent years - for example with the libraries refurbishment programme. Reducing the capital programme from e.g. £800 million to £600 million would save £12 million: £200 million x 6%. Saving: £12 million

1.2 Implement Treasury Management and Financial Management Best Practice, for example by Pooling Business Rates. Saving: £500,000

1.3 Stop offering discounts to registered charities e.g. charging half the rate for charities that is charged for ordinary Haringey residents. Revenue: £100,000

2 Property

2.1 Riverpark House - five floors of this prime office space with 24-hour security opposite Wood Green tube station are completely empty. The Council has not advertised the office space on its website or engaged an agent to market the empty floors. See: Commercial Properties to Let | Haringey Council. Revenue: £4 million

2.2 The Education Building and Cumberland House off Station Road are substantially empty. The Council's use of the offices could be rationalised and the surplus rented. Revenue: £2 million

2.3 The Council has renewed its lease on the Green Room Hotel and Bar although this is a loss-making enterprise. Discontinue the lease. Saving: £1 million

2.4 The Blue House Yard space which is suitable for a market or similar use is unused and not marketed. Revenue: £1 million

3 Contract Management

3.1 The Council contracts unfortunately leak council-tax-payers' money. There are no

systems in place to recover the cost of work that is paid for but not carried out or not carried out satisfactorily.

3.2 Manage and enforce the problematical contract for Haringey Homes which continues in operation 15 years after the Decent Homes programme ended and has a senior management team costing close to £1 million pa. As residents have seen on the Hillcrest Estate in Highgate there has been no maintenance on the drains for over 15 years despite the Council paying Haringey Homes for maintenance - with the result that tenants and leaseholders have been regularly flooded by leaking sewage. Saving: £3 million

3.3 Manage and enforce Veolia's contract which is also problematical. As many residents who live in blocks of flats will know, collections are frequently missed and blocks of flats that should be receiving additional collections are not receiving those collections, a situation that sometimes obtains for 10 years or more. When residents ask what the Council has done to recover the money spent on the collections that didn't take place they get no response. The same situation applies to public waste bins many of which are under-utilised and only emptied on rare occasions, but their regular collection is still paid for by council-tax-payers. Some bins are placed in private car parks and are emptied at council-tax-payers' expense although the car park franchisee, e.g. at the Highgate Station carpark, has the legal obligation to deal with any rubbish. Saving: £2 million

3.4 There are numerous other problematical contracts because there are no systems in place to recover money paid for work that is not done, that is not completed or is not completed to a satisfactory standard. Saving: £2 million

4 Other Saving

4.1 Stop paying unnecessary fees by ending the use of recruitment agencies. Saving: £2 million

4.2 Stop the use of consultancy contracts. Saving: £2 million

4.3 The Council Procurement (Purchasing) is not fit for purpose. For example, the only 'approved' contract for furniture provided £400 rocking chairs for libraries and not a single chair suitable for disabled people. Saving: £3 million

4.4 Freeze spending on corporate credit cards. Saving: £2 million

4.5 Freeze spending on non-essential contracts. Saving: £2 million

4.6 Limit staff and councillor travel outside the borough to staff on core business such as social workers. No officer or councillor should be asking the council-tax-payers to pay for their parking in a Swansea carpark. The Council should use video conferencing as other councils do. Saving: £1 million

4.7 End the subsidy of £100,000 per year to JLAC in Highgate. Neighbourhood caf  s, restaurants, and arts venues receive no subsidy and pay business rates without needing a subsidy from the Council and they don't want unfair competition. JLAC pays no business rates and it received grants of millions of pounds and the JLAC building for free from the Council. Saving: £100,000

4.8 Carry out a review of all back-office services and all management. Protect front-line services. Realise savings by layering management levels, scaling back top salaries, and rationalising back-office services. Saving: £3 million

4.9 Stop using staff resources to apply for housing and other awards. Saving: £200,000

4.10 Use libraries as polling stations instead of hiring rooms in other buildings e.g. use Highgate Library instead of paying to use JLAC. Saving £10,000

5 Other Revenue

5.1 Increase the rate of CIL for multi-million pound developers. Revenue: £4 million

5.2 Increase the CPZ charges for SUVs, other disproportionately large vehicles, and second or third vehicles. Revenue: £1 million

5.3 Charge those in paid employment £10 per hour per court for the use of the tennis courts in the 6 parks currently offering free tennis. Revenue: £100,000

5.4 Increase the licence fee for caf  s & restaurants with tables on the public pavement and apply a fee relative to a property's business rates. Revenue: £100,000

6 CONCLUSION

6.1 This paper has been produced to address the Council's reported £16 million shortfall for its 2024-2025 budget.

6.2 We have shown that the budget gap of £16 million can be bridged by making savings and increasing revenue in some of the areas specified above.

6.3 The total potential savings and increase in revenue laid out in this paper amount to £46,110,000.

Political posturing

Other Comments

We suggest that Haringey People folds and that this spend is transferred to local spaces for cultural and other activity including libraries.

We recognise the need for targeted support, but this is currently not delivered across all areas of Haringey in a consistent manner.

We note the proposed reduction in repairs to pavements and street architecture. Given the unsafe condition of some pavements, we are concerned that there will be a resultant increase in compensation which will impact on this saving.

There are few comments about how different services and organisations can work together to help deal with the huge difficulties people are facing.

What are the possible solutions of poor housing, lack of money and lack of decently paid jobs?

How can the Council help prepare for the impact of climate change we are facing?

We do not expect increased expenditure in funding, nor assistance to meet the difficulty of increased support for vulnerable adults, nor ways of dealing with AI and its inevitable toll on decent jobs.

We ask that open forums are held across Haringey with a discussion with local people about these areas of major concern and how the council can best meet their duties when faced with intolerable financial pressures.

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| <i>No except that constant review is important. Partnerships with non profit organisations can be valuable but need volunteers and funds so relationships need to be carefully managed and nurtured, These Organisations should not be taken for granted.</i> |
| <i>No</i> |
| <i>My experience of Haringey is the Labour Council runs the borough like a fiefdom to do as it pleases. Turning Black Boy Lane into La Rose Lane was an un-necessary cost, translation services need to be removed, people have google translate if they really need to understand something. DEI- complete waste of money.</i> |
| <i>Much money has been wasted on unused cycle infrastructure this could be removed and the road space reallocated. A line of parking spaces will generate income an unused cycle way is nothing more than political posturing.</i> |
| <i>Removing the unwanted LTNs will save cost on this expensive and unwanted infrastructure that is currently degrading the lives of residents trapped in them.</i> |
| <i>Much as I dislike areas such as Finsbury Park and Ally Pally being fenced off for concerts etc, perhaps a time limited (perhaps three years) extension of these events could generate revenue targeted for parks, pavements and roads?</i> |
| <i>Money from the Council should go to help organic food consumption and socially oriented people</i> |
| <i>Maybe use volunteers effectively, I volunteer with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) which does work in Haringey's woodlands, open spaces, and parks. Basically we're doing council work for nothing but because it's well organised and enjoyable it serves everyone including the borough.</i> |
| <i>Maintain funding to the Haringey library service and better advertise the services provided to encourage engagement and use especially in areas struggling economically.</i> |
| <i>The Council should study FOHL-SH's February 2024 paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - suggesting savings and revenue enhancement of approximately £50 million so as to find sufficient funds to maintain a full library service.</i> |
| <i>Look into relatively low-cost solutions for cycling with the aim of getting more motorists out of their cars and on to a bicycle, e.g. installing modal filters to create safer cycle routes to connect areas in the borough. We wouldn't need to spend so much money on fixing poor carriageway surfaces if everyone wasn't bombing around in their heavy 4x4s all day. We'd also have a healthier borough if everyone just decided to get out and do some exercise now and again (walking or cycling) instead of relying constantly on their motor vehicle.</i> |
| <i>Less investment in EHCP's and SEN transport in particular. There are plenty of families who use the system and know how to use it extensively to maximise income. Let the kids walk; the streets are now increasingly safer thanks to school streets and ltn's etc, if able bodied they should walk. Also less investment in adult social care. Working people who are already hard done by should not pay extra on top of NI etc to provide for the elderly population.</i> |
| <i>Keep pressing government for a better settlement.</i> |
| <i>Keep Highgate library open and do not cut hours. Find budget savings elsewhere.</i> |
| <i>Keep Connected Communities and expand the team so that residents can have in person assistance with a range of issues that will save the council money and also assist residents with more benefit income equating to more income to be spent in the borough. The CC is a bridge between all the council back office services - preventing a swathe of corporate complaints and arrears escalating.</i> |
| <i>It is illogical to tell residents the council are providing the same level of services when it is cutting swathes of funding.</i> |
| <i>In-sourcing Park Road Leisure Centre appears so far to have been a big mistake. Shorter opening hours, poorer service, lido cold much of the time - could it not have gone to an actual leisure centre provider with an excellent track record like Better? Library closures, losses of staff and reduced hours is a terrible idea.</i> |

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| <i>Increase CPZ in west of borough</i> |
| <i>In February 2024, the Friends of Highgate Library Shepherds Hill circulated a paper suggesting revenue enhancement and savings amounting to £46 million. This paper was produced with the aim of showing the Council that funds could be found to maintain a full library service across all 9 libraries, but £46 million would help to fund other services as well. The paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - was circulated to every Haringey councillor. However, the Council, despite constantly reaching out to residents asking for suggestions appear to have taken the decision to ignore the paper. They have not responded to the Friends of Reading and Education or any of the individual library groups which is really shocking!</i> |
| <i>Improved public transport links might bring more people into the area, plus Haringey borough of culture should be invested in.</i> |
| <i>Improve website and digital facilities, with addition of chatbots</i> |
| <i>If the council worked with the Friends of libraries groups on developing a libraries strategy with capital spend projects that actually support this strategy, while at the same not cutting opening hours, then Haringey, residents and suppliers would all work to a common goal and there would be considerable benefits to all.</i> |
| <i>I THINK THAT INDIVIDUALS ON THE COUNCIL NEED TO BE MORE TRANSPARENT ON EXPENSES AND COSTS INCURRED WHICH ARE OFTEN EXCESSIVE</i> |
| <i>I know you are in a difficult position and I sympathise.</i> |
| <p><i>I know the name of Elon Musk and his recent actions might cause some stir, but we can learn from him when it comes to saving money. For the benefit of the Council I would like to quote his 5 step algorithm to cut internal bureaucracy and costs:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Question every requirement</i> <i>Each requirement should come with the name of the person who made that requirement. Once that clarity is achieved - that is, when every requirement has the person's name attached - then you must question whether these requirements make sense. No matter how smart or how 'powerful' that person is.</i> <i>Remove every requirement that does not make sense.</i> <i>2. Delete every part of the process that you can</i> <i>Delete not only excessive requirements but also unnecessary steps or parts of the process. Feel free to delete too much, you can always reinstate</i> <i>3. Simplify and optimise</i> <i>requirements and parts of the process that survived steps 1 and 2</i> <i>4. Accelerate cycle time</i> <i>Speed up your bureaucratic processes</i> <i>5. Automate</i> <i>This is where the digital transformation comes in!</i> |
| <i>I do not believe that the library services should be reduced through cutting staff and opening hours. The various services offered by the libraries is of immense value to a wide range of users in the community but is very difficult to quantify on a balance sheet exercise.</i> |
| <p><i>I definitely agree with the proposal to reduce the use of agency workers. If there is a high demand for more ad-hoc work, could there be a small team who are employed on a permanent basis who receive a normal salary for their level but who operate as a sort of 'floating' resource and can be booked by other teams when they have some ad-hoc work that they require extra hands for?</i></p> <p><i>I would also be interested to know how much is spent on recruitment/ training due to the high turnover of staff more generally and whether anything is being done to reduce this.</i></p> <p><i>Tangentially related, could the three optional volunteering days per year be better</i></p> |

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| <i>organised/promoted? This could help with staff morale as they get to spend some time involved in their community, and could also be a way of ensuring adequate support at local events/ helpers for activities if Haringey staff were encouraged to volunteer.</i> |
| <i>I attend numerous meetings where long reports that are inaccessible are produced . I believe that AI if used could produce reports / administrative tasks more effectively.</i> |
| <i>I am strongly opposed to the reduction in opening hours at Highgate Library. This will hurt users. The Council should study FOHL-SH's February 2024 paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - suggesting savings and revenue enhancement of approximately £50 million so as to find sufficient funds to maintain a full library service.</i> |
| <i>I am strongly opposed to the reduction in opening hours at Highgate Library. It is ridiculous that the Council wants to reduce opening hours having just invested in a lift at Highgate Library.</i> |
| <i>I am opposed to the reduction in opening hours for Highgate Library.</i> |
| <i>I am opposed to the reduction in opening hours at Highgate Library The Council should study FOHL-SH's February 2024 paper - LONDON BOROUGH OF HARINGEY 2024-2025 BUDGET - suggesting savings and revenue enhancement of approximately £50 million so as to find sufficient funds to maintain a full library service.</i> |
| <i>I am opposed to the reduced opening hours at Highgate Library. This should remain accessible to the public at the current opening level. All Haringay Libraries should. They are so important to so many people.</i> |
| <i>I am opposed to anything that reduces the opening hours of the Highgate library.</i> |
| <i>Having more synchronised systems that will assist in time management of assistance for a resident. Often, many staff will be working with the same person, causing duplication. Additionally, not having access to information often leads to financial risk to the resident and subsequently Haringey Council</i> |
| <i>HARINGEY HUB- A CENTRAL HUB (WOOD GREEN, MARCUS GARVEY & HORNSEY) Abolish Councillors, NO payments for them: Have three councillors or Hybrid service</i> |
| <i>Get rid of the monthly printed magazine which is hand delivered. Put relevant useful information on the website. We don't need endless articles celebrating this, that and the other.</i> |
| <i>Get rid of the LTNs they aren't helping anyone</i> |
| <i>Everyone needs to make some contribution to council tax regardless of their income. Stop producing information in other languages except English and stop supplying free translators.</i> |
| <i>Eliminate Christmas lights. Eliminate any funding for fireworks Restrict spend on traffic management schemes to those affecting public safety or the easing of notorious traffic bottlenecks</i> |
| <i>Don't leave empty council buildings unused for years. Relax rules on development of flats above shops - much better use of flats is possible when a row of shops is owned by one firm, or council. Give permissions for utilities (stairs, water etc.) to be shared or run throughout and flats developed horizontally. Piecemeal development leads to poorer housing.</i> |
| <i>Don't use agency workers.</i> |
| <i>Consultations need to be more focussed with resident groups utilising council properties to get residents together.</i> |
| <i>Community transport scheme. More community management of parks and libraries. More multipurpose accessible community hubs to streamline interface between service providers and users. More in-house services including social care. Better procurement and control of any contractors. Streamlining repairs service.</i> |
| <i>Collaboration with Public Health and voluntary sector organisations to reduce costs on statutory services through prevention and early intervention.</i> |

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| <i>Can you share services eg procurement with neighbouring local authorities?</i> |
| <i>Bring as many services as possible back in house. Continue to ensure staff are properly trained.</i> |
| <p><i>Better monitoring of Sub contractors</i></p> <p><i>Better grading on voluntary schemes</i></p> <p><i>Look , get managers Directors to come and see the issues residents have .</i></p> <p><i>There is an historical lack of funding in the housing area .</i></p> <p><i>Better training from the Top down .</i></p> <p><i>Out-of hours service- is it really value for money - bring it in house , if your already looking at having your own vehicle (veolia)</i></p> <p><i>Customer service centres . Make it A ONE STOP SHOP ?</i></p> <p><i>MUCH BETTER COMMUNICATIONS</i></p> <p><i>STOP WAISTING MONEY ON SHORT TIME PROJECTS . WE NEED LADTING ONES , THATWILL BE VALUE FOR MONEY - BUT NOT CHEAP .</i></p> <p><i>HARINGEY NEED TO BUILD ITS CREDIBILITY BACK UP .</i></p> <p><i>SO FOR GOODNESS SAKE SORT OUT THE REPAIRS . ITS LETTING RESIDENTS/ VULNERABLE RESIDENTS DOWN DREAFULLY .</i></p> <p><i>MORE RESIDENTS ENGAGEMENT, RESIDENTS PANEL INDEPENDENDLY RUN.</i></p> <p><i>MUCH BETTER PRECUREMENT POLICY</i></p> <p><i>KNOW TOUR TRADE , KNOW YOUR AREA</i></p> <p><i>USE ALREADY ENGAGED RESIDENTS MORE</i></p> |
| <i>Better collaboration with local businesses to promote culture and wellbeing as well as a sense of community.</i> |
| <i>As stated at the start of this survey i believe government is all about priorities and efficiency. Why therefore spend on reviews (e.g. parking, cycle lanes, rubbish collection) which though desirable are not of immediate concern? Am also concerned that having reported a street light not working over a month ago nothing has been done. Having contributed a tree for street over 18 months ago nothing has been done apart from being invited to water a non existent tree? These are small things but if replicated across the council add up to a lot more.</i> |
| <i>Allow community groups and self help groups access to underused council premises at little or no cost</i> |
| <i>I am strongly opposed to the reduction of library opening hours</i> |

If you were making the decision about savings or income for the council what do you think it would be most important to consider? What would you prioritise to protect spending on? What do you think is less important?

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| You should protect services aimed at homeless people, like night shelter and soup kitchens. It's to their shame that these services are mostly run by voluntary organisations. You should for example provide support to Pastor Alex's Highway House at Fountayne Road, Tottenham. Also, provisions for people with mental health issues shouldn't only be protected but improved! |
| You should protect public places and keep them open to everyone. Work out ways of making more money instead of cutting budget, |
| You should be able to do both simultaneously with proper management. Prioritise low hanging fruit first than are high impact and low effort with quick time to realise. Leisure, environment and education are all vital to protect. Cultural items less so as they should be funded more by the third sector or voluntary contribution. |
| WOW: Walk to work schemes generate funds Carbon reductions: generate funds Environments schemes: Climate control: |
| While I think targets are very important, I worry that sometimes people can become so fixated they lose the bigger picture. In some cases, one team making a saving from their budget is actually just passing on the costs (and sometimes increasing the costs) for another team. I'm not sure how to avoid this other than ensuring lots of joined-up working and avoiding putting too much pressure on individuals to meet targets if they're not realistic or ultimately beneficial. |
| What the residents want and not ideology and parasitic middle class ideology and mysticism such as the LTN debacle. |
| Waste management/street cleaning & lighting Education Social care |
| These are all TOP priorities: CULTURE HOUSING CARE for elderly and disabled residents. |
| The council should reverse its decision to cut library hours and should protect libraries as they provide substantial benefits to the community as detailed on last year's consultation response. |
| The Council has sufficient funds to keep a full library service. |
| The council appears to have forgotten its responsibility towards the vulnerable and in particular those who were impacted by COVID either because they became very unwell or because they lost a close family member. These people need to be supported. They currently are not, which is regrettable. These people have suffered traumatic loss and financial hardship and have received no support from the local council or Government. They need support to ease the pressures on them. |
| Sustainability re travel also trees parks etc |
| Prioritise children will from poor and difficult backgrounds and other vulnerable |
| Stop spending money on outsourcing and waste time and money with Commonplace consultations. Invest in our libraries, stop cutting librarians jobs and give them a pay rise. Cut the salaries of the overpaid Haringey cabinet. |
| Spending - on vulnerable people focus |

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| spend on enforcement and charge for everything. All spend should only happen if it generates a return - investing in people who choose not to help themselves is wasted money |
| Social Care, housing, older people, people with disabilities, children's services |
| Services to young and less well-off people should be a priority. Maintenance of open spaces should not be reduced |
| Residents first! Always! |
| Relationships with staff and all residents and businesses because they are the council. |
| Reducing the number of buildings. Having everyone moved back to Haringey. |
| Reduce spending on roads. Maintain or increase spending on ill-health prevention and social services support to those that need it. |
| Raise council tax each year on 2 percent plus inflation. Start buying land changing its use through planning and then selling it to developers at a profit. |
| Protecting services for low income and disabled residents. |
| Protect spending on infrastructure, education, culture and youth. This is our future. |
| Protect spending on education. Spend more on potholes |
| Protect frontline services, including key preventative services, with particular emphasis on those most vulnerable in our community. |
| Protect frontline services, including key preventative services, with particular emphasis on those most vulnerable in our community. |
| Protect children services and focus on parks in the poorest areas. Use volunteers more. Help people to manage their own social care and give them individual budgets. |
| Priority spending 1. Support for victims of domestic abuse. 2. Social care and care of the elderly. Support for local tradespeople who's journey times to visit clients have made travel times and hours worked to assist local people impossible. |
| <p>Priority services -(danger to life , property)</p> <p>Supporting those services</p> <p>Domestic violence Asb</p> <p>Safeguarding Adults / children</p> <p>Education</p> <p>Maintaining programme</p> <p>Fostering</p> <p>Repairs</p> <p>Housing - building maintaining</p> <p>Supported Housing</p> <p>Highwaysx- lighting</p> <p>Estates services</p> <p>Stop the time waisting ,</p> <p>Boost moral up , value staff</p> <p>Nothing Is less important . But really all has to be carefully considered . On say a points bases</p> |
| Prioritize vulnerable people |
| Prioritise Schools and improving healthy transport (cycle pathways and pavement maintenance) |
| Prioritise mental health, physical health and green spaces. And prioritise income generation over cuts. |
| priorities libraries and social spaces that we have, increase rent for shops and also residents, stop accommodating people at temporary accommodation |

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| No need to build new houses |
| NHS services. Old people should get priority. Less important cycling lanes. |
| Net Zero and Vision Zero initiatives, obviously. The more is spent the more is saved. |
| My priority is serving vulnerable residents, making sure developers pay properly towards local infrastructure, and keeping green and public spaces clean and safe to attract investment into the borough. |
| Most important: Keep Connected Communities and expand the team so that residents can have in person assistance with a range of issues that will save the council money and also assist residents with more benefit income equating to more income to be spent in the borough. Least important: more digital infrastructure, creating a council back office culture being detached from residents in real time, with their real time issues of not being digitally excluded and not able to engage in the way the council wishes creating more backlog of arrears and court costs to rectify / putting further costs on the council and also residents. |
| Most important is healthy and safe living conditions for children, young people and the elderly. A proper investment into preventing health and social inequality and the costly results would reduce the spending needed later down the line. |
| Most important are services to protect the most vulnerable people, especially children, the elderly, the disabled, the homeless etc. High priority in the interests of the mental health and general wellbeing of Haringey residents should also be given to sports, leisure and cultural facilities. |
| Most important are services to protect the most vulnerable people, especially children and young people, the Black and minority ethnic communities, the elderly, the disabled, the homeless etc. The levels of mental health in communities is on the rise and so cultural and leisure activities can no longer be regarded as luxuries as they improve people's physical and mental well-being and ultimately mean that in the longer term councils and the health service will be saving money, rather than having to spend money dealing with problems caused by the lack of these services. |
| Make the best effort possible to protect the most vulnerable in our communities; don't generate additional income by penalising current residents with poor decisions like removing the daily visitor parking permits. Make sure that your decisions are EQUITABLE across the borough; charging folks in the east of the borough 6 x more than those in the west for the same service (having a visitor to your home) is not demonstrating respect and care for the residents you represent |
| Library staffing at Alexandra Park Library. A lot of money has been spent on updating this library, which is well used and houses the only usable community spaces - the upstairs rooms - in this area. The proposals to close it on some days are ridiculous, as this would reduce access to the library itself, and to the lettable rooms, thereby also preventing opportunities for community use and profitable rentals to other organisations, such as Barclays Bank which currently rents a day a week and provides a valuable service. |
| Libraries, waste collection, drain management. |
| Least important are things which produce little benefit for local people so collect and analyse outcome data and base decisions on that info |
| Keeping streets/ parks clean and safe is priority. |
| Keep health social care environment. Grants, support for destitute and disabled. Spend travel generate moneys on transport infrastructure.. Stop there |
| Join up your thinking on digital strategy, socio economic impact and place making. |
| In making decisions about savings or income generation, the priority should always be vulnerable residents' health and safety, especially for mental health and adult social care services. Any savings or income-generation measures should seek to preserve the social safety net and enhance the quality of care for individuals who rely on these services, while focusing on efficiency and integration to get the most value from the resources available. |

Non-essential capital projects, luxury amenities, and non-urgent cultural spending could be revisited or reduced, as these do not have the same immediate impact on residents' quality of life.

If I were making decisions about savings or income for the council, the most important factors to consider would be maintaining and improving critical services that directly impact vulnerable residents, especially in adult social care and mental health services. These areas are crucial for the wellbeing and independence of individuals and have a direct impact on people's quality of life. Here's a breakdown of what I would prioritize and what I believe could be approached differently:

Key Considerations:

Ensuring Continuity and Quality in Adult Social Care:

Why It's Important: Adult social care services are essential for the most vulnerable members of society, including elderly residents, individuals with disabilities, and those who need ongoing support due to physical or mental health conditions. Disrupting or reducing these services can lead to worse health outcomes, increased hospital admissions, and greater costs in the long term.

What I Would Prioritize: I would prioritize protecting funding for adult social care services, especially those providing home care, residential care, and mental health support. Focus should be on enhancing access to high-quality care services and improving the support system for carers, as they play an integral role in the community.

Example: Protecting funding for services like dementia care, physical rehabilitation, and mental health care for adults with serious needs, ensuring that people can live independently and in their communities as much as possible.

Investment in Accessible and Integrated Mental Health Services:

Why It's Important: Mental health issues have a profound impact on individuals' ability to engage with work, social life, and family. Increasing access to mental health services especially for vulnerable adults is essential to prevent long-term social and economic costs, such as homelessness, unemployment, and dependency on more costly emergency services.

What I Would Prioritize: Expanding access to mental health services, especially for low-income residents and those with complex needs (e.g., dual diagnosis, learning disabilities, etc.). This includes improving community-based mental health services, better outreach, and providing more early intervention options.

Example: Enhancing digital mental health services to reach people who may have difficulty accessing traditional in-person care, while also ensuring personalized care pathways for those with complex conditions.

Efficiency and Integration of Services:

Why It's Important: A more integrated approach across adult social care, mental health services, and housing can improve outcomes for residents and reduce duplication. This could include more collaboration with voluntary and community sector organizations that can deliver more flexible services.

What I Would Prioritize: Ensuring that services work together seamlessly to support individuals holistically combining adult social care, mental health support, housing needs, and community outreach under a more unified model.

Example: Making use of technology to coordinate services, tracking an individual's health and support needs across agencies, improving service delivery and reducing costs through shared resources.

Areas of Less Priority:

Non-Essential Capital Projects:

Why It's Less Important: While investment in infrastructure is crucial, it's more important to focus on services that directly support the wellbeing of residents. Large-scale capital projects, like new buildings or non-essential developments, can be delayed or scaled back without significantly affecting day-to-day services.

What I Would Reduce or Postpone: I would review or delay funding for certain capital projects that do not directly impact vulnerable populations, such as non-urgent infrastructure developments or luxury amenities, and focus on maintaining current service levels and improving efficiency.

Example: Postponing or scaling back some of the larger capital investments in non-essential infrastructure like decorative festive lights or less critical building projects.

Non-Critical Cultural and Leisure Services:

Why It's Less Important: While cultural activities and public leisure are valuable, protecting vital services such as mental health care and social care should take precedence when facing financial pressures. Non-essential services like high-end cultural programs can be scaled back without compromising the core wellbeing of residents.

What I Would Review or Reduce: I would consider reducing or refocusing resources for some non-essential cultural and leisure services, while ensuring that basic community wellbeing activities such as local parks, libraries, and community spaces are maintained.

Example: Reducing funding for large-scale, expensive events while focusing on smaller, community-based cultural and recreational programs that have more direct benefits for residents.

Other Considerations:

Digital Transformation and Data Utilization: I would also prioritize making intelligent use of technology to improve service delivery in both adult social care and mental health services. Investing in digital tools, telehealth, and data analytics to improve service coordination and reduce inefficiencies could help save costs in the long term while providing more accessible care to residents.

Collaboration and Partnerships: In areas like mental health and adult social care, I would look for ways to build partnerships with local charities, social enterprises, and non-profits. These organizations often have the agility to deliver high-impact services at lower costs.

Improving the roads and streets. Investing in more street cleaners and ensuring residents money is being spent in a transparent way on things that improve ALL communities.

Council tax in Haringey is very high.

Important: People safety in public areas, CCTV, infrastructure and clean streets.

NOT important: benefits, financial support, social care, culture

I'm aware that we don't live in a Utopia, but some of the main problems in Haringey boil down to this bizarre culture of obsessing over making every single journey by car. I applaud some of the work the council has done to make cycling safer, such as the LTNs, but more needs to be done. Making it safe to cycle leads to people being healthier and happier; safe cycle routes connect up areas of the borough, which can help trade and lead to better socialising; making it easier to cycle now will encourage younger generations, who are not yet stuck in their ways, to see the benefits and hopefully lead to them shaping things for the future.

If services need to be reduced, let the reduction impact people with greater need less.

I would want to protect spending on the East of the borough, rather than make it about a particular service or area of spend.

It should prioritise protection of LIP funding from TfL and catch up with the rest of the world on increasing cycle lane provision and infrastructure that makes our open and public spaces more comfortable for active travel.

I would review the number of councillors you have - not one of them listen to residents so why have so many ? I'd also do a thorough performance review of your officers - many of them are at the top of their pay scales but delivery does not warrant that.

I would protect placemaking and transport, because a lot of the issues start and end with clean and safe neighbourhoods which are walkable. I would give people a lot more personal responsibility to take care of themselves and their families.

I would prioritise spending on housing for the poorest families.

In terms of what impacts me most as a resident the amount of rubbish on the streets

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| compared to other boroughs is really noticeable and off-putting. Fly tipping in my area is one of the worst things about living in Tottenham. I would protect existing spending on maintaining regular rubbish collections and making it easy to dispose of waste, while increasing the regularity of street cleaning. |
| I would prioritise housing homeless people, health and social care, dealing effectively with environmental waste and educating people to take better care of themselves. Rebranding as the rebel borough is not important. |
| I would look at staff performance, attendance and accountability. |
| I think the Council should try and generate more income, Council Tax revaluation and speeding fines are the most immediately obvious. Priority spending should be on children and youth. this would have positive benefits, for health, crime, and social well being. |
| I need to see what you are spending stuff on. When you look at a something, ask these questions: 1) What is your motivation for doing something? 2) How is it to be done? 3) What benefit is it to the borough? People are quite disillusioned with Haringey Council because they perceive it rightly or wrongly to be inefficient. I appreciate that the works above are a necessity to a community but Haringey doesn't seem to realise that they have to be seen to be efficient. The LTN fines may be a great source of income, but it riles a lot of people because you haven't put something better in its place. People don't see the payback just a massive inconvenience to them. |
| I am passionate about decent housing because it impacts so heavily on people's lives. Generally, I would focus on income generation opportunities. |
| Housing, health and social care are the most important services they need to be protected from cuts the most. |
| Housing, health and social care and sustainability most important. |
| housing |
| less important: environmental programmes |
| Housing , Adult Social Care and SEND need to be prioritised. |
| Health, safety and well-being of residents. |
| Health and social care important, but also the living environment. |
| Health and safety - local culture are important for wellbeing of residents |
| Good access to health care and living assistance for those who need it Safe access to all areas at all times |
| Get the roads moving again, low traffic networks, clogged the archers and leave the borough having a stroke |
| From experience of working with residents - the key services to the most deprived people in the borough need to be focused on - social care, housing and services for vulnerable people. Need to |
| Ensuring contracting out of services is a rigorous process with strong requirements and oversight. Having a cost benefit analysis of agency staff vs more council employees. Perhaps having your own team of experienced staff who can fill in where necessary on any giving day/week but who could also help with any areas of backlog when not needed to fill day to day vacancies. |
| Education the very young and elderly first. Reduce everything else such as disable bays, cultural expenses and items that can be provided by others, interpreters transportation for those who can walk. |
| Easier said than done. Cutting staffing or back room work can make things worse for residents. I agree that our most vulnerable residents need to be protected but for those |

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| other residents, it's the state of the pavements, potholes, rubbish collection, parks etc which they notice and use. I do think the Council does a decent job with some unfortunate exceptions. |
| Don't prioritise reducing people's access to visitors and support - it impacts the disabled, elderly and people with young children the most, the very people in the borough who need the most help |
| Digital services can be transformational if executed well; a money pit if executed badly. Whoever manages digital project should be well-versed in the potential pitfalls and the tricks contractors play to maximise take from public sector projects where there is no profit-imperative. Involve citizens/those who work in the borough to volunteer for consultation, advice and user-acceptance testing. |
| A bad example is Haringey's parking permit digital tool, which was not developed as mobile-first because the developer told the Council mobile was difficult and would cost more. That was a fundamental error. |
| Difficult, but try and put the needs of the poorest, most deprived, and disadvantaged first. |
| Decent managers who will iron out the wasteful unnecessary spending and get staff working efficiently. The priority for spending should be on housing; building more council homes, and repairing and maintaining existing ones. |
| Consider impact on poorest and most vulnerable. |
| COLLECT UNPAID DEBTS AND REDUCE COUNCIL WORKERS EXTRAVAGANT SPENDING PLUS NEVER EVER REPEAT THE RIDICULOUS SALE AND REPURCHASE OF COUNCIL PROPERTY AS HAS TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT YEARS. TOTALLY OUTRAGEOUS. |
| Clean and safe streets/parks. |
| CEO and officer wage bill. It is ridiculous that the most complained-about council in the UK has the highest-paid chief officer. |
| care services most important to protect |
| All statutory services e.g. social care must be maintained, and high priority should be given to leisure and cultural services, especially libraries. Employing large numbers of senior Council officers on 6-figure salaries is less important than having competent well-paid full-time staff at the coal-face. The Council should aim to have 80% of its expenditure on operational frontline service delivery and 20% of its expenditure on overheads, management and back office, not the other way around. |
| Efficiency in spending income first. Most important, need and social cohesion. I think cultural spending should be high priority. Less important, all those surveys which do no more than kick |

Do you have any other thoughts on the council's budget that you would like to share?

These comments are made on behalf of the campaign group Haringey Defend Council Housing.

We recommend that the Council should limit council tenants' rent and service charge increases as far as possible.

Service charge proposals

The proposed tenant service charges in the pre-budget statement include unexplained excess increases for the Sheltered Housing Cleaning Service +10%, Caretaking +21%, and Converted Properties Cleaning +29%. No explanation for any of these increases has been offered there is nothing to suggest that these charges are 'reasonable and transparent' as they need to be. The Caretaking service charge is paid by 7,000 tenants, and the proposed increase would wipe out the effect of partial remission of some other charges because of external energy price changes.

Breaches of government guidance

The above increases all breach the Government's policy statement on social rent setting (in both its current form, and its proposed revised form) which says this:

Registered providers are expected to set reasonable and transparent service charges which reflect the service being provided to tenants. Tenants should be supplied with clear information on how service charges are set.

Service charges are not governed by the same factors as rent. However, registered providers should endeavour to keep increases for service charges within the limit of CPI (as at September in the previous year) plus 1 percentage point, to help keep charges affordable.

This means that individual service charges should not increase by more than +2.7% in the current year but that is what is being proposed here and ten times over for residents affected by Converted Properties Cleaning, the notorious service charge for cleaning the entrance lobbies of flats in converted Victorian and Edwardian Street properties.

The government policy statement means that the average resident should be advised of the proposals before any decision takes place - but that is not what is being proposed.

The government policy statement means that tenants should be provided with an explanation for the amounts of the proposed charges - but that is not happening either.

No to rent convergence

The Cabinet Member's comments reported in the minutes of the Cabinet's pre-budget discussion on 10 December, sets out the rationale for the Council's current approach to rents, referring to 'a move in government for rent convergence which would see rent levels brought back in line with where they should have been' the Cabinet Member cautiously welcomed this proposal',

In fact, council rents and charges are already too high, based on the ability of tenants to pay, the impact of welfare benefit restrictions, and the impact on the welfare of children. 47% of food bank users are social housing tenants.

The standards crisis in council and social housing is such that no amount of increase in rents for some of the poorest people in society could hope to solve it. We should all lobby this new government for public investment instead.

The Council should reject additional rent increases under the rubric of rent convergence and refuse to implement them if government mistakenly decides that they should be permitted.

Consultation is a human right

There should be specific consultation of tenants and leaseholders over all proposals for rent and service charge increases, as used to be the case. The council has argued that we have no such right, we disagree with this because there is a moral right to consultation nothing about us, without us, and no taxation without representation.

The headline rent increase is a maximum, not an obligation for providers, and every year there are some councils and even a few housing associations which decide not to charge the maximum amount. Therefore this is a policy choice, and therefore those affected (the tenants) should be informed about the options and consulted about it.

Conclusion and Recommendation

Just days after the election of this government, dozens of local authorities launched a campaign for more housing resources, They were right to do so. Now this Rebel Borough should lobby the new government, publicly and alongside tenants and anti-poverty campaigners, for direct investment in council housing without rent increases. There should be management and maintenance allowances and fire safety allowances from government to improve standards in council housing, which is an essential public service.

This means scrapping unaffordable Affordable Rent and pressing government for effective regulation of service charges.

Paul Burnham
Secretary
Haringey Defend Council Housing.

Your citizens have not had an increase in their wages to substantiate your budget.; this is only for the few in this community.

You have my heart-felt sympathy, serving the vulnerable of the borough and keeping Haringey running on ever-reducing funds. I'd hoped, despite campaign rhetoric, a Labour government would raise income tax to fund council-level services. (Disclosure: I'm a higher-rate tax payer) What's the point in being personally wealthy but publicly impoverished?

You are being underfunded by central government. Of the 7th richest country on the planet. A central government that gives billions to bankers and cronies, and commits genocide in Palestine. And all other local authorities are being underfunded too. And this has been going on for decades. When will it end? You should team up with other local authorities, all spend what your constituents deserve regardless of your budgets, and DEMAND the extra money from our corrupt, criminal, shameless, negligent central government. The country can afford it. The country would benefit from it. Grow some

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| backbones. Make your constituents proud. Serve your people. Do something that you will be proud of when you look back on your lives. Otherwise you are just getting paid to preside over intentional collapse. Use your power. |
| yes see attached |
| Yes libraries are a vital resource for parents, children and the elderly.. They're some where warm and sociable to go to escape their own cold homes. They can work on projects use a pc, practice poetry, writing and many other things good for mental health. |
| Widen your communications efforts to ensure residents and business owners across the borough understand what the circumstances are, what the council can and can not do about it, what is doing, what its effects are. |
| Well done for conducting the consultation at all. |
| We are opposed to the Council's proposals to reduce library hours and to continue to threaten to cut the library budget in future years. Capital spend on refurbishments and digital technology on libraries is a good thing ONLY if linked to a libraries strategy, and not as an excuse to make further cuts. |
| We are opposed to the Council's proposals to reduce library opening hours. |
| Too much going to Mr Khan |
| Rather it went to haringey |
| This survey contained far too little information to be able to give an informed response |
| There was a lot of information but it was still too high level for me to feel like I had anything meaningful to say. I'm not sure this consultation felt a good use of time. |
| The Placemaking and housing (P&H) funding for wards corner should end now. The aging council plan has just caused planning blight for years in order to satisfy an out of date vision of shopping centres. Release all compulsory purchase and re-let the 4 council owned buildings to raise income from today |
| The funding formula for London urgently need to be addressed ! |
| <p>The focus of the council's budget should ultimately be on prioritizing services that support vulnerable populations, while also adopting a mindset of efficiency, adaptability, and innovation. By investing in preventative care, integrating digital services, and collaborating with external partners, the council can achieve better outcomes with fewer resources. Transparent decision-making and ongoing engagement with the community will also be key to ensuring that residents feel confident and supported in times of financial constraint. Balancing cost-cutting with compassionate care will be essential in maintaining a fair and equitable borough:</p> <p>When considering the council's budget, there are several additional thoughts and perspectives I'd like to share, especially regarding ensuring that funds are allocated effectively to support vulnerable residents while also making the most of limited resources:</p> <p>1. Investing in Preventative Services: One of the most cost-effective ways to address the growing need for adult social care and mental health services is to invest in preventative measures. Services that help residents maintain their independence or receive early mental health support before their needs escalate can lead to significant long-term savings. Early intervention, such as mental health awareness campaigns, accessible counselling services, and social support networks, could prevent individuals from needing more intensive, costly services down the line. For example, community-based outreach services for mental health can help people get support before a crisis occurs, reducing the demand for expensive emergency care and hospital admissions.</p> <p>2. Better Use of Technology and Data: Given the pressure on public funds, there's a growing opportunity to make use of</p> |

technology to streamline services, improve accessibility, and ultimately reduce costs. The digital transformation of adult social care and mental health services could include things like telehealth for consultations, digital care plans that follow residents from one service to another, and data-sharing between agencies to avoid duplication and improve outcomes. Ensuring that services are digitally accessible for residents who may face challenges with mobility or are socially isolated would also be important. Investment in digital literacy programs for vulnerable groups (older people, those with disabilities) could also help them take full advantage of available services.

3. Collaboration with the Voluntary and Community Sector:

The council could consider enhancing partnerships with local charities, non-profits, and social enterprises to support delivery of services, especially in areas like mental health and adult social care. These organizations often have specialized knowledge and experience in working with marginalized or vulnerable groups and may be able to deliver services more cost-effectively.

The voluntary sector has strong ties within communities, which helps to reduce barriers to accessing care. With proper investment in collaboration, this sector can help reduce council expenditure while delivering high-quality services.

4. Flexibility in Budget Allocation:

As needs evolve, it is crucial to ensure that the budget is flexible enough to adapt to unforeseen circumstances, particularly in areas like mental health where demand can fluctuate, especially in times of crisis (e.g., post-pandemic recovery). While it's important to make savings, there should be room for the budget to respond quickly to emerging needs or issues, such as a rise in mental health referrals or the need for additional care due to demographic changes (aging population, for example).

5. Resident Engagement and Transparency:

Ensuring that the budgeting process is transparent and that residents feel involved in decision-making can help build trust and a sense of shared responsibility. Holding regular consultations with residents, especially vulnerable groups (such as those who use adult social care or mental health services), will ensure that their voices are heard and can help identify areas where services may be underfunded or require improvement.

Offering residents clear information on how cuts or changes may affect them could also foster a greater understanding of the difficult choices the council is facing.

6. Sustainability and Long-Term Planning:

In addition to focusing on immediate savings, the council should consider the long-term sustainability of services. For example, green initiatives in adult social care (e.g., eco-friendly homes or energy-efficient assistive technology) could help reduce costs over time, while also addressing the borough's environmental goals. Additionally, creating sustainable funding models for services like adult social care could help reduce reliance on council funding in the future.

7. Alternative Models of Service Delivery:

As mentioned previously, alternative models of care (like shared care, or even more in-house services) could help reduce costs while still providing quality support. It would be worth considering exploring partnerships or outsourcing some services to non-profits or other entities that can provide better value. Services like the Connected Care Service could be a good candidate for this type of revaluation, focusing on community-based care and preventative measures as alternatives to more intensive support.

8. Revenue-Generating Opportunities:

The council should also continue to explore ways to generate revenue in a responsible manner. For example, charging for certain non-essential services (e.g., gym memberships at leisure centres, parking schemes) can help offset the costs of essential services. However, these charges should always be structured carefully to ensure they do not place an undue burden on low-income residents.

The council could also look into sponsorships or grants to support cultural activities or other services where applicable, such as partnerships with local businesses, organizations, or philanthropists.

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| The council would not be in this position if it hadn't funded so many ridiculous vanity projects and ignored its basic function- the councils job is to provide basic services- not to dictate lifestyle choices, not to engage in party-political policies, not to try to force businesses and residents out to pretend it's a higher-class neighbourhood. |
| The Council should reverse its decision to cut branch libraries by 50% and main libraries by 25%. |
| The Council has been blaming the Conservative Government for cutting budgets year on year. It makes me laugh that the 'wonderful' Labour Party is now in power and is still cutting annual Council budgets but nothing is said about that. |
| Thank you for providing the opportunity to contribute to this. |
| Stop wasting money on agency workers. Encourage private investment. |
| Stop waiting money on PC projects .May have been good 10 years ago , but not now . Don't hold events telling the residents one thing then go and do the opposite. HC needs money to be found . Showing g of it not the thing . Sensibility Accountability and Transparency are the buzz words . That costs money. |
| Stop pandering to loud individuals who criticise you for bands and events in parks - particularly Finsbury Park. You HAVE to exploit the financial opportunities available to you. You will always have people who disagree. Accept it and press ahead. You need that income to support other areas where you have less budget. Ditto parking. Charge more. You don't have a choice. |
| Services should be brought in-house as far as possible |
| See above. |
| PLEASE DIVEST PENSION MONEY FROM GENOCIDE!! I gather Haringey is still investing its Pension Fund in companies that are complicit in Israel's violations of international law and Palestinian human rights. Israel has murdered over 45,000 Palestinians and is currently attacking Yemen and Syria - ALL in violation of international law. Until you divest from arms companies supplying weapons to Israel, Haringey council is complicit in genocide. I have no doubt there are more ethical companies you could invest in. |
| Plant SUGI forests - urban mini forests that will be fully funded by sugiproject.com Retrofit houses. Have communal heat sources. Stop funding fireworks events at Ally Pally, they're an environmental disaster. |
| Parking enforcement is not done well and the staff don't issues fines. This could be an income generator and will not hurt the poorest who don't have cars. |
| Outsourcing has typically been a waste of money, but providing services in-house can be just as bad without decent management. |
| No. |
| No, although I know you're in an impossible position and admire your efforts to provide a good service for the people of Haringey. I just wish the current government understood th local investment pays off for the national interest. |
| No |
| No |
| No |
| Needs budget put into encouraging EV adoption. Allowance for on street charging via lampposts or grants for installing charge points which cut gulleys into pavements. |
| My own experience is that effective project management and quality control process have yet to be taken up within the operating culture of the borough service delivery. Working to a BSI accredited system will of its self reduce waste and improve efficiency. |
| Keep in touch with other councils and Audit Commission re value for money |

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| Keep Connected Communities. It is one of the few services that are visible and work in person with residents and bridge the digital exclusion and back office services. |
| It's all about efficiency. there needs to be experienced economists in the council, looking at where money can be saved through, sensible planning and being more efficient |
| It is difficult and the LAs must collectively work to get more from central government Likewise council tax should be overhauled so that those in massive expensive homes pay substantially more. More like the previous rates system |
| It could be reduced by 1 million. |
| I understand the need to make cuts however I believe the removal of daily parking permits will have a detrimental effect on peoples well being. |
| I think the Council should get together with other Councils and the GLA, who in turn should work with other Local Authorities, to pressure the government to increase spending at the local level. There, relatively small amounts can have major effects and leverage. |
| I have two major points I would like to make. 1. As already mentioned above, reducing library opening hours will diminish opportunities for cultural and economic enrichment by limiting the time people can spend using the library resources and participating in cultural/social/economic activities at the Library. In addition, reducing access to libraries will also have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of the community who depend on free access to cultural activities. 2. It is disappointing that the consultation period is so short and that it takes place over the Christmas holiday period when people are least likely to respond to it because so many other things are going on. Haringey you really need to pull your socks up if you wish to be taken seriously by residents. We are increasingly aware, that these consultations are basically tick-box exercises. I would have liked to have submitted a response from the Friends of Marcus Garvey Library - this response is an individual one from myself- but there simply has not been enough time available because of the shortness of the consultation period to call a meeting to discuss the proposals. I will however bring it up at our next meeting which is due to take place on January 18th. |
| I don't think the Council should sell properties if it can be avoided. The more properties that are owned by commercial/ private landlords the more prices in the area will increase with knock-on effects for residents. I think the usage of properties should be maximised as much as possible but ownership retained. |
| I appreciate the opportunity to read the plans and proposals. Thank you. |
| I ACCEPT IT IS A DIFFICULT TASK. |
| How can Wandsworth charge half what you do yet deliver a better service? Political mismanagement has made Haringey one of the worst councils |
| Have a good bid writer to look at your strategies, where have you deviated last year eliminate it this year. Capital funding: Asset funding: Other: increase revenues in all these areas |
| Given the situation I understand decisions need to be made that are not necessarily going to be popular, Suggestions seem on the face of it fair |
| Given the latest budget and the government decision to raise employers National Insurance contributions, this will have a devastating effect on smaller businesses, which proportionally employ a much higher ratio of people. Unless these businesses can be kept going, the council will have to pay far more unemployment benefit. Employment also keeps people happier and healthier (so cheaper). Keeping the business rates or council tax lower would help smaller businesses...or any other ways the council can manage to help. |
| Given growth in population and size, lobby hard with other organizations for central government to designate Haringey is an inner borough with appropriate funding. |

Cut the big fat salaries

As I said, I need to see what you're spending things on and why. You need to address what is causing such a downward pressure and why. Then make a submission to Central Government explaining the situation. What happens upstream, will affect downstream. The woman on the YouTube video blamed the Tory government and austerity for Haringey's problems. As money from the government comes from the tax-payer, she is essentially blaming the tax-payer for Haringey's woes. Will she be so critical of the current Labour Government? This is an absolution of responsibility. My experience of Haringey is the Labour Council runs the borough like a fiefdom to do as it pleases. I personally think the situation will get worse for Haringey because of huge population changes/increases and demographics, there will be a continuous downward pressure on the services and resources. I'm already seeing this where it where I live. This is to do with planning by central government. Putting council tax up is like flogging a dead horse, they'll be a point when people can't or won't pay it. We're heading for recession. This time next year, I expect they'll be another consultation on how to save money as Haringey goes further into debt and I look forward to the YouTube video where Haringey Council blames the Labour government.

As I mentioned previously, moving to use more digital solutions is an excellent strategy but also needs to be executed in a way that you're not getting taken advantage of. Give visibility to everyone on which contracts are available and who eventually is rewarded them and on what merits. This will force more competitive pricing from suppliers and more assurance to residents that the council is running efficiently.

Consider how you can both reduce costs and raise income through initiatives protecting the environment and providing a better place to live (ie fly tipping and noise pollution).

Feel free to contact me if you want with any further questions.

As above.

The council appears to have forgotten its responsibility towards the vulnerable and in particular those who were impacted by COVID either because they became very unwell or because they lost a close family member. These people need to be supported. They currently are not, which is regrettable. These people have suffered traumatic loss and financial hardship and have received no support from the local council or Government. They need support to ease the pressures on them.

Any left overs from a yearly budget should be rolled over to the next year's budget. At the moment there're all kind of road- and pavement works, many completely unneeded, going on all over the borough giving the impression that the Council is frantically trying to spend any money left over from the current budget.

£50,000 has been budgeted as new revenue from changing daily parking permit provision to hourly provision only. How can you include this revenue in your budgeting process before that consultation has actually concluded?

Appendix 6 - Cabinet Responses: Budget scrutiny recommendations 2024/25

| Adults and Health | | | | | |
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| Ref | MTFS Proposal | Further info requested by the Panel (if appropriate) | Comments/Recommendation | Cabinet Response Req'd (Yes/No) | Lead officer |
| Recommendation 1 | General | | The Panel highlighted the risk from the high level of additional pressures to the Council budget, particularly in relation to the extra £15.1m of pressures in the Adult Social Services budget. | Yes | Jo Baty |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 1 | Haringey provides social care to more than 3,700 adults – with the number rising. The cost of social care placements is rising too. We are regularly reviewing our care contracts and closely monitoring care budgets. | | | | |
| Recommendation 2 | General | | The Panel highlighted the forecast pressures in Adult Social Services for 2026/27 as this was only £930k (Table 1 of the Cabinet report) compared with much higher levels in the other years of the MTFS. The Panel considered that there was some risk of the pressures being revised upwards at the Budget setting process next year, thereby increasing the budget gap at that time. | Yes | Jo Baty |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 2 | Projected increases in adult social care demand were built into the MTFS for 2024/2025-2028/2029 at an earlier stage, the £930k is a further addition to this. This will be kept under review in line with budget planning. | | | | |
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| Recommendation 3 | General | | The Panel expressed concerns about the higher level of proposed new savings in 2026/27 (Table 2 of the | Yes | Jo Baty |

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| | | | Cabinet report) compared to other years of the MTFS and the potential risk of this impacting on the services that residents received. | | |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 3 | There are a larger number of savings in 2026/27 in part because we have planned lead-in time for a number of transformational projects. Throughout the lifetime of MTFS we have committed to working with residents receiving care and support to shape future service delivery. | | | | |
| Recommendation 4 | General | | The Panel expressed concerns about the details received about some service providers attempting to raise the cost of services commissioned by the Council at rates that were considerably higher than inflation. The Panel recommended that the Council should be robust in its approach to the procurement from service providers and vigilant against the risk of being overcharged for services, particularly when compared to the cost of services provided in similar neighbouring boroughs. | Yes | Jo Baty |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 4 | We have a robust approach in line with NCL (North Central London) neighbours in terms of market management - older people, residential and nursing and LD provision. | | | | |
| Recommendation 5 | Integrated Connected Communities | | The Panel requested that local Councillors be consulted on the approach to integrated neighbourhood teams, in particular about local groups that could be linked into the teams | Yes | Jo Baty/Sara Sutton |
| Cabinet Response Recommendation 5 | We are finalising the future ways of working and service design and we will ensure that the scrutiny panel and local councillors are appropriately consulted at the right point in the process. | | | | |

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| Recommendation 6 | Integrated Connected Communities | | The Panel recommends that relevant organisations in local community and voluntary sector should be made aware of the reduction in scope of the Connected Communities work (in areas such as employment, education and housing advice) as this could add further pressure to organisations that provided advice and support to residents. | | Jo Baty/Sara Sutton | . |
| Cabinet Response Recommendation 6 | We acknowledge the importance of ensuring that VCS (voluntary and community sector) organisations are aware of any changes and plan to attend a VCS Forum as part of our engagement once our plans are finalised. | | | | | |
| Recommendation 7 | Integrated Connected Communities | | The Panel recommended that the details of this proposal be broken down and made more accessible when presented as part of the forthcoming public consultation on the Budget. | Yes | Jo Baty/Sara Sutton | . |
| Cabinet Response Recommendation 7 | We are finalising the future ways of working and service design and are ensuring that they are shaped in a way that is clear and accessible. While we were unable to provide further detail at this stage, we remain committed to transparency and will bring the proposed changes back to a future Scrutiny meeting for discussion. | | | | | |
| Capital Programme | | | | | | |
| Recommendation 8 | Osbourne Grove Nursing Home | | <p>The OSC welcomed the commitment by officers to meet with the Osborne Grove Co-production Group.</p> <p>The OSC also recommended that the Osborne Grove Co-production Group should be provided with the opportunity to provide input to any future business case for the site.</p> <p>The Panel will continue to monitor this issue.</p> | Yes | Jo Baty/Sara Sutton | |

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| Cabinet Response Recommendation 8 | We meet regularly with the Osborne Grove Coproduction Group (OGCG), discussing both the short term use of the site and options for the long term. OGCG will of course be invited to input into the business case for the future. | | | | | |
| Recommendation 9 | Locality Hubs | | Given the limitations on the capital budget which meant that the development of additional new locality hubs could not go ahead, the Panel recommended that further efforts be made to join up services across the Borough and to include the existing locality hub in this. | Yes | Jo Baty/Sara Sutton | |
| Cabinet Response Recommendation 9 | Plans are already in place to take forward these ways of working. | | | | | |

| Children & Young People | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|--|--|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Ref | MTFS Proposal | Further info requested by the Panel (if appropriate) | Comments/Recommendation | Cabinet Response Req'd (Yes/No) | Lead officer |
| Recommendation 10 | General | | The Panel request that Cabinet provide a response on what their plans are for income generation, rather than savings, to close the residual budget gap. The Panel also seek assurances from Cabinet that they have explored every opportunity for income generation. | Yes | ALL |

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| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 10 | <p>The service generates income across a number of areas as a full cost recovery model, including for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pendarren Outdoor Education Centre - Education Welfare Service - Music Service - Educational Psychology services for schools - Letting out space in Rising Green Youth Hub - Early year training and childcare <p>The service will continue to look for opportunities to generate income wherever possible, being mindful of the budgetary pressures and competing demands on our schools.</p> | | | | |
| Recommendation 11 | General | | In reference to the residual budget gap of around £32m, the Panel request assurances from Cabinet that they will seek to minimise the impact of further savings on children and young people in the borough. | Yes | ALL |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 11 | We have focused our budget savings on management actions to find efficiencies, rather than cuts to frontline services, in children's services and across the board. | | | | |
| Recommendation 12 | Budget Pressures relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, Health & Social Care Plans • Home to School Transport • High Cost Placements in Children's Social Care | | <p>The Panel are concerned about forecast budget pressures on these service areas growing further and seek assurances from Cabinet around the modelling used to calculate the forecast pressures.</p> <p>The Panel would like assurances that the forecasts will continue to be reassessed going forward, including in reference to updated in-year budget monitoring figures for Quarter 2 and beyond.</p> | Yes | Dionne Thomas Jackie Difulco |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 12 | Social care and SEND modelling of demand is monitored monthly and informs the budget forecast. | | | | |
| Recommendation 13 | Children's Social Care (High Cost Placements). | | The Panel requested that Cabinet give assurances around the fact that they will monitor the costs of placements closely going forwards, and also give | Yes | Caroline Brain |

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| | | | <p>assurances around how the Council will ensure that none of our providers use unsuitable placements, such as caravans and Airbnb sublets.</p> <p>Further assurances were requested about how we will monitor providers charging excessive rates for placements.</p> | | |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 13 | <p>Our quality assurance team are in place, and they continually monitor, review cost and quality of any provision ensuring best value and maximum impact on service provision.</p> <p>We would not consider providers who use unsuitable placements such as caravans or Airbnbs</p> | | | | |
| Recommendation 14 | Pendarren | | The Committee urged that all options for income generation from Pendarren are considered, with due regard given to the health & safety requirements that were specified. | Yes | Jane Edwards |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 14 | <p>All options are being considered for income generation including rental to private sports bodies and corporate use. Safeguarding and health and safety requirements are always considered before agreeing to lettings.</p> | | | | |
| Recommendation 15 | Reducing placement costs through effective management of the market (£200k) | | The OSC requested clarification on whether this reduction in costs would impact on the ability of young people approaching the age of 25 to complete education courses that they were undertaking. | Yes | Caroline Brain Dionne Thomas |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 15 | <p>Soft market engagement events are taking place with providers, to reduce spend and manage the market. This will not impact on young people and their education.</p> | | | | |

| Housing, Placemaking & Development | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|--|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Ref | MTFS Proposal | Further info requested by the Panel (if appropriate) | Comments/Recommendation | Cabinet Response Req'd (Yes/No) | Lead officer |
| | | | | | |
| Recommendation 16 | Housing Related Support Contracts | | <p>The OSC noted that discussions were still ongoing with providers regarding service impacts and requested that details of the outcomes be provided to the Housing Panel when available.</p> <p>Clarification was also requested on the anticipated timescales for these details to be available.</p> | Yes | Sara Sutton |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 16 | An update for the Housing Panel is being prepared and will be submitted by the next meeting. | | | | |
| Recommendation 17 | Capital Investment of £13.247m in Asset Management of Council buildings. | | The OSC expressed concern about the ongoing disuse of some Council-owned buildings and urged that all possible opportunities for interim uses be considered to maximise income generation. | Yes | Jonathan Kirby/Andrew Meek |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 17 | <p>This is a very high priority for the Capital Projects and Property team and work has been ongoing as part of delivering on the MTFS proposals submitted for the 23/24.</p> <p>We continue to work to make progress on the improvement journey, set out in the Strategic Asset Management and Property Improvement Plan (SAMPIP), to deal with a legacy of underinvestment. A list of all void or potentially surplus properties is maintained.</p> <p>All properties that are no longer needed operationally will be transferred to the investment portfolio, for repurposing to maximise income, redevelopment (e.g. for housing) or disposal. This work generated £400K in additional revenue in 2024 and over £4M in capital receipts.</p> | | | | |

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| Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Culture, Strategy & Engagement). | | |
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| Ref | MTFS Proposal | Further info requested if appropriate | Comments/Recommendation | Cabinet Response Req'd (Yes/No) | Lead officer |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Recommendation 18 | Digital Services | | That this item be referred to the Cabinet as an area of concern due to the risk of further future pressures that could be caused by the need for unforeseen technological updates or cyber-security measures. The Committee also noted that this was an area where future savings were also proposed, leading to further potential pressures. | Yes | Nathan Pierce |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 18 | <p>Digital Services has two key savings targets to deliver:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Direct Budget Savings - The first target relates to staffing and contract savings within the Digital budget itself. These must be managed strategically, as Digital underpins the effective operation of the entire council. Further budget reductions risk negatively impacting services across the organisation, including cyber security. To address this, we have requested additional investment to strengthen our cyber security capabilities and ensure timely system upgrades. It is important to note that these costs will continue to rise annually, and proactive contract management alongside strategic planning (Enterprise Architecture) is essential to mitigate long-term financial pressures. Service Modernisation Savings - The second set of savings, previously referred to as Digital Transformation, now falls under the Service Modernisation Portfolio. These savings are realised from service budgets through reductions in FTE, contract savings, or lower licence fees. However, this is not solely about digital solutions—it also involves business process redesign, new ways of working, and structural changes in service delivery. <p>Unlike previous approaches, which relied heavily on agency staff and operated in isolation, this work is now being co-designed and delivered by a team of permanent experts in collaboration with service teams. This ensures a more sustainable and impactful transformation.</p> <p>Current activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developing service roadmaps that place residents at the centre of service redesign, followed by officer needs. Identifying and eliminating outdated practices. Providing detailed insight into cashable savings. Establishing governance, benefits realisation, and delivery structures for the Service Modernisation Portfolio. <p>Finally, the digital restructure goes live on 1st March, strengthening our permanent capabilities to drive this work forward in the long term.</p> | | | | |
| Recommendation 19 | General - Format of Budget Papers | | The Committee noted the feedback from the Scrutiny Panels that the descriptions for many of the specific budget items (pressures, savings and capital items) in their agenda papers had been very limited and that detailed conversation had been required in the meeting in order to understand them. The Committee recommended that significantly more detail | Yes | Josephine Lyseight |

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| | | | should be included in future budget reports, particularly for items that involved significant sums of money. | | |
| Response to Recommendation 19 | The general comment made by the Committee regarding the level of detail published for proposals has been noted and will be considered as part of future budget setting processes, subject to sensitive and commercial restrictions. This will include the publication of a provisional EQIA at the point of publication of any budget proposals for consultation, options considered and the value of the total budget impacted. | | | | |
| Recommendation 20 | General | | It was requested that, in the future, any specific funding allocated to organisations be itemised in the budget scrutiny report. This would help clarify which funds would be applied earlier or later, allowing for a better understanding of the proposals. This comment emerged from the discussion on the Culture Review savings item which involved discretionary budgets used to fund local organisations. However, this recommendation applied as a general point for any relevant future item. | Yes | Kenneth Tharp/Josephine Lyseight |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 20 | The general comment made by the Committee regarding the level of detail published for each savings proposal has been noted and will be considered as part of future budget setting processes, subject to sensitive and commercial restrictions. This will include the publication of a provisional EQIA at the point of publication of any budget proposals for consultation, options considered and the value of the total budget impacted. | | | | |
| Recommendation 21 | Review of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme. | | The Committee noted the commitment for any proposals to go through the full democratic decision-making process before implementation in 2026/27 and requested further details on when this information was expected to be available to Scrutiny. | Yes | Kari Manovitch |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 21 | The proposals will be available to Scrutiny later this year. We are working on the detailed timetable and will share it once ready. The final scheme will be considered by the Full Council that approves the Budget in March 2026. | | | | |

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| Overview & Scrutiny Committee (Recommendations arising from 30th January OSC meeting). | | |
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| Ref | MTFS Proposal | Further info requested if appropriate | Comments/Recommendation | Cabinet Response Req'd (Yes/No) | Lead officer |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Recommendation 22 | HRA Business Plan | | The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted the mitigations and actions that had been put in place to manage the increasing number of housing disrepair cases, and the high number of housing voids. The Overview and Scrutiny Committee felt that these areas were ongoing risks to the HRA budget. They agreed that there be ongoing detailed reporting to the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel during the financial year, to provide assurance that the costs were being managed and reduced. The Committee further recognised that there was currently a high churn of residents moving to new Council properties, as a result of new Council housing coming available and through the Neighbourhood Moves scheme but felt that the movement between Council properties needed to be quicker to ensure that Voids numbers were reduced. | Yes | Jahed Rahman |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 22 | <p>A specific report on the new disrepair operating business model, its effectiveness, number and spend on legal disrepair cases will go to the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel to monitor spend against the 25/26 budget and future budget provisions made for disrepair claims and mitigations in place to reduce future spend.</p> <p>A voids position statement and overview of key improvement milestones will be provided to the Housing, Planning and Development Scrutiny Panel.</p> | | | | |
| Recommendation 23 | HRA Business Plan | | The Committee agreed that there was a continuing risk to the HRA account as the forecasted revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO) was currently substantively below the set minimum of £8m and that this should be continue to be carefully monitored by the Cabinet. | Yes | Taryn Eves |
| Response to Recommendation 23 | Monthly internal finance monitoring of spend and income will continue into 2025/26 with quarterly reporting to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. | | | | |
| Recommendation 24 | General – Exceptional | | The Overview and Scrutiny Committee noted that the Council is not in a position to set a robust balanced budget for 2025/26 without an assumed £37m Exceptional Financial Support. | No. | |

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| | Financial Support | | | | |
| Recommendation 25 | General – Exceptional Financial Support | | <p>The Committee discussed the other options available to the Council when reaching the decision to seek Exceptional Financial Support from the government. This included Council Tax increases above the 5% threshold and significant cuts to service. The Committee commented that they were broadly supportive of the approach taken to seek Exceptional Financial Support, in light of the alternatives. There had been some incorrect external press reporting about the type of support that EFSA was, and it was clearly understood by the Committee, in the discussion, that this was not a government grant but the ability to draw down a loan which had interest payments together with the ability to use capital receipts to support the revenue spend on key services.</p> <p>In light of the continual increases seen in the budget gap in recent months and the fact that ongoing use of EFSA beyond 2025/26 was unsustainable, the Committee recommended to Cabinet that there be robust and careful monitoring of the use of the EFSA funds through in-year budget monitoring. Future budget monitoring reports should clearly set out the areas of Council revenue spend that have been drawn down from the EFSA. The financial monitoring report will also need to highlight any unexpected increases in the use of this particular funding above the assumptions that have been used to seek the particular sum of £37m EFSA support.</p> | Yes | |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 25 | Monthly internal finance monitoring of spend and income will continue into 2025/26 with quarterly reporting to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This will include very specifically and in a transparent way, any use of the £37m of EFS if it is agreed by MHCLG at the end of February. | | | | |
| Recommendation 26 | Monthly internal finance monitoring of spend | | The Committee noted that work was currently being undertaken to develop the format and content of the budget quarterly monitoring reports and recommended that Overview and Scrutiny be consulted on the final format to ensure that it allowed them to access the necessary detailed | Yes | |

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| | and income will continue into 2025/26 with quarterly reporting to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee. | | financial information on the revenue and capital budget, including risk, so they are able to confidently carry out their financial scrutiny responsibilities. The Committee agreed to meet with Director of Finance to agree how the Committee would scrutinise in-year budget monitoring for 2025/26. | | |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 26 | The Section 151 Officer will be reviewing the finance, performance and risk reporting to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committee in 2025/26 and feedback from OSC is welcome in terms of the detail and structure of the reports to support their scrutiny process. This will be discussed with the committee before April 2025. | | | | |
| Recommendation 27 | New Savings Proposals in Adults – Format of Reports | | <p>The Committee considered the new savings proposals on the community support model, reablement services and supported living contract. Although, there was further information provided at the meeting, on how the savings figures had been arrived at and the financial modelling behind these savings, the Committee felt that there was much more detail required by them, which needed to be included in the papers, in order to properly consider, challenge and scrutinise these savings in a meaningful way, and be able to make recommendations. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data/evidence for the Developing Community Support Model item - Data/evidence for the Review of the Council's Reablement model item including expansion of the model and any financial projections on invest to save (i.e. by reducing the need for long-term social care packages) | Yes | |

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| | | - Data/evidence for the Supported Living Contract item, including details on the involvement of the co-production group. | | |
| Cabinet Response to Recommendation 27 | We acknowledge the Committee's request for further detail about the Community Support Model, Reablement Services and Supported Living Contract savings and will collate the information for presentation to the Committee as and when it is available. | | | |

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Appendix 7

Haringey Council

Written Statement/Record of a decision made by an officer under delegated authority

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| Decision Maker (Post Title) | Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer |
| Subject of the decision | 2025-26 Council Tax Base Report |
| Date of decision | 16 January |
| Decision | <p>I approve the recommendation as set out in the attached report:</p> <p>That, the council tax base for 2025-26 is set at 82,589 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012; and</p> <p>That the assumed collection rate is set at 95.75% for 2025-26.</p> |
| Reasons for the decision | <p>The Council is required to set its council tax base by the 31st January each year. The Council has delegated the decision for setting the council tax base to the S151 officer in consultation with the cabinet member for Finance.</p> <p>Setting the council tax base is a statutory requirement and a fundamental part of the revenue budget and council tax setting process. It represents a measure of the taxable capacity of the Council and when multiplied by the band D council tax rate indicates the Council's tax generating potential for that year.</p> |
| Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision | No alternatives were considered as this is a requirement of a Statutory Instrument. |
| <u>Conflicts of interest – Executive decisions</u> Details of any conflict of interest declared by a Cabinet Member who is consulted by the officer which relates to the decision and details of dispensation granted by the Council's Head of Paid Service | None |
| <u>Conflicts of interest – Non executive decisions</u> Where the decision is taken under an express delegation e.g. by a Committee, the name of any Member who declared a conflict of interest in relation to this matter at the committee meeting, | N/A |

| | |
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| <p>Title of any document(s), including reports, considered by the officer and relevant to the above decision or where only part of the report is relevant to the above decision, that part)</p> <p>These documents need to be attached to the copy of this record/statement kept by the Authority but must not be published if they contain exempt information</p> | <p>2025-26 Provisional Local government finance settlement report including the 2025-26 council tax report that sets the referendum principle.</p> <p>Consultation: provisional local government finance settlement 2024 to 2025 - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> |
| <p>Reasons for exemption with reference to categories of exemption specified overleaf, or</p> <p>Reason why decision is confidential (see overleaf)</p> <p>Note: decisions containing exempt or confidential information falling within the categories specified overleaf are not required to be published.</p> | <p>N/A</p> |
| <p>Communicating your decision: Who needs to know about this decision and is a plan in place to tell them? (officers in your department, in other departments where necessary, members, external stakeholders).</p> | <p>In accordance with the Council's constitution, the Cabinet Member for Finance has been consulted on the contents of this report.</p> |
| <p>Signature of Decision Maker</p> | |
| <p>Name of Decision Maker</p> | <p>Taryn Eves, Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer</p> |
| <p>Does the decision need to be published?</p> <p>Yes <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> | |

Title: Council Tax base for 2025/26

Report authorised by: Taryn Eves, Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer

Lead Officer: Frances Palopoli, Head of Corporate Financial Strategy & Monitoring

Ward(s) affected: All
Report for Key/

Non-Key Decision: Key decision

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1. This report sets out the recommended Council Tax Base for 2025/26. Regulations require the council tax base to be set by 31st January each year.

2. Introduction

- 2.1. The determination of the council tax base is an important element of the Council's budget setting process. This is because, it is the estimated base that is multiplied by the average council tax amount to derive the amount of council tax precept that the Council will budget for in 2025/26.
- 2.2. The increase in properties coming into rating over the last year was 380 compared to over 1000 the previous year. Insight from the planning and regeneration services has previously suggested year on year growth of 900-1000 new properties. Haringey continues to build new homes across the borough at these levels, with records from planning showing 1,100 completions in 2023/24. Further work will be undertaken to better understand why these properties are not transpiring to increases on the rating list. Considering this, a more prudent growth assumption of 350 is proposed for 2025/26. As 80% of properties in the Borough are within Bands A – D, the modelling assumes that any new properties coming into rating through the year will also be within one of these categories.
- 2.3. The number of discounts applied continues to fall, largely due to the continued review of single person discount entitlement. Furthermore, the Council has elected to apply the maximum premiums to empty homes which over the last year has seen an increase of c. 300.
- 2.4. Analysis of the numbers claiming under the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) shows that pension claimants have increased however working age claimants have continued to reduce. This may in part be due to the continued move in claimants to Universal Credit for benefits. Although the economic situation remains volatile, unemployment rates are forecast to remain at c.4.5% across the forthcoming year and therefore it seems reasonable to assume the level of CTRS claimants remains in line with the current year.
- 2.5. Taking all of the above into consideration, an 1847 increase in the Taxbase before allowance for collection rate is forecast.

- 2.6. The other key element of the council tax base calculation is the projected collection rate. The collection rate was increased to 97% for 2024/25 as the Council continued to transition back to pre-COVID rates. At November 2024 collection was 4.5% down against the profile. This collection rate is similar to nearest neighbouring boroughs. In the light of the in year forecast, it is proposed to reduce the assumed collection rate down to 95.75% for 2025/26.
- 2.7. In summary, after taking all of the above into consideration, a final Taxbase for 2025/26 should be set as 82,589 equating to an increased yield of £1.227m compared to the last financial year. This represents a 0.85% increase in taxbase compared to 2024/25. This is smaller than previously assumed as the reduction in collection rate is offsetting the reduction in CTRS working age claimant numbers.

3. Recommendations

3.1. That:

- the London Borough of Haringey's council tax base is **82,589** for the year 2025/26 in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, detailed in Statutory Instrument 2012:2914 which came into force on 30th November 2012.
- the assumed collection rate will be **95.75%** for 2025/26.

4. Reason for Decision

- 4.1. The Council is required to set its council tax base by the 31st January each year. The Council has delegated the decision for setting the council tax base to the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment.
- 4.2. Setting the council tax base is a statutory requirement and a fundamental part of the revenue budget and council tax setting process. It is the estimate of the taxable capacity of the Council, and when multiplied by the band D council tax rate, determines the Council Tax precept for next year.

5. Alternative options considered

- 5.1. No alternatives were considered as this is a statutory requirement.

6. Background information

- 6.1. The Council as Billing Authority is required to calculate the tax base for the Borough in order for it to calculate its own council tax and is also required to notify this figure by 31st January each year to any major precepting authority (the Greater London Authority) as well as the levying bodies (Environment Agency, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority, North London Waste Authority and London Pension Fund Authority) in order for them to calculate and set their own budgets and determine the level of precept / levy to be made to Haringey.

- 6.2. The calculation of the council tax base is prescribed by regulations. It is the aggregate of estimated number of properties in each valuation band each year, subsequently adjusted to take account of the estimated number of discounts, disregards and exemptions which are likely to apply and any estimated increase / decrease in the list in the forthcoming year. The Council levies council tax on the basis of properties in band D and thus the numbers for each valuation band are adjusted to the proportion which their number is to band D; these proportions are set out in statute. Finally, the council must estimate its rate of council tax collection for the year and apply this figure to arrive at the council tax base figure.
- 6.3. The calculation below sets the tax base and not the council tax amount itself which is due to be set on 3rd March 2025 at Full Council.

7. Calculation of the Billing Authority's Council Tax base

- 7.1. The calculation is in two parts; 'A' (the Relevant Amount), which is the calculation of the estimated adjusted band D properties, and 'B', the estimated level of collection.

Relevant Amount

- 7.2. The calculation of 'A' – the relevant amount for each band is complex and includes several calculations which are shown in detail in Appendices 1 & 2. The resultant relevant number of properties per band is summarised in the table below:

| Band | Relevant Amount (i.e. Number of Dwellings) |
|--------------|---|
| A | 2,916 |
| B | 9,530 |
| C | 23,423 |
| D | 22,361 |
| E | 11,821 |
| F | 7,121 |
| G | 7,611 |
| H | 1,470 |
| TOTAL | 86,255 |

*Relevant amounts have been rounded for presentation purposes

Collection Rate

- 7.3. The collection rate (B) is the council's estimate of the proportion of the overall council tax collectable for the year that will ultimately be collected. This is expressed as a percentage.
- 7.4. In arriving at a decision on the collection rate a number of factors need to be taken into account which includes:
- Internal systems and processes involved in the billing and collection process
 - Appeals against valuation

- The mobility of the local population, particularly in the private rented sector
- The level and timeliness of information available when properties are sold, or let *and*
- The customer's ability to pay

7.5. For 2025/26, the collection rate is forecast at 95.75% a reduction of 1.25% compared to 2024/25.

Council Tax Base

7.6. The tax base is calculated by applying the following formula:

$$A \times B = T$$

Where:

A is the total amount of the relevant amounts for that year

B is the authority's estimate of its collection rate for that year.

T is the calculated tax base for that year

7.7. In accordance with the requirements of the regulations and following the calculations in Appendix 1 to this report and above, the calculation of the Council Tax Base (T) for the London Borough of Haringey in 2025/26 is as follows:

| 2025/26 | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Total Amount of Relevant (A) | 86,255 |
| X | |
| Collection Rate (B) | 95.75% |
| Council Tax Base (T) | 82,589 |

8. Contribution to Strategic Outcomes

8.1. The calculation of the council tax base is prescribed in law. Whilst the council tax base may have some impact on the Council's ability to generate revenue and therefore assist with delivery of corporate goals, the Council needs to adhere to the prescribed technical calculation set out by law in deriving its council tax base.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

Chief Finance Officer's Comments

9.1. The council tax base set out in this report and any projected surplus/deficit on the council tax collection fund as of 31 March 2025 will be used to budget the council tax receivable for 2025/26 that will be included in the final Budget recommended to Full Council on 3rd March 2025.

Assistant Director of Corporate Governance's Comments

9.2. The Head of Legal and Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and makes the following comments.

9.3. Pursuant to the Council's Constitution at Part Two – Articles of the Constitution - Article 4, paragraph 4.01(b) the decision on setting the council tax is delegated by Full Council to the s151 officer in consultation with CAB and the Cabinet Member for Finance.

Pursuant to the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the Act) and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations), the Council is required to calculate its council tax base by the 31st January in calculating the council tax amount due in the following financial year and to also notify all precepting/levying bodies of its council tax base.

9.4. In light of the above, coupled with (1) the assurance given at paragraph 7.7 above that the calculation has been conducted in accordance with the requirements under the Act and the Regulations, and (2) the equality comments below, there is no legal reason why the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer cannot adopt the Recommendations contained in this report.

9.5. Equality Comments

9.6. The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equalities Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.7. The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

9.8. The proposed decision is to Haringey's Council Tax base and the assumed collection rate for 2025/26. The Council as Billing Authority has a statutory duty to calculate the tax base for the borough and notify this figure to the relevant authorities annually on January 31st. Forecast calculations have been modelled using data gathered from previous years and information on new properties in the borough. There are no known equalities implications arising from this decision.

10. Use of Appendices

10.1. Appendix 1 – Calculation of the estimated adjusted band D properties for the London Borough Haringey 2025/26.

11. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

11.1. None.

Calculation of the Billing Authority's Tax Base

- 1 Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (S.I. 1992 No.612) and amended by (S.I. 2012 No. 2914) states that a Billing Authority's Council Tax Base for a financial year shall be calculated by applying the formula –

'A' x 'B'

Where 'A' is the total of the relevant amounts for each of the Valuation Bands which are shown or likely to be shown in the Authority's Valuation list as at 30 November in the year prior to the year in question, adjusted for estimated discounts, exemptions, disregards, increases / decreases; and where 'B' is the Authority's estimate of its collection rate for that year.

- 2 The Regulations state that item '**A**' should be calculated by applying the following formula:

$((H - Q + E + J) - Z (F / G))$ where

H is the number of chargeable dwellings in that band

Q is a factor to take account of the discounts of council tax payable. It is calculated as $Q = (R \times S)$

R is the number of discounts estimated to be payable in respect of these dwellings

S is the percentage relating to each discount classification

E is a factor to take account of any premiums to be added to the Council tax base

J is the amount of any adjustment in respect of changes in the number of chargeable dwellings, discounts or premiums calculated by the authority in accordance with paragraph 7 due to factors such as:

- (a) New properties and properties being banded
- (b) Variations in number of exempt properties
- (c) Successful Appeal against bandings
- (d) Variations in the number of discounts

Z is the total amount that the authority estimates will be applied in relation to the authority's council tax reduction scheme in relation to the band, expressed as an equivalent number of chargeable dwellings in that band.

F is the relevant prescribed proportion of council tax to be paid for each dwelling in that band.

G is the relevant prescribed proportion of council tax to be paid for Band D

3 The calculations for **A** for the London Borough of Haringey and the summary is set out below: -

| Calculation Item | Disabled Band A | A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | 2025/26 Total |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| H | 3 | 7,263 | 18,916 | 35,424 | 28,037 | 11,535 | 5,487 | 4,774 | 747 | 112,186 |
| Q | 0 | -1,050 | -2,572 | -3,377 | -1,805 | -651 | -226 | -158 | -17 | -9,854 |
| E | 0 | 125 | 137 | 141 | 136 | 29 | 20 | 11 | 9 | 608 |
| J | 0 | 100 | 100 | 75 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 350 |
| (H-Q+E+J) | 3 | 6,439 | 16,581 | 32,264 | 26,444 | 10,913 | 5,281 | 4,628 | 739 | 103,291 |
| Z | 0 | -2,064 | -4,328 | -5,912 | -4,082 | -1,241 | -351 | -61 | -4 | -18,044 |
| (H-Q+E+J) - Z | 3 | 4,374 | 12,253 | 26,351 | 22,361 | 9,672 | 4,930 | 4,567 | 735 | 85,244 |
| F/G | 0 | 0.67 | 0.78 | 0.89 | 1.00 | 1.22 | 1.44 | 1.67 | 2.00 | |
| ((H-Q+E+J) - Z) x (F/G) | 0 | 2,916 | 9,530 | 23,423 | 22,361 | 11,821 | 7,121 | 7,611 | 1,470 | 86,255 |

The table below compares the 2025/26 calculations with those for 2024/25 and highlights where the biggest variances are estimated to occur.

| Calculation Item | 202425 Tax Base | 2025/26 Tax Base | Change |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------|
| H | 111,995 | 112,186 | 191 |
| Q | -10,016 | -9,854 | 163 |
| E | 345 | 608 | 263 |
| J | 1,000 | 350 | -650 |
| (H-Q+E) | 103,325 | 102,941 | -385 |
| Z | -19,843 | -18,044 | 1,799 |
| (H-Q+E) - Z | 83,482 | 84,897 | 1,415 |
| ((H-Q+E) - Z) x (F/G) | 84,408 | 86,255 | 1,847 |
| Collection Rate | 97.00% | 95.75% | -1.25% |
| Council tax base | 81,875 | 82,589 | 714 |

1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Capital Strategy provides the high-level framework and processes within which the Council's capital investment plans are prioritised and delivered and gives a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing, and treasury management activities contribute to the provision of public services in Haringey. It also provides an overview of how the risks of the capital programme are managed and the implications for future financial sustainability.
- 1.2 Capital expenditure in local government is defined in statute and accounting practices/codes and as such must be complied with. Within these rules, capital budgets and capital expenditure decisions offer the opportunity for the Council to profoundly affect the lives of its residents, businesses, and visitors in both the immediate and the longer term.
- 1.3 Capital expenditure is where the Council spends money on a project, with the view to derive societal, service and economic benefit from the expenditure, for a period longer than twelve months. This can also include spending on assets owned by other bodies, and loans and grants to other bodies enabling them to buy assets.
- 1.4 The investment ensures that the Council has the assets it requires to enable delivery of its statutory services, fulfils its legal functions and acts as an important lever to enact change and transformation in the borough to meet changing needs. Capital expenditure can also support the increasingly challenging revenue position where schemes enable income generation for the Council or reduced costs.
- 1.5 The key objectives for the Council's capital strategy and associated programme are to support delivery of the [Corporate Delivery Plan](#), the [Borough's Vision](#) and its commitment to the communities of Haringey and to set out the approach for addressing the competing demands for investment across the Council. The Strategy is part of a suite of strategic financial management approaches that inform the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).
- 1.6 The Capital Strategy and Capital Programme have been compiled in accordance with the Financial Management Code which:
 - Reinforces the need for Local Authorities to have capital programmes that are, in the long-term, financially sustainable;
 - Ensures that the capital programme and strategy conform to the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities; and
 - That the Capital Programme and Capital Strategy directly inform the Treasury Management Strategy Statement.

2. Principles

- 2.1 The key principles of the Capital Strategy are:
 - That capital expenditure applies a long-term approach to service delivery.
 - That capital expenditure must be aligned to the delivery of the priorities and outcomes in the Borough Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan.

- That capital expenditure is informed by the Council's Asset Management Strategy, and that maintenance of assets is vital to the integrity of the Council's approach to asset management and capital planning.
- That capital investment decisions are made within a clear governance framework ensuring value for money and have regard to all relevant costs and income over the asset life cycle.
- That funding of capital expenditure should be from sustainable sources, maximising the use of external funding and reducing the reliance on borrowing and should assess affordability against ambition.
- That the strategy sets the direction for the foreseeable future and informs the five-year capital programme.
- That the strategy is in compliance with CIPFA requirements.

3. Strategic Context

3.1 Haringey's priorities are set out in its 10-year Borough Vision and Corporate Delivery Plan and provides the strategic direction for the Capital Strategy to help shape decisions of the Council about the priorities for the Capital Programme, their scale and value.

3.2 The Borough Vision for Haringey in 2035 is a place where:

- All our residents have the opportunity to thrive and enjoy the best possible version of their life.
- The quality of life in every part of the borough is comparable to our cleanest, greenest and safest neighbourhoods.
- At a time of insecurity and change, Haringey is a place where people can put down roots and feel they really belong.

3.3 The Corporate Delivery Plan set out eight separate themes:

- Resident experience and enabling success
- Responding to the climate emergency
- Children and young people
- Adults, health and welfare
- Homes for the future
- Safer Haringey
- Culturally rich borough
- Place and economy

3.4 The Capital Strategy sets the direction for the foreseeable future and informs the five-year Capital Programme to address the Borough Vision and the Corporate Delivery Plan. The Capital Programme is reviewed and updated annually to ensure it remains focused on the Council's priorities, that it addresses routine maintenance and health and safety requirements and allows the Council to react to changes in circumstances or need.

- 3.5 The investment in the capital programme 2025-2030 is for service delivery purposes. The plans and aims of various external organisations and partners help inform the Council's Capital Strategy, including Transport for London, the Mayor, and the Greater London Authority (GLA). The Capital Strategy brings together the demand for capital investment and the available funding to enable the Council to set out its plan to fund the development and delivery of its priorities over the medium term through the five-year Capital Programme.
- 3.6 The inclusion of a scheme within the capital programme is not necessarily permission to spend. Most schemes will be subject to the completion of an approved business case that validates the high-level cost and time estimates contained within the programme. An integral part of the business case will be an assessment of the risks that a project faces and once a project is agreed, the review of the risk register is a standing item on the agenda for the project's governance arrangements.

4. Capital Budget Setting

- 4.1 Every year the Council reviews its capital programme and the projects within it. This is undertaken alongside the revenue budget process in order to ensure that the impact of both is considered.
- 4.2 The programme is developed alongside directorate service plans and link to a variety of other strategies and plans across the Council as these are reviewed and updated. This includes:
- The revenue part of the Medium-term Financial Strategy and the implications of capital spending on the Council's revenue budget.
 - The Treasury Management Strategy – setting out Council's approach to borrowing to fund capital investments.
 - The Asset Management Strategy; and
 - The Prudential Framework – setting out key indicators to monitor the Council's funding of capital spending.
- 4.3 The setting of the Capital Programme is integrated with the formulation of the revenue budget to ensure that there is aligned decision making and a clear link between the impact of capital expenditure on the revenue budget. This includes the costs of borrowing but also to consider ongoing additional revenue expenditure associated with assets, such as maintenance and repairs, utility and other running costs. It also ensures that any capital investment agreed on the basis of 'invest to save' by reducing costs and increasing income can be reflected within the revenue budget and progress against the benefits can be tracked.
- 4.4 As part of this process, every scheme in the existing capital programme will be subject to review and considers the following within the constraints of the financial envelope:
- Alignment of schemes to priorities in the Corporate Delivery Plan and removal of any schemes that no longer are aligned or timescales for delivery are not yet known.
 - Inclusion of new essential schemes that either are required on the basis of health and safety, essential enhancement or replacement (e.g. a new roof on a school), self-funded or on an invest to save basis.

- Review of all schemes in the programme to ensure that the profile of spend is accurate based on the latest delivery plan.
- 4.5 For the 2025/26 programme, the layout of the capital programme has been updated to separately present those schemes that are in delivery and those which are in the still at the planning stage.
- In Delivery – schemes which have an approved business case, all decision making has been completed, and the scheme has commenced. An update on progress with delivery will be provided as part of the quarterly monitoring and reporting of the capital programme.
 - Pipeline – schemes which are planned and have approval to proceed to full business case development. Such projects will not move to 'in delivery' until a full business case has been approved, all decision making is complete and a robust delivery plan with timescales is in place. An update on progress with move to delivery will be provided as part of the quarterly monitoring and reporting of the capital programme. Projects will have to progress through the pipeline before being moved into the formal programme to ensure they can be reviewed in the context of the whole programme as part of the annual review process.
- 4.6 From 2025/26, no new scheme will be included in the Capital Programme and become fully funded until a full business case has been developed and approved by the Strategic Capital Board (see below) and until there is certainty on the delivery timescales.
- 4.7 Currently there are a number of different business case methods being utilised across services and work is underway to develop a consistent framework. All business cases and project changes will be subject to review through the Sub-Groups and/or Strategic Capital Board before being recommended to the decision maker for approval.

5 Governance Arrangements

- 5.1 During 2024/25, a review of the current arrangements for oversight and control of the Capital Programme have been subject to review. A number of factors necessitated this review, including:
- A more structured approach to prioritisation of schemes within the Capital Programme and strengthened alignment to priorities in the Corporate Delivery Plan;
 - Greater control, predictability and forward planning for the programme.
 - Greater assurance around business case development for all schemes within the capital programme and adopting a programme management approach to the oversight of the complete Capital Programme.
 - Strengthened governance and programme management in place for individual schemes of significance, such as major regeneration and development schemes.
 - Improved level of confidence in the delivery of schemes and in turn reducing the high levels of slippage reported each year.
 - Improved level of monitoring and reporting against all schemes in the Capital Programme internally and externally.
- 5.2 Good progress has been made, and a new and strengthened approach will start to be in place from April 2025 and continue to evolve and be embedded through the

year. This new governance framework will provide assurance to decision makers that all the necessary due diligence and review has been undertaken before any scheme is included within the Capital Programme and robust monitoring and reporting of progress is in place. The practical guide for officers on capital projects and property is set out in the delivery framework, which will also be subject to review in 2025/26 as part of this new governance framework.

Project / Programme Boards

- 5.3 Chaired by the relevant Corporate Director / Director, these groups will consider outline business cases, full business cases and any change requests before onward approval by the Strategic Capital Board and monitor and track progress on planning and delivery. A summary of the key points of discussion and any decisions required by the Strategic Capital Board will be prepared by the Chair. The sub-groups include:

- Children's and Education
- Adults, Housing & Health
- Finance & Resources
- Culture, Strategy & Communities
- Environment & Resident Experience
- Enterprise Architecture Board
- Placemaking and Housing Board
- New Homes Board

Strategic Capital Board

- 5.4 This Board will be Chaired by the Corporate Director of Resources and attendance by Corporate Services, Director / Director representatives from each main service and the Chairs of the Project / Programme Boards. Other specialist officers will be invited to attend as required. This Board will maintain oversight of the whole programme. This includes the annual review process, and the development of the programme recommended to Council each year, followed by the monitoring and reporting both internally and externally in year and escalation of any issues to Corporate Leadership Team and Members as required. The Board will review and give assurance for all business cases and consider any change requests coming up from the Project / Programme Boards. Any approvals will be in line with the Council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegation.

Risk Management

- 5.5 Any activity involves risk, and it is important to recognise that capital programmes are inherently risky activities and need to have appropriate risk management arrangements.
- 5.6 The schemes in the capital programme have risk registers that are commensurate with the scale of the project. Minor schemes, such as a rewire of a small building, will rely primarily on the method statement that the contractor would have supplied as part of their tender return as the risk register. For larger schemes, there will be several risk registers. The contractor will have a risk register for the scheme, the client will have their own risk register for the scheme and there will be a joint risk register. On larger schemes these would be reviewed regularly. Risk registers do not

eliminate risk, but they greatly assist in the identification of risk and the associated risk management arrangements that need to be put in place.

- 5.7 To further assist in risk management, there will be a client contingency for each project. The exact amount to be held in the contingency varies from project to project. The contingency is there to address issues that could not have been foreseen at the outset of the project. The drawdown from the contingency goes through a change control process.
- 5.8 The Council holds a contingency for the overall capital programme. The proposed capital programme has a contingency of £5m in 2025/26 and £5m in 2026/27. Management of the contingency fund will be through the Strategic Capital Board and any approvals will be in line with the Council's Constitution and Scheme of Delegation. The table below highlights some of the risks that the council's overall capital programme faces.

| Risk | Actions and Mitigation |
|---|---|
| Schemes do not align with the Borough Vision / Corporate Delivery Plan | Service Plan, MTFS and Budget all aligned to the plans. |
| | Annual review of the programme to ensure alignment remains. |
| | Member engagement in the development of the Capital Programme. |
| Priority and urgent schemes missed from the programme | Annual review of strategic and operational priority schemes. |
| | Capital contingency held for urgent schemes that may emerge in year. |
| Scheme costs above budget | Feasibility studies undertaken for relevant schemes. |
| | Business cases to be in place for all schemes from 2025/26 and additional review and due diligence through the Strategic Capital Board to test robustness of estimates. |
| | Budgets monitored through SRO and scheme governance. |
| | Regular review of monitoring of budgets through the Strategic Capital Board. |
| | Any change requests subject to governance process. |
| Unaffordability of financing costs in the revenue budget | Preparation of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, revenue budget for 2025/26 and MTFS alongside the development of the Capital Programme each year. |
| Spend not in line with grant and other external contribution conditions | Ongoing monitoring of spend against conditions. |
| | Discussions with grant awarding organisations at earliest opportunity if a risk that conditions may not be met. |
| Interest rate volatility | Regular monitoring on interest rates. |
| | Use of external advisors – Arlingclose. |
| Other market volatility (including supply of labour and materials) | Regular monitoring of market conditions. |

6 Monitoring and Reporting

- 6.1 The newly agreed senior management structure will bring together the delivery of the majority of the Capital Programme under the newly created post of Corporate Director of Finance and Resources. The Capital Programme will be monitored and reported through the Strategic Capital Board and reported as part of the quarterly finance monitoring report to Cabinet and Scrutiny Panels. This will include reporting against budget, delivery timescales and scope against the original business case assumptions.

7 2025/26 to 2029/30 Capital Programme

- 7.1 Following the annual review in summer 2024 and taking account of the feedback from the consultation on the proposed schemes to delete schemes from the programme and include new schemes, the total value of the Capital Programme in 2025/26 to 2029/30 Capital Programme is £2,028.5m, of which £1,406.4m relates to the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and £622.1m relates to the General Fund (GF). The GF capital programme has reduced by £95.1m from the existing plans (including the revised Quarter two 2024/25 budget).
- 7.2 The main areas continue to be investment into highways, transportation, leisure services, Waste Services, Schools, the Operational Estate and IT.
- 7.3 The current financial position of the Council is very serious. As reported in the main report, there is a gap between expected expenditure and income of £37m which needs to be addressed for the Council to be able to agree a balanced budget for 2025/26 and therefore Government support is required. An application has been submitted. The outcome will not be known until late February 2025 when an in principle decision is expected. If agreed, then MHCLG will issue a capitalisation direction. This does not involve any new money. Instead, the Council will be allowed to capitalise its deficits on its revenue budget. The direction allows Councils to repay the EFS over a period up to 20 years. It is the intention to pay off this debt in a much shorter period through the disposal of assets and the Council will continue to abide by its best consideration duty when disposing of assets. The proposed capital programme includes £37m of EFS in 2025/26. However, it is anticipated that £10m of the 2025/26 expenditure will be funded from capital receipts.

Table 1: Capital Expenditure Plans Overview 2025/26 - 2029/30

| | 2024/25 Budget | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | Total |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| | (£'000) | (£'000) | (£'000) | (£'000) | (£'000) | (£'000) | (£'000) |
| General Fund Account (GF) | | | | | | | |
| Originally Approved MTFS | 144,178 | 136,781 | 189,425 | 56,375 | 56,701 | | 583,458 |
| Revised Qtr.2 MTFS | 118,383 | 142,938 | 249,412 | 106,743 | 99,803 | | 717,279 |
| Proposed MTFS | | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 | 622,143 |
| Variance btw Revised Qtr. 2 & Proposed | (118,383) | 42,058 | (98,214) | 5,775 | (32,083) | 105,711 | (95,136) |
| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | | | | | | | |
| Originally Approved MTFS | 239,081 | 304,557 | 355,849 | 308,279 | 210,554 | | 1,418,321 |
| Revised Qtr.2 MTFS | 246,331 | 304,557 | 355,849 | 308,279 | 210,554 | | 1,425,570 |
| Proposed MTFS | | 333,768 | 278,291 | 278,991 | 273,873 | 241,412 | 1,406,335 |
| Variance btw Revised Qtr. 2 & Proposed | (246,331) | 29,211 | (77,558) | (29,288) | 63,319 | 241,412 | (19,235) |

- 7.4 The full General Fund capital programme for the period 2025/26 to 2029/30 is set out in Annex 1. New schemes are denoted as NEW. There are a number of existing schemes that have had their budgets increased in 2029/30, mostly capital enhancement schemes in Children's Services and Environment & Resident Experience.
- 7.5 The Capital Programme could change if Cabinet agrees to carry over resources from the 2024/25 Capital Programme (slippage) when the 2024/25 outturn report is presented in July 2025. These requests will be scrutinised prior to being put forward to Cabinet to ensure that they are still required and any capital budgets for 2025/26 will be updated as part of the Quarter 1 finance monitoring report reported to Cabinet in September 2025.
- 7.6 The capital programme is composed of individual directorate programmes and within most schemes there are individual projects. For instance, Scheme 302, Borough Roads, will contain individual projects on individual roads.

7.7 Annex 1 provides detail on the individual schemes within each directorate's capital programme. The following section provides an overview of the proposed capital programme:

- The Children's Services capital programme concentrates on the school estate, and its upkeep (new roofs, new windows, new heating systems etc.) and provision for the delivery of the safety valve programme which is to provide additional special educational needs provision within the borough, and which will reduce cost and improve outcomes.
- The Adults capital programme is primarily concerned with delivering the aids and adaptations programme which is funded through the Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG). The purpose of the DFG is to fund aids and adaptations in people's homes so that they can stay at home for longer rather than be placed in specialist care.
- The Environment and Resident experience capital programme has a number of themes:
 - The public infrastructure of the borough (roads, pavements, lighting, flood water management, disabled parking bays, bridges);
 - The Walking & Cycling Action Plan and the reduction of road casualties;
 - Waste services; and
 - Leisure and parks.
- The Placemaking and & Housing capital programme is focused on regeneration schemes across the borough as well as the Council's operational buildings.
- The Culture, Strategy and Engagement capital programme contains the delivery of the new Civic Centre, continued investment in the Council's digital estate and investment in culture (Bruce Castle Museum, Alexandra Palace, and libraries).
- The Corporate Items are new to the programme and contains the capitalisation directive (if agreed at the end of February 2025) for Exceptional Financial Support (£37m) from Government and the capital programme contingency (£10m).

Table 2: Capital Expenditure Plans by Directorate

| | 2025/26 Budget (£'000) | 2026/27 Budget (£'000) | 2027/28 Budget (£'000) | 2028/29 Budget (£'000) | 2029/30 Budget (£'000) | Total (£'000) |
|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Children's Services | 28,276 | 12,206 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 55,575 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 12,715 | 2,878 | 2,377 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 22,370 |
| Environment & Resident Experience | 21,438 | 18,420 | 41,104 | 15,827 | 10,880 | 107,668 |
| Placemaking & Housing | 36,140 | 73,322 | 58,110 | 44,662 | 87,600 | 299,834 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 44,427 | 39,373 | 5,896 | 0 | 0 | 89,696 |
| Corporate Items - GF Capital Continency | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 |
| Corporate Items - EFS | 37,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37,000 |
| Total General Fund (GF) | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 | 622,143 |
| Housing (HRA) | 333,768 | 278,291 | 278,991 | 273,873 | 241,412 | 1,406,335 |
| Overall Total | 518,764 | 429,489 | 391,509 | 341,593 | 347,123 | 2,028,478 |

8 Funding Sources

- 8.1 In determining the level of capital investment to be undertaken, affordability and available resources are key considerations including the long-term impact of borrowing and other forms of capital funding on related revenue budgets. All capital expenditure must be financed from either an external source (government grant or other contributions), the Council's own resources (revenue, reserves, or capital receipts) or debt (borrowing, leasing, Private Finance Initiative).
- 8.2 The responsibility for the final funding of the Capital Programme is delegated to the Corporate Director of Finance and Resources (Section 151 Officer) who when funding the Capital Programme, will ensure that this is in accordance with the most cost-effective outcome for the Council.
- 8.3 Funding of the programme follows the principle of first fully utilising external sources where possible, followed by other internal council resources and with borrowing as a final option. The Council's capital programme is moving to a financing strategy that seeks to ensure that investment via the capital programme is self-financing or funded

from external resources wherever possible and the draft GF capital programme for 2025/26-2029/30 shows that 64% are either self-financing or funded via external resources

- 8.4 The programme reflects capital spending plans at the date when the Council formally approves the 2025/26 Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). During the year additional funding (for instance, capital grants or developer contributions) may become available and will be added to the programme in accordance with the constitution. The assumption is that the spend is aligned with the value of the grant or provision and creates no further changes to pressures on the financial position.
- 8.5 The proposed funding of the capital programme for 2025/26 to 2029/30 is set out in Table 3. The borrowing figures are split between core capital programme and self-financing projects.

Table 3: General Fund Financing Strategy

| | General Fund Borrowing | | External | Capital Receipts | Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) | Total |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------|
| | Core Capital Programme | Self Financing met from Savings | | | | |
| | (£'000) | (£'000) | | | | |
| Children's Services | 16,158 | 5,260 | 34,157 | 0 | 0 | 55,575 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 1,370 | 10,000 | 11,000 | 0 | 0 | 22,370 |
| Environment & Resident Experience | 81,672 | 1,066 | 14,064 | 0 | 10,866 | 107,668 |
| Placemaking & Housing | 42,230 | 11,686 | 245,377 | 0 | 542 | 299,834 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 25,522 | 64,174 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 89,696 |
| Corporate Items | 37,000 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 | 0 | 47,000 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | 203,951 | 92,186 | 304,598 | 10,000 | 11,408 | 622,143 |

- 8.6 The self-financing schemes will normally only proceed if they produce a reduction in expenditure that includes reductions enough to cover the cost of financing the investment. This is necessary to ensure that the investment contributes to meeting the financial challenges that the Council faces. It is noted however, that in some limited circumstances, that schemes may proceed even if they do not produce a reduction in expenditure enough to cover the cost of financing the investment.
- 8.7 As viability challenges have increased over the last few years (inflation and increases in the cost of borrowing) the number of schemes of this type have decreased

significantly. The most significant one in the programme now is the Civic Centre which was last considered by Cabinet in November 2024. From 2025/26, any new schemes considered as self-financing will be regularly reviewed to ensure that the original business case assumptions that determined its self-financing nature remain valid.

- 8.8 The remainder of this section provides a summary of the main funding sources for capital expenditure.

Capital Receipts

- 8.9 When a capital asset is no longer needed, it may be sold, and the proceeds (known as capital receipts) can be spent on new assets or can be used to repay debt and in certain cases may require statutory consultation. Repayments of grants, loans and non-treasury investments also generate capital receipts. The Council is currently permitted by legislation to spend capital receipts to deliver cost reductions and/or transformation, and further details are set out in the Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy 2025/26 in Annex 2.

Revenue Contributions

- 8.10 The Council could use revenue resources to fund capital projects, often referred to as Revenue Contribution to Capital. However, given the pressures on the General Fund revenue budget, it is unlikely this source of funding will be utilised in the short to medium term. The exception is for the HRA, where a budget is included annually for a revenue contribution to capital from the Major Repairs Reserve. Further details are set out in the HRA Business Plan.

Grants

- 8.11 Each year, the Council receives capital grants, mainly from central government and the Greater London Authority (GLA) but may also include other external organisations. Some of these are regular grant allocations, such as for schools and roads but others can be subject to a bidding process.

Third Party Contributions – Section 106 (S106) & Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 8.12 CIL and S106 are the two types of planning contributions which can be used to fund capital expenditure given the specific conditions of the contribution are met. Whilst there are no new schemes proposed in the capital programme that utilise CIL or S106, the 2024/25 capital programme has CIL allocation of c£5.0m and the proposed 2025/26 – 2029/30 capital programme has an allocation of c£11.4m Strategic CIL and c£3.9m of S106. Should this change, any further use in year will be subject to review by the Strategic Capital Board.
- 8.13 The continuing capital programme review has identified additional CIL of £7.55m. This CIL will be used to fund existing schemes within the proposed capital programme and will not provide funding for additional schemes, thus reducing general fund borrowing cost. Any further allocation of CIL will follow advice and agreement from the AD Planning, Building Standards & Sustainability, and from the Head of Spatial Planning. This will be addressed as part of the quarter one budget monitoring in 2025/26.

Prudential Borrowing

- 8.14 The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) was presented to Audit Committee on 27 January 2025 and provides the framework for the Council to borrow to fund capital expenditure as required within affordability limits and the availability of revenue budget to fund the borrowing costs and associated MRP provision. Full Council will approve the final TMSS on 3 March 2025.
- 8.15 The capital plans, outlined in Annex 1, show a total borrowing requirement of £93.622m is required to finance the Council's core capital programme plan in 2025/26. This means that about 51% of the General Fund capital programme, is composed of schemes that are wholly financed by the Council's borrowing activity. These schemes largely reflect the statutory duties of the council.
- 8.16 The revenue impact (capital financing cost as a percentage of net revenue streams) of the recommended borrowing strategy for the Council's Capital Programme (excluding self-financing schemes, PFI and finance leases) is outlined below in Table 4.

Table 4 – Revenue Borrowing Costs

| | 2024/25 Budget | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| | (£000) | (£000) | (£000) | (£000) | (£000) | (£000) |
| Borrowing Costs | 14,100 | 19,200 | 25,200 | 28,300 | 30,600 | 32,400 |

- 8.17 As part of the capital financing cost, the Council has to make an annual contribution from revenue called Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). The provision is required to ensure that the Council pays down debt in a prudent manner. Annex 3 sets out the Council's MRP statement for 2025/26. The estimated MRP over the MTFS period is set out in Table 5:

Table 5: Estimated MRP

| | 2024/25 Estimate | 2025/26 Estimate | 2026/27 Estimate | 2027/28 Estimate | 2028/29 Estimate | 2029/30 Estimate |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 | £000 |
| MRP | 16,734 | 18,544 | 20,103 | 21,305 | 21,729 | 22,213 |

- 8.18 The Council's underlying need to borrow to finance its capital programme is measured by the capital financing requirement (CFR). This increases when new debt financed capital expenditure is incurred and reduces when MRP is made. Table 6 shows the estimated CFR over the MTFS period.

Table 6: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

| | 2024/25 Estimate | 2025/26 Estimate | 2026/27 Estimate | 2027/28 Estimate | 2028/29 Estimate | 2029/30 Estimate |
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|

| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| CFR | 1,296,520 | 1,565,138 | 1,803,682 | 2,033,347 | 2,205,787 | 2,359,720 |

9 Loans to Third Parties

9.1 The most significant loans to third parties are to the Alexandra Palace & Park Charitable Trust, which as at 31/03/2024 totals circa £6m. Within the current capital programme plans, there is a proposed loan to Alexandra Palace & Park Charitable Trust of £4.1m and will be used to improve facilities at the palace and on an invest to save basis to support income generation. However, should the Council wish to make loans to third parties it would only do so if the business case is approved.

9.2 Such loans will be considered when all of the following criteria are satisfied:

- The loan is towards expenditure which would, if incurred by the Council, be capital expenditure.
- The purpose for which the loan is given is consistent with the Council's priorities in the Corporate Delivery Plan.
- Due diligence is carried out that confirms the Council's can legally make the loan and there is a clear assessment of the risk of loss over the loan term
- A formal loan agreement is put in place which stipulates the loan period, repayment terms and loan rate; (which will be set at a level that seeks to mitigate any perceived risks of a loss and takes appropriate account of Subsidy Control Rules).

Annex's

Annex 1 – Full Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30 by Directorate

Annex 2 – Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Policy 2025/26

Annex 3 – Minimum Revenue Provision Policy 2025/26

Annex 4 – Capitalisation Policy

Capital Programme 2025/26 to 2029/30

Annex 1

This Capital Programme is funded from: Council borrowing (**H**), Self-financing (**S**), External (**E**), Capital Receipt (**CR**) & Community Infrastructure Levy (**CIL**)

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|---------------------|---|----------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 101 | Primary Sch - repairs & maintenance | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline | 2,450 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 10,450 | E |
| 102 | Primary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN) | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline | 9,748 | 4,674 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 21,922 | H & E |
| 110 | Devolved Sch Capital | Cllr Brabazon | Delivery | 531 | 531 | 531 | 531 | 531 | 2,655 | E |
| 114 | Secondary Sch - mod & enhance (Inc SEN) | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline | 1,629 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,629 | H |
| 121 | Pendarren House | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline | 457 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 457 | H |
| 124 | In-Borough Residential Care Facility | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline | 2,900 | 2,360 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,260 | S |
| 125 | Safety Valve | Cllr Brabazon | Pipeline & Delivery | 8,561 | 2,391 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,952 | H & E |
| 126 | EYES and Social Care developments to the LiquidLogic System | Cllr Brabazon | Delivery | 2,000 | 250 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,250 | H |
| Children's Services | | | | 28,276 | 12,206 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 5,031 | 55,575 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|------------------------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 201 | Aids, Adap's & Assistive Tech -Home Owners (DFG) | Cllr das Neves | Delivery | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 11,000 | E |
| 211 | Community Alarm Service | Cllr das Neves | Delivery | 177 | 177 | 177 | 0 | 0 | 531 | H |
| 225 | Locality Hub | Cllr das Neves | Pipeline | 338 | 501 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 839 | H |
| NEW | Initiatives under Housing Demand Programme | Cllr das Neves | Pipeline | 10,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 | S |
| Adults, Health & Communities | | | | 12,715 | 2,878 | 2,377 | 2,200 | 2,200 | 22,370 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|------------|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 119 | School Streets | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 325 | 325 | 325 | 325 | 0 | 1,300 | E & CIL |
| 301 | Street Lighting | Cllr Chandwani | Delivery | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,000 | H & E |
| 302 | Borough Roads | Cllr Chandwani | Delivery | 5,321 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 29,321 | H & E |
| 309 | Local Implementation Plan (LIP) | Cllr Hakata | Delivery | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 5,000 | E |
| 310 | Developer S106 / S278 | Cllr Chandwani | Delivery | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 1,250 | E |
| 311 | Parks Asset Management: | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 450 | 450 | 450 | 450 | 450 | 2,250 | H & CIL |
| 313 | Active Life in Parks: | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 2,000 | H & CIL |
| 314 | Parkland Walk Bridges | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 350 | 350 | 2,500 | 350 | 0 | 3,550 | H |
| 322 | Finsbury Park | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 2,500 | E |
| 328 | Street & Greenspace Greening Programme | Cllr Hakata | Delivery | 75 | 75 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 150 | H & CIL |
| 335 | Streetspace Plan | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 3,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,000 | CIL |
| 336 | New River Sports & Fitness | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 533 | 533 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,066 | S |
| 338 | Road Casualty Reduction | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 950 | 950 | 950 | 950 | 0 | 3,800 | H, E & CIL |
| 341 | Leisure Services | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 825 | 825 | 1,063 | 1,063 | 0 | 3,776 | H |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|-----------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 342 | Public Protection - To replace life expired IT system | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 200 | H |
| 4013 | Clean Air School Zones | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 400 | 400 | 400 | 400 | 0 | 1,600 | H |
| 4014 | Walking and Cycling Action Plan (WCAP) LTN delivery | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 708 | 708 | 708 | 708 | 0 | 2,832 | H & CIL |
| 4015 | Walking and Cycling Action Plan (WCAP) Strategic cycle route delivery | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 1,033 | 1,033 | 1,033 | 1,033 | 0 | 4,130 | H, E & CIL |
| 4016 | Walking and Cycling Action Plan (WCAP) Cycle Parking (Hangers) delivery | Cllr Hakata | Pipeline | 118 | 118 | 118 | 118 | 0 | 472 | CIL |
| NEW | Structures (Cornwall Road, Ferry Lane, & Wareham Road Bridge) | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 2,100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,100 | H |
| NEW | Flood Water Management | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 1,200 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 900 | 4,800 | H |
| NEW | Replacement Parks and Housing Machinery | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 300 | 250 | 100 | 50 | 50 | 750 | H |
| NEW | Borough Parking Plan | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 250 | 1,250 | H |
| NEW | Disabled Bays | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 150 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 470 | H |
| NEW | Waste Vehicles and Bins | Cllr Chandwani | Pipeline | 0 | 2,023 | 23,077 | 0 | 0 | 25,101 | H |
| Environment & Resident Experience | | | | 21,438 | 18,420 | 41,104 | 15,827 | 10,880 | 107,668 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|-----------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 402 | Tottenham Hale Streets | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 2,158 | 6,361 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,519 | H & E |
| 408 | Down Lane Park | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 2,591 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,591 | E |
| 459 | Wood Green Regen Sites | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 1,355 | 3,675 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,030 | H, E & CIL |
| 474 | Tottenham High Road Strategy | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 1,061 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,061 | H, E & CIL |
| 480 | Wood Green Regen (2) | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 996 | 2,755 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,751 | H, E & CIL |
| 488 | Liveable Seven Sisters (LSS) | Cllr Gordon | Delivery | 3,069 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3,069 | H |
| 493 | Bruce Grove Yards (BGY) | Cllr Gordon | Delivery | 875 | 4,851 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5,726 | H, E & CIL |
| 4010 | Selby Urban Village Project | Cllr Gordon | Delivery | 5,000 | 21,081 | 10,526 | 0 | 0 | 36,607 | E |
| 4011 | Commercial Property Remediation | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 4,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | 4,186 | 0 | 14,186 | H & S |
| 4012 | Energy Performance Certificate improvements | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 750 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 0 | 2,250 | H & S |
| 316 | Asset Management of Council Buildings | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 7,440 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 8,440 | H |
| NEW | Asset Mgt of Council Buildings | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 2,245 | 4,100 | 5,005 | 897 | 0 | 12,247 | H |
| NEW | Dilapidations Fountayne Road | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 0 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,000 | H |
| Placemaking & Housing | | | | 31,540 | 48,322 | 19,031 | 5,583 | 0 | 104,476 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|--|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 421 | HRW Acquisition | Cllr Gordon | Delivery | 4,600 | 25,000 | 39,079 | 39,079 | 87,600 | 195,358 | E |
| Placemaking & Housing (Enabling Budgets) | | | | 4,600 | 25,000 | 39,079 | 39,079 | 87,600 | 195,358 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 330 | Civic Centre Works | Cllr Gordon | Delivery | 28,833 | 29,683 | 1,546 | 0 | 0 | 60,062 | S |
| 602 | Corporate IT Board | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 860 | 860 | 860 | 0 | 0 | 2,580 | H |
| 604 | Continuous Improvement | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 950 | 662 | 564 | 0 | 0 | 2,176 | H |
| 625 | CCTV Move and Replacement of end-of-Life Infrastructure | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 1,266 | 733 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,000 | H |
| 626 | Corporate Data Platform | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 1,250 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,250 | H |
| 627 | Hybrid AV between now and Civic Centre coming online | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 750 | 450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1,200 | H |
| 628 | Locality Hub ICT | Cllr Gordon | Pipeline | 600 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 600 | H |
| 630 | Libraries IT and Buildings upgrade | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 500 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 650 | H |
| 631 | Ally Pally - Counter Terrorism | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 182 | 363 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 545 | H |
| 632 | Ally Pally - Health & Safety Works | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 286 | 293 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 579 | H |
| 633 | Ally Pally - Compliance works | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 1,194 | 1,006 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,201 | H |
| 634 | Ally Pally - Invest to Earn | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 1,628 | 1,128 | 1,356 | 0 | 0 | 4,112 | S |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| 635 | Mobile Replacement (Smart Phones / Devices) | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 250 | 225 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 475 | H |
| 636 | Replacing Desktop AV / Screens in Offices | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 150 | 150 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 300 | H |
| 655 | Data Centre Move | Cllr Carlin | Delivery | 450 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 450 | H |
| 464 | Bruce Castle | Cllr Arkell | Delivery | 223 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 223 | H |
| 447 | Alexandra Palace - Maintenance | Cllr Arkell | Pipeline | 470 | 470 | 470 | 0 | 0 | 1,410 | H |
| 657 | Corporate Laptop Refresh | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 2,100 | 1,200 | 1,100 | 0 | 0 | 4,400 | H |
| 659 | M365 Additional Functionality | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 519 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 519 | H |
| NEW | Capital support for Digital Outcomes | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 1,965 | 1,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,965 | H |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | | | | 44,427 | 39,373 | 5,896 | 0 | 0 | 89,696 | |

| | | Cabinet Member | Delivery Stage | 2025/26 Budget | 2026/27 Budget | 2027/28 Budget | 2028/29 Budget | 2029/30 Budget | 2025/26 - 29/30 Total | Source of Funding |
|----------------------------|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| SCHEME REF | SCHEME NAME | | | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | £,000 | |
| NEW | P6 - Approved Capital Programme Contingency | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 5,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10,000 | H |
| NEW | Exceptional Financial Support | Cllr Carlin | Pipeline | 37,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 37,000 | H & CR |
| Corporate Items | | | | 42,000 | 5,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 47,000 | |
| TOTAL GF CAPITAL PROGRAMME | | | | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 | 622,143 | |

| Source of Funding | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|
| Borrowing - Self-Financing | 43,894 | 37,203 | 6,402 | 4,686 | - | 92,186 |
| Core Capital Programme Borrowing | 93,622 | 44,963 | 44,396 | 11,840 | 9,130 | 203,951 |
| Capital Receipts | 10,000 | - | - | - | - | 10,000 |
| Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) | 4,867 | 2,409 | 2,067 | 2,067 | - | 11,408 |
| External | 32,613 | 66,624 | 59,653 | 49,127 | 96,581 | 304,598 |
| | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 | 622,143 |

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy 2025/26**Annex 2**

Since 2019/20, the Council has approved the flexibility to apply capital receipts to fund transformation projects as enabled by the Secretary of State's Direction and outlined in the Government's Statutory Guidance on the flexible use of capital receipts.

Extension of the flexibility until 2030 was announced in the Local Government Finance Policy Statement 2025/6 in November 2024 which also removed the rule that only statutory redundancy could be financed through receipts.

The Statutory Guidance published in April 2022 details that authorities must update their Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy during the given year if their initial plan changes and requires additional capitalisation of expenditure. This Annex provides an update on the Capital Receipts Flexibility Strategy for 2024/25 that was agreed by Council in March 2024 and any final use will be determined as part of the year end outturn position reported to Cabinet in July 2025.

For 2025/26, the Council may propose to use the flexibility to fund up to £4.7m of qualifying transformation expenditure. The Council's flexible use of capital receipts to fund transformation projects will continue to be subject to development and approval of robust business cases. The business cases will demonstrate that the initiative will transform services, generate future savings or reduce future costs, and the costs being funded are implementation or set up costs and not on-going operational costs.

Projected outturn 2024/25 flexible use of capital receipts

Council at its budget setting meeting in March 2024 agreed a programme of investments for transformation activities in 2024/25. These are described below. The estimated outturn indicates that there will be an underspend of £1.3m. This will be confirmed as part of the closing of accounts process and reported in the outturn report to Cabinet in July 2025.

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts 2024/25 - Estimated Outturn

| Title | Description | Original Budget (£'000) | Estimated Outturn (£'000) | Variance (£'000) |
|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| Corporate support | To support a broad range of transformation projects across the Council | 763 | 763 | 0 |
| London Construction Partnership (LCP) Framework | To implement the new LCP framework. | 310 | 310 | 0 |
| Counter Fraud Initiative | This covers a range of initiatives across a range of service areas to detect and deter fraud | 75 | | (75) |
| Redundancy Provision | Current estimated cost of redundancies associated with organisational re-structures and staff reductions | 2,000 | 1,055 | (945) |
| Improvement to asset management | Support to improve the asset management function of the Council | 800 | 800 | 0 |
| Social care (adults & children) | This covers a range of transformation and change initiatives in both Adults and Children's social care to invest in prevention and reduce demand for high-cost services | 1,773 | 1,773 | 0 |
| Change framework | To develop and implement a new Change Framework to deliver transformation across the Council. | 1,290 | 1,020 | (270) |
| Digital Together | Completion of the Digital Together programme. | 520 | 520 | 0 |
| Temporary Accommodation Reduction Project | To invest in prevention and service re-design to reduce the overall level of demand for temporary accommodation | 200 | 200 | 0 |
| Total | | 7,731 | 5,368 | (1,290) |

The proposed use of flexible receipts in 2025/26 is set out in the table below.

Flexible Use of Capital Receipts 2025/26

| Title | Description | 2025/26 (£'000) | Total (£'000) |
|---|---|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Corporate Support to all improvement programmes | To support a broad range of transformation projects across the Council | 671 | 671 |
| Counter fraud work | Details to be included | 75 | 75 |
| Strategic Asset Management | Support to improve the asset management function of the Council | 1500 | 1500 |
| Demand Management in Adult social Care | This covers a range of transformation and change initiatives in adults social care to invest in prevention and reduce demand for high cost services | 500 | 500 |
| New Change Framework | To develop and implement a new Change Framework to deliver transformation across the Council. | 1790 | 1790 |
| Temporary Accommodation Reduction Project | To invest in prevention and service re-design to reduce the overall level of demand for temporary accommodation | 200 | 200 |
| Invest to Save | To provide funding for a range of initiatives in services to either reduce costs, increase income, or both | 3000 | 3000 |
| Grand Total | | 7,736 | 7,736 |

The Council commissioned a review of the Minimum Revenue Provision arrangements from its appointed specialist treasury advisers Arlingclose. Their review has informed the statement below and has made one substantive recommendation and one substantive finding.

The first recommendation relates to debt incurred before 2008, known as pre-2008 debt. Currently the Council is making MRP on a straight-line basis. The recommendation is that the Council move to an annuity basis, as the annuity method is prudent when considering interest costs and the time value of money. The review noted a potential under provision of MRP of £94m. This is to be further investigated to ascertain the cause but, in the interim, to maintain a prudent approach, provision is to be made over the next 38 years.

Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement 2025/26

Where the Authority funds capital expenditure with debt, it must put aside resources to repay that debt in later years. The amount charged to the revenue budget for the repayment of debt is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), although there has been no statutory minimum since 2008. The *Local Government Act 2003* requires the Authority to have regard to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government's *Guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision* (the MHCLG Guidance) most recently issued in April 2024.

The broad aim of the MHCLG Guidance is to ensure that capital expenditure is financed over a period that is aligned with that over which the capital expenditure provides benefits.

The MHCLG Guidance requires the Authority to approve an Annual MRP Statement each year and provides a number of options for calculating a prudent amount of MRP but does not preclude the use of other appropriate methods, which is what this policy allows for. The following statement incorporates options recommended in the Guidance, as well as locally determined prudent methods.

MRP is calculated by reference to the capital financing requirement (CFR) which is the total amount of past capital expenditure that has yet to be permanently financed, noting that debt must be repaid and therefore can only be a temporary form of funding. The CFR is calculated from the Authority's balance sheet in accordance with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Prudential Code for Capital Expenditure in Local Authorities, 2021 edition.

- For capital expenditure incurred before 1st April 2008, MRP will be determined using the annuity basis and an average asset life of 33 years.
- For capital expenditure incurred after 31st March 2008, MRP will be determined by charging the expenditure over the expected useful life of the relevant asset as the principal repayment on an annuity equal to the average relevant PWLB rate for the year of expenditure, starting in the year after the asset becomes operational. MRP on purchases of freehold land will be charged over 50 years. MRP on expenditure not related to fixed assets but which has been capitalised by regulation or direction will be charged over up to 20 years.
- For assets acquired by leases or the Private Finance Initiative, MRP will be determined as being equal to the element of the rent or charge that goes to write down the balance sheet liability.

- Where former operating leases have been brought onto the balance sheet due to the adoption of the *IFRS 16 Leases* accounting standard, and the asset values have been adjusted for accruals, prepayments, premiums and/or incentives, then the MRP charges will be adjusted so that the overall charge for MRP over the life of the lease reflects the value of the right-of-use asset recognised on transition rather than the liability.

Asset Lives

Investment in assets generates a future flow of benefits. The overall length of those benefits (asset lives) varies for each asset type. Within the MRP policy, these asset lives are used:

| | Years |
|---|-------|
| Lighting Infrastructure | 50 |
| Highways Structures | 50 |
| Roads and Pavements, Street Signage, Public Realm | 30 |
| Acquisition of Property | 40 |
| Operational Property - extensive refurbishment | 40 |
| Operational Property - non extensive refurbishment | 30 |
| Parks Asset Management | 20 |
| External Equipment (e.g. park equipment, cycle hangers) | 10 |
| Waste Vehicles (Large) | 8 |
| CCTV Cameras | 5 |
| Waste Vehicles (small/medium) | 4 |
| Non waste vehicles | 5 |
| IT | 7 |

Capital loans

For capital expenditure on loans to third parties which were made primarily for financial return rather than direct service purposes, MRP will be charged in accordance with the policy for the assets funded by the loan, including where appropriate, delaying MRP until the year after the assets become operational. This MRP charge will be reduced by the value any repayments of loan principal received during in the year, with the capital receipts so arising applied to finance the expenditure instead.

For capital expenditure on loans to third parties which were made primarily for service purposes, the Authority will make nil MRP except as detailed below for expected credit losses. Instead, the Authority will apply the capital receipts arising from the repayments of the loan principal to finance the expenditure in the year they are received.

For capital loans made on or after 7th May 2024 where an expected credit loss is recognised during the year, the MRP charge in respect of the loan will be no lower than the loss recognised. Where expected credit losses are reversed, for example on the eventual repayment of the loan, this will be treated as an overpayment.

For capital loans made before 7th May 2024 and for loans where expected credit losses are not applicable, where a shortfall in capital receipts is anticipated, MRP will be charged to cover that shortfall over the remaining life of the assets funded by the loan.

Housing Revenue Account

No MRP will be charged in respect of assets held within the Housing Revenue Account but depreciation on those assets will be charged instead in line with regulations.

Based on the Authority's latest estimate of its CFR on 31st March 2025, the General Fund budget for MRP has been set as follows:

| | 31.03.2025 Estimated CFR £'m | 2025/26 Estimated MRP £'m |
|---|--|---|
| Capital expenditure before 01.04.2008 | 165.6 | 5.019 |
| Supported capital expenditure after 31.03.2008 | 0 | 0.000 |
| Unsupported capital expenditure after 31.03.2008 | 504.9 | 11.888 |
| Leases and Private Finance Initiative | 32.2 | 1.357 |
| Transferred debt | 0 | |
| Capital loans to third parties | 6 | 0.290 |
| Voluntary overpayment (or use of prior year overpayments) | n/a | |
| Total General Fund | 708.7 | 18.554 |
| Assets in the Housing Revenue Account | 587.8 | 0 |
| HRA subsidy reform payment | 0 | 0 |
| Total Housing Revenue Account | 587.8 | 0 |
| Total | 1,296.5 | |

Overpayments

In earlier years, the Authority has not made voluntary overpayments of MRP that are available to reduce the revenue charges in later years.

Capital receipts

Proceeds from the sale of capital assets are classed as capital receipts and are typically used to finance new capital expenditure. Where the Authority decides instead to use capital receipts to repay debt and hence reduce the CFR, the calculation of MRP will be adjusted as follows:

- Capital receipts arising on the repayment of principal on capital loans to third parties will be used to lower the MRP charge in respect of the same loans in the year of receipt, if any.
- Capital receipts arising on the repayment of principal on finance lease receivables will be used to lower the MRP charge in respect of the acquisition of the asset subject to the lease in the year of receipt, if any.
- Capital receipts arising from other assets which form an identified part of the Authority's MRP calculations will be used to reduce the MRP charge in respect of the same assets over their remaining useful lives, starting in the year after the receipt is applied.
- Any other capital receipts applied to repay debt will be used to reduce MRP in [10] equal instalments starting in the year after receipt is applied. 10 years is used because this matches the period over which discounts on the early repayment of borrowing are credited to revenue

Capitalisation Direction

The current financial position of the Council is very serious. In 2024/25 and 2025/26 the Council's 2025/26 requires Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) from government to balance and an application has been submitted. The outcome will not be known until late February 2025 when an in principle decision is expected. If agreed, then MHCLG will issue a capitalisation direction. This does not involve any new money. Instead, the Council will be allowed to capitalise its deficits on its revenue budget. The direction allows Councils to repay the EFS over a period up to 20 years. The proposed capital programme includes £37m of EFS in 2025/26, of which £10m is assumed to be funded from borrowing. MRP will be applied in the year after the borrowing occurs.

This policy is effective from 1/4/24

Capitalisation Policy**Annex 4**

Unless expenditure qualifies as capital it will normally fall outside the scope of the Prudential Framework and will be charged to revenue in the period that the expenditure is incurred. If expenditure meets the definition of capital, there may be opportunities to finance the outlay from capital receipts or by spreading the cost over future years' revenues.

There are three routes by which expenditure can qualify as capital under the Prudential Framework:

- The expenditure results in the acquisition, construction or enhancement of non-current assets (tangible and intangible) in accordance with "proper practices"
- The expenditure meets one of the definitions specified in regulations made under the 2003 Local Government Act.
- The Secretary of State makes a direction that the expenditure can be treated as capital expenditure.

Capitalisation under proper practices

Proper practices are defined to include the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). The Code is published annually and its provisions relating to capitalisation are based on IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment.

Expenditure on acquisitions and construction work is analysed to decide whether it satisfies the accounting rules for recognising a non-current asset in the Council's Balance Sheet. The amount capitalised generally comprises the purchase price plus any expense directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Examples include:

- acquisition of land and site preparation.
- acquisition, construction, preparation or replacement of roads, buildings and other structures.
- acquisition, installation or replacement of movable or immovable plant, machinery, apparatus and vehicles.
- acquisition of non-current assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and are controlled by the Council as a result of past events i.e. the Council will receive future economic benefits or service potential as a result of enforceable rights, such as a legal title or licence (intangible assets)

Capitalisation can include subsequent expenditure on existing assets, where the value of the asset is enhanced by:

- lengthening substantially the life of the asset.
- increasing substantially the open market value of the asset.
- increasing substantially the extent to which the asset can be used for a function of the Council.

Assets may also be recognised (at fair value) under leases, PFI contracts and similar agreements.

The Council has some limited discretion on what is deemed capital expenditure, for example assets costing below £10,000 (the de-minimis amount) are not capitalised and are charged to revenue in the year the expenditure is incurred.

Capital Grants

The Council may wish to capitalise items of expenditure, in accordance with funding conditions, which are below the de-minimis level where expenditure is financed from grants.

Feasibility Costs Feasibility expenses must be charged to the revenue account, as costs cannot be attributed to a probable future inflow of economic benefit to the Council.

Regulations made under the Local Government Act 2003

Special arrangements exist in local government for the extension of the accounting definition of capital expenditure. Regulation 25 of the 2003 regulations (as amended) allows certain expenditure to be classified as capital for funding purposes when it does not result in the expenditure being carried on the Balance Sheet as a noncurrent asset. The purpose of this provision is to enable payments to be funded from capital resources rather than charged to the General fund and impact on that year's council tax.

Capital expenditure within the 2003 regulations includes:

- The giving of a loan, grant or other financial assistance to any person, whether for use by that person or by a third party, towards expenditure which would, if incurred by the Council, be capital expenditure (except for advances made to officers as part of their terms or conditions of employment or in connection with their appointment).
- The repayment of any grant or other financial assistance given to the Council for the purposes of expenditure which is capital expenditure.
- The acquisition of share capital in any body corporate (except for investments in Money Market Funds or an investment in a real estate investment trust).
- Expenditure incurred on works to any land or building in which the Council does not have an interest, which would be capital expenditure if the Council had an interest in that land or building.
- Expenditure incurred on the acquisition, production or construction of assets for use by or disposal to a person other than the Council which would be capital expenditure if those assets were acquired, produced or constructed for use by the council.

Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute (REFCUS)

This term relates to payments that would otherwise be revenue expenditure but are treated as capital expenditure for the reasons above and are financed from capital resources. The underlying revenue nature of the expenditure means that it is debited or charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure account when it is incurred. The statutory provision to treat the expenditure as capital allows the debit against the General Fund to be reversed and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account, so that there is no impact on the Council's "bottom line". The adjustment that is made between the accounting basis and the funding basis is reflected in the Movement in Reserves Statement within the Council's statutory accounts.

Capital Receipts

Receipts of £10,000 and above, which have been generated from the disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment will be treated as capital receipts.

In accordance with regulations, up to 4% of a disposal receipt generated from General Fund asset can be used to fund a disposal. In accordance with IAS 36 and IPSAS 21 examples of such costs are 'legal costs, stamp duty and similar transaction taxes, costs of removing the asset, and direct incremental costs to bring an asset into condition for its sale'

Guidance and Publications

The Capitalisation Policies and Procedures set out in this document have been developed with regards to the following guidance and publications;

- Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom – CIPFA
- The Code Guidance Notes for Practitioners - CIPFA
- Practitioner's Guide to Capital Finance in Local Government – CIPFA
- International Accounting Standard (IAS) 16 and International Public Sector Accounting Standard (IPSAS) 17 Property, Plant and Equipment
- IAS 40 and IPSAS 16 Investment Property
- IAS 38 and IPSAS 31 Intangible Assets
- The Local Government Act 2003 and the 2003 Capital Financing Regulations (as amended)
- Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland

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Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 9

2025-26 Budget and 2025-2030 Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

January 2025

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1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose of report

This report considers the implications of the proposals in the **2025-26 Budget and 2025-2030 Medium Term Financial Strategy** (MTFS) report on people who share the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010.

Where relevant, service areas have indicated if an Equality Impact Assessment (EQIA) will be conducted for each MTFS proposal prior to implementation, where approved. This report considers the potential impacts of the proposals, including the ways in which any negative impacts might be minimised or avoided. In addition, this report considers the wider context internal and external to Haringey Council in terms of potential equalities impact.

1.2. Public Sector Equality Duty

The Council has a Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share the protected characteristics and those who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share the protected characteristics and those who do not

The three parts of the duty applies to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty. These are sometimes referred to as the three aims or arms of the general equality duty.

Further information about the process for assessing the equalities implications for decisions taken by Haringey Council is available on the Haringey [website](#).

1.3. Equalities profile of Haringey

According to the 2021 census, which is at this point in time our most reliable source of socio-demographic data, the total population of the borough is 264,238.

In terms of equality, demographics break down as follows:

Sex:

- Haringey has a nearly equal gender distribution, with just over half of the population being female (51.8%), which is consistent with the figures for both England and London.

Age:

- Haringey has a relatively young population with just under a quarter of the population under the age of 20.
- 89% of the population is aged under 65 (in comparison to 88% for London and 81% for England).

Ethnicity:

- In 2021, Haringey's population of 264,238 comprised 57% White, 8.7% Asian, 17.6% Black, 7% Mixed or multiple ethnicities and 9.7% Other ethnic groups.
- Black, Asian, Mixed and Other ethnicities made up almost half (43%) the total of Haringey's population in 2021, ranking it the 24th most diverse local authority in the country (19th highest in London).
- The largest growth in population over the decade was in Other ethnic group which more than doubled by 4.9%, increasing its share from 4.7% in 2011 to 9.7% in 2021. Mixed or multiple ethnicities also recorded a nominal increase of 0.5%.

Religion:

- Almost two-fifths (39.3%) of people in Haringey reported their religion as Christian. The rest were as follows; 12.6% Muslims, 3.6% Jewish, 1.3% Hindus, and 2.3% who reported another religion. Almost a third (31.6%) of people stated no religion and (8% chose not to answer).
- Haringey's Jewish population (3.6%) is more than double London's (1.7%)

Disability:

- In 2021, in Haringey, the proportion of disabled people was 16.6%, slightly above figures for London (15.6%) and just below England & Wales (17.8%).
- Haringey has the 12th highest percentage of disabled residents in London (16.6%) and the 10th highest percentage of residents whose day-to-day activities are limited a lot (7.9%).

Marital Status and Civil Partnership:

- The number of people in marriage or civil partnerships (72,881, 33.7%) has remained largely unchanged (0.1% decrease) since 2011. Those reported as separated, but still legally married or still legally in a civil partnership fell slightly by 1.2% from 8,066 in 2011 to 6,035 in 2021. Divorced or civil partnership dissolved and widowed or surviving civil partnership partner comprise 8.2% and 3.5% respectively

Pregnancy and Maternity:

- Borough Profile: Live Births in Haringey 2021: 3,376. As pregnancy and maternity are transient characteristics the only data available is the retrospective live birth data.

Sexual Orientation:

-
- 5.6% of Haringey resident identified as LGBTQ+, this includes 2.7% who identified as Gay or Lesbian, 2.1% who identified as Bisexual and 0.8 % who said other. All these percentages are higher than both London and England & Wales.

Gender reassignment:

- A total of 0.6% answered "No", indicating that their gender identity was different from their sex registered at birth. Within this group:
 - 389 (0.2%) identified as a trans man
 - 383 (0.2%) identified as a trans woman
 - 537 (0.2%) identified as another gender identity

2. Equalities context in Haringey

The impact of the budget proposals on equalities should be seen within the context of residents' lives in Haringey. Longstanding inequalities persist in Haringey as they do nationally and globally. In recent years global events, like the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation and international conflict have impacted on people living in the borough by perpetuating health and economic inequalities and driving community tensions and hate crime.

The primary equality challenge in the last year has continued to be the impact of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis on residents. The cost-of-living crisis has compounded economic disadvantage, which often interacts with lack of equal opportunities and discrimination faced by individuals with protected characteristics, notably for disabled people, young people from lower socioeconomic backgrounds, and Black, Asian and minority ethnic residents are more likely to live in our more deprived wards and experience employment gaps.

The number of jobseekers in the borough has increased in the last year with the most recent Cost of Living Statistical Bulletin stating that 7.8% of residents aged 16+ were claiming unemployment-related benefits in Haringey in Nov 2024, i.e. circa 15,000 people, compared to 6.8% of residents in December 2023. This represents an increase of around 2000 claimants; is one of the highest figures of the last 3 years in the borough and is the sixth highest of all UK local authorities. Furthermore, the same source states that 23.7% of residents aged 16-65 were claiming Universal Credit in Haringey in Nov 2024, i.e. circa. 45,000 people, thus continuing a month-on-month increase over the last 2 years.

Deprivation figures provided by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation have not been updated since 2019. From existing figures,. Haringey ranks as the 4th most deprived borough in London, with deprivation more concentrated in the north east of the borough. Relative deprivation has reduced since 2015, though Haringey's London ranking has not shifted significantly. These figures are expected to be updated during 2025.

The State of the Borough report for December 2024 indicates that:

- Haringey has the 13th largest proportion of residents earning below the London Living Wage of all London boroughs and wages in Haringey lagged behind the London average in the last year
- Haringey has a higher than average number and rate of children living in poverty. Children in the east of the borough are substantially more likely to be affected by income deprivation than those in the west.
- There are significant gaps in healthy life expectancy according to relative socioeconomic deprivation and wealth. The gap in healthy years of life between richest and poorest deciles is 15 years for men and 17 years for women.

3. Budget Setting Context

3.1. Context for the Budget/MTFS

The proposals in this budget have been developed against a backdrop of budget pressures for councils across the country, with significant national scrutiny now being given to the pressures created for councils by adult and children's social care and temporary accommodation demand. Whilst inflation is lower than this time last year (2.5% December 2024 as compared to 4.0% December 2023), there remain significant cost of living issues meaning residents, businesses and the council continue to experience the effects of higher costs.

The council recognises that this is a challenging time for our residents, businesses and communities and this budget has been developed in this context, seeking to achieve the best possible outcomes with the limited resources available to us.

Exceptional Financial Support

The Council's financial position is challenging. Efforts to reduce costs and identify additional savings continues but as part of contingency planning, Haringey has made an application to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) to be made available if it is required during 2025/26. The outcome of the application will not be confirmed until end of February 2025.

EFS is a necessary response to the Council's financial circumstances and if required, support will be provided through an agreement by Government that the Council can capitalise part of its day to day running costs. In practice this means that the Council has permission to either borrow or use capital receipts from the sale of assets to fund day-to-day expenditure. Support through EFS is not a long term sustainable financial strategy and work will continue through 2025/26 to reduce the amount of EFS drawdown and avoid the need for any EFS from 2026/27 onwards.

The Council's financial position is challenging. Efforts to reduce costs and identify additional savings continues but as part of contingency planning, Haringey has made an application to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) to be made available if it is required during 2025/26. The outcome of the application will not be confirmed until end of February 2025.

EFS is a necessary response to the Council's financial circumstances and if required, support will be provided through an agreement by Government that the Council can capitalise part of its day to day running costs. In practice this means that the Council has permission to either borrow or use capital receipts from the sale of assets to fund day-to-day expenditure.

Given the significant financial challenge we face as a council, this budget, as with the previous year's, presents difficult decisions which may have potential negative impacts on individuals with protected characteristics. Where negative impacts are anticipated, EQIAs will be developed in line with the relevant proposals and mitigating actions will be taken.

3.2. Council Tax

Currently, we are proposing to increase council tax by 2.99% with an additional 2% increase for Adult Social Care. This is the same as last year. and is in line with the referendum thresholds published by Government as part of the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement.

The Council Tax Reduction Scheme will provide financial assistance with Council Tax bills for residents who are on a low income or less able to pay. Find out more at www.Haringey.gov.uk/heretohelp.

3.3. Tackling inequality

Haringey Council's Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-26 commits to fairness and equality running through everything the council does to reduce inequality and promote equity of access, experience and outcomes.

This cross-cutting commitment recognises that:

- we need to use the levers available to us to reduce poverty and economic inequality in the borough and mitigate its worst impacts.
- some groups of residents experience unacceptable structural inequalities related to their protected characteristics and circumstances.
- as we respond to the climate emergency, we understand that there are some residents and communities who will need to be supported to secure a just transition to net zero – and who will be more affected by the impacts of climate change
- social inequalities drive the unacceptable health inequalities which have been all too starkly thrown into relief in the last two years.

The objective of reducing inequality needs to influence how we work with all our communities, target our resources, support and develop our workforce, design our services, and mobilise around key issues.

In this Budget/MTFS the council has sought to promote equality by tackling the rising cost pressures in adult social care, children's social care and temporary accommodation caused by inflation. This ensures we continue to support our most vulnerable residents and meet our statutory obligations, while continuing investment in capital projects that bring a range of social and economic benefits.

4. Assessing impact of MTFS proposals on equalities

The table below shows the detail of all of the MTFS policy proposals, noting where the requirement for a full Equalities Impact Assessment has been identified and, where potential equalities implications are anticipated, a summary of the findings.

The tables also show proposals for capital spend, noting any likely equality implications.

Adults, Health and Communities Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA will conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|--|---------------------------|--|---|---|
| Savings | | | | |
| <p>Review of the Connected Care Service</p> <p>Haringey Connected Care Service is a 24 hour, 365 days a year emergency service provided by Haringey Council. It offers older people, vulnerable people, people with disabilities and victims of domestic violence and harassment a home safety and personal security system. It also provides a quick response if there is an emergency in the home. There are three main aspects to the service provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment: Identifying the most appropriate Assistive Technology for a client. • Installation: Visiting client's property to install equipment and ensure clients are familiar with the equipment so that they can use it effectively. • Monitoring and Responding: Answering Alerts from clients and ensuring support is provided. This can include visiting the client properties to provide access. • <p>Benchmarking suggests that there are other delivery models that provide enhanced and more cost-effective services. The current service is meant to be self-funding however there is an annual shortfall each year. There are also opportunities to enhance the service i.e. through providing a 'lifting service', wellbeing checks and reminders. These could help support improved outcomes for residents. Many local authorities are reviewing their delivery models to have a more sustainable and enhanced service.</p> | Yes | This proposal is about reviewing a targeted service for older people, people with disabilities, and people with other vulnerabilities. A focus on improving outcomes for these groups through a review process means the proposal is likely to benefit people with the protected characteristic of age and disability. | To be fully examined during the review process. | To be determined during the review process, where needed. |

| | | | | |
|--|-----|---|--|--|
| Commissioning review of the Day Opportunities provision The Council proposes a comprehensive commissioning review of Learning Disability and Mental Health Day services for eligible Haringey residents and their carers to identify opportunities for more a more cost-effective, high-quality offer. This review will assess whether existing facilities are fully and appropriately utilised, whether unit costs are reasonable, and whether service quality meets acceptable standards. Additionally, it will explore alternative delivery models, including full in-house provision; partnerships or external delivery by not-for-profit organisations. The review will support a future flexible model combining on-site and community-based outreach depending on individual needs. | Yes | This proposal is to review day opportunities for a range of people with learning disabilities and mental health support needs. A focus on developing a flexible model to meet individual needs through a review process means the proposal is likely to benefit people with the protected characteristic disability. | To be fully examined during the review process. | To be determined during the review process, where needed |
| Integration of Connected Communities The further development of the Adult Social Care locality model presents an opportunity to integrate and optimise resources. We will focus on supporting residents who are at most risk of needing care and support, providing early interventions that will help them maintain independence and reduce the need for other council services. We will work in collaboration with voluntary and community sector partners and other providers to refocus some of these arrangements where necessary. We are also committed to improved ways of working between teams and departments within the council, fostering a more joined-up, efficient offer for residents. | Yes | This proposal is to integrate and optimise resources in the borough for those most in need of intervention and support with the aim to create a more efficient offer for residents. A joined-up service is likely to benefit people in need with a range of protected characteristics. | To be determined as part of model development with data from existing service informing full EQIA. | To be determined during further model development and integration process, where needed. |
| Housing related support contract savings Housing related support is the name given to a range of services – some of which are provided by other organisations on behalf of the council – that help residents who may find it difficult to get or keep accommodation and the provision of information, advice and guidance services. Following a review of contracts in this area of activity some savings opportunities have been identified. This will include reducing costs via not filling some currently vacant staff posts, back-office efficiencies, the consolidation of floating support contracts and exploring | Yes | The proposal is to support people to secure and maintain accommodation. The focus on targeted prevention and reducing homelessness is likely to benefit people with a range of characteristics, most affected by homelessness including the Haringey adopted socio economic characteristic. | No disproportionately negative impacts are anticipated. | N/A |

| | | | | |
|--|-------------------------|---|------|-----|
| opportunities to maximise external funding. We will also focus provision on targeted prevention; streamlining and reconfiguring services to reduce homelessness. | | | | |
| Capital Cost Reductions | | | | |
| The Osbourne Grove Nursing Home scheme developed on the basis that it would generate enough savings through reducing the cost of care to fund the necessary borrowing to build the facility. A review of the business case has shown that this is no longer the case due to increases in building costs among other things. Therefore, the scheme is no longer going ahead and the existing building is being used for another purpose by the council. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| The Wood Green Integrated Care Hub was an NHS-led project. The NHS has decided not to proceed with the scheme so the Council contribution will no longer be required. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| The Locality Hub scheme will now focus on delivery of the refurbishment of the Neighbourhood Resource Centre only, so the budget can be reduced. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Capital Investment | | | | |
| Initiatives to reduce use of temporary accommodation. This budget is a contribution from the General Fund to the Housing Revenue Account for the purchase of additional homes to support more people rather than being placed in temporary accommodation. Each purchase will be subject to a business case that proves that the purchase will save more than the cost of temporary accommodation and the cost of servicing the debt. | No | The focus on reducing temporary accommodation is likely to benefit people with a range of characteristics, most affected by homelessness including the Haringey adopted socio economic characteristic | None | N/A |

Children's Services Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|---|-------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------|
| Savings | | | | |
| Pendarren House Pendarren House provides a low-cost opportunity for children and young people who live or are educated in Haringey to experience a residential programme of outdoor educational activities. This proposal is for Pendarren to become fully self-financing with all costs being met by income. Pendarren will continue to provide a lower cost option to the commercial providers on the market. | An EQIA is not required | This proposal is to adopt a self-financing model for this valuable resource for Haringey children and others. It is intended that the fees will remain significantly lower than a commercial centre. Adopting a self-financing model means sustaining the asset and opportunity for children into the future therefore most likely to benefit children (under the protected characteristic of age) and those under the locally adopted socio-economic characteristic | No disproportionately negative impacts are currently anticipated since a subsidy will remain in place for children who are eligible for free school meals and Pupil premium can be used for those with additional eligibilities. | N/A |

Placemaking and Housing Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|---|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Capital Cost Reductions | | | | |
| Wards Corner The Wards Corner scheme under its current design is not financially viable and so it is proposed to remove it from the capital programme until more detailed plans come forward. We are working with partners in the Seven Sisters area to develop a viable scheme and to identify potential funding to deliver the scheme. The Council has a compulsory purchase order in place to acquire properties on Wards Corner and this commitment will remain. The cost of any acquisitions will be funded through the Capital Programme's unallocated contingency. | No | None anticipated | None anticipated | N/A |
| Refocusing Place-Shaping Spending The current capital programme includes a number of different schemes for place shaping in Wood Green and Tottenham Hale funded by borrowing. We are still delivering a number of important schemes in these areas. Any schemes that are not yet committed via contracts for onsite activity, are currently under review to ensure that the council takes a holistic view on capital investment across these two important areas and focuses spend where it will have the biggest impact. | No | None anticipated | None anticipated | N/A |
| Capital Investment | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|----|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|
| Operational and Commercial Estate A recent survey of the Council's operational and commercial estate has identified that more than £13m will be required over the next five years for essential maintenance and compliance on non-residential buildings including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wards Corner • Wood Green regeneration projects • Tottenham streets and spaces • Asset management of council buildings | No | None anticipated at this stage | None anticipated at this stage | N/A |
|--|----|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----|

Environment and Resident Experience Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|--|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| Savings | | | | |
| Leisure services price discounting - The concessionary pricing at the leisure centres was last reviewed 17 years ago and for the last 12 years has been enshrined within the contract with our last leisure centre provider, Fusion Lifestyle Ltd. With the insourcing of the leisure centres the Council is now back in control and can review the concession pricing scheme considering the cost-of-living crisis and the council's current budgetary position. The current concessionary pricing scheme is complex and unclear to both residents and staff. Through a coproduction process the council will seek to develop a simpler, fairer scheme that seeks to target discounts to those most in need of support. | Yes | As a result of a fairer scheme for concessions, some residents facing socio-economic challenges may be able to access more opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing through participating in leisure activities. | Those sharing certain protected characteristics e.g. age may potentially experience negative impacts. A further public consultation and Equality Impact Assessment will ascertain the extent and sentiment relating to any such impacts and propose mitigations as appropriate. | To be determined through a further Equality Impact Assessment and public consultation. |
| Capital Cost Reductions | | | | |
| Broadwater Farm Leisure Centre Investment (Funding Source) Following the insourcing of leisure from Fusion, the Broadwater Farm Leisure Centre is now back under the control of the council. There are plans to invest in the centre in 2025/26. However, as the majority of centre users are residents of | An EQIA is not required | Potential positive impacts due to improvement in facilities on a range of groups including those sharing the socio-economic characteristic. | No | N/A |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|------|--|---|
| Broadwater Farm this will be funded from housing resources. | | | | |
| Decentralised Energy Network (DEN) Given the Council's current financial position, the proposed Council-led delivery model for the Decentralised Energy Network (DEN) is no longer viable. Discussions are underway with key stakeholders on how the DEN schemes could be delivered without relying on significant council borrowing. This scheme will be removed from the programme until future plans have been determined. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Festive Lights The proposal is to reduce the capital expenditure on festive lights. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Road Resurfacing/Footway Renewal (1 year) Given the current financial constraints of the Council, it is proposed to reduce spend on the borough's roads in 2025/26 and return to 2024/25 investment levels in 2026/27. This will result in an average reduction from 33 to 23 road resurfacing schemes and a reduction of footway renewal schemes from 24 to 15 during the course of the year. The effective accumulative impact will be minimised by the reduced period being limited to one year, meaning the Council will be able to | An EQIA is not required | None | Potential impacts on groups with certain protected characteristics For example, poor quality footways may impede those with mobility issues or young children. Poor road quality may lead to drivers avoiding certain roads if they can, increasing congestion in other areas. This has implications for air quality which has a disproportionate impact on older people, children | Selection of road/footways with potential equalities impacts in mind. |

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| continue to discharge its duties as the Highways Authority. | | | and those with respiratory conditions. | |
| Capital Investment | | | | |
| Infrastructure Additional investment is needed into the following structures to fund urgent works – Cornwall Road, Ferry Lane and Wareham Road Bridge. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Flood Management Ongoing management of the infrastructure across the borough to manage flooding and surface water is essential and this proposed addition to the capital programme will allow for an annual rolling programme of maintenance to upgrade the existing infrastructure to combat the effects of climate change. | An EQIA is not required | Improving climate change resilience is likely to have positive impacts on people with a range of characteristics | None | N/A |
| Replacement parks and housing machinery Maintenance of the borough's parks and open spaces requires the routine replacement of machinery and equipment. This additional investment will allow for an annual rolling programme of replacement. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Borough Parking Plan The Parking Investment Plan 2024/25 included a commitment to review all controlled parking zones (CPZ) on a 5-year cycle and to implement new ones where there is a need. This additional investment would be needed to support the | An EQIA is not required | Implementation of new CPZs could positively impact those in wheelchairs because CPZs reduce the risk of cars parking on dropped curb parts of the pavement, which prevents | Implementation of new CPZs could negatively impact those from socioeconomically deprived backgrounds who cannot afford parking costs. However, they are also less likely to own a | Consideration of exemptions under the scheme e.g. people with disabilities and carers. |

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| implementation of any new schemes alongside the maintenance of existing zones, for instance with additional signage, road markings etc. | | people in wheelchairs from crossing the road safely. | car than wealthier residents. | |
| Increase in disabled bays The extension of disabled parking facilities remains a priority. This service is essential for those with disabilities, who need to use a car for their independence. In 2025/26 it is aimed to significantly increase disabled parking provision at key locations including high streets, medical centres, places of worship, community centres, and parks. | An EQIA is not required | Likely positive impact on some disabled people anticipated | No | N/A |
| New communal refuse round vehicles The introduction of a new communal refuse round will require additional vehicles and machinery | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Waste vehicles and bins The Council is retendering its waste collection service with a view to having a new service in place for April 2027. Currently the Council pays Veolia to provide vehicles in their contract price. It is estimated that the Council can fund the vehicles at a lower cost if it purchases them directly. | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined |

Culture, Strategy & Engagement Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|---|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Savings | | | | |
| Digital transformation The council has made commitments in previous budgets to reduce costs through digital transformation. This includes making better use of the technology available to us and reducing the number of processes that are undertaken manually. Learning from the experience of other similar councils we believe we can be more ambitious about how much costs could be reduced by. We have also recently reshaped the council's digital service to ensure we have the right skills and capacity to deliver this larger scale digital transformation. Therefore, we are proposing to increase the target for savings to £2m per year from the second year of this budgeting period. | Individual EQIAs will be undertaken if any of the specific projects require a policy change or have a direct impact on the way services are delivered to residents. | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined |
| Reduction in culture spending We will review all of our culture spending which currently supports organisations in the borough through grant funding and commissioning to deliver civic and cultural programmes and events. Reductions will be largely implemented towards the end of the five year savings period to allow time to find mitigations and alternative funding streams. This is in order to minimise the impact on our partner organisations who are highly valued and to enable us to maximise the opportunities that we expect to arise from taking part in London Borough of Culture. | Yes | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined |
| New Local Membership The proposal is not to renew our membership of the New Local think tank. Membership provides access to policy advice, a network of Local Authorities with shared aspirations and values; and a number of events each year that council staff have attended aimed at sharing good practice. However, Membership is not deemed essential going forward. | No | None anticipated | None anticipated | Whilst no direct impacts are anticipated, officers are committed to ensuring that current and future good practice in the local government sector is learned from and shared. |

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| Residents' survey Haringey Council currently undertakes a formal, independent residents' survey every three years. This is the only resident research which is undertaken by a specialist polling company. The relatively high cost comes from the survey being conducted in person by researchers knocking on doors. This is the 'gold standard' used for research as it captures residents who would not usually answer the phone or respond to online questionnaires. The proposal is to remove the annual budget provision (£25k a year) and in future a business case would need to be made during the budget process for the resources to undertake a resident's survey. | No | None | Since the Residents' Survey specifically targets a representative sample of residents, removing the survey may impact some residents with particular characteristics opportunity to participate in the survey. This may include those who are digitally excluded, or age groups who do not routinely participate in online surveys e.g. young people and some older people. | Engagement plans for any replacement in-house led residents' survey should include an element of face-to face engagement targeted at groups least likely to participate online. |
| Capital Cost Reductions | | | | |
| Alexandra Palace Following a review of capital expenditure needed for Alexandra Palace, it is proposed that £1.5m can be removed for 2026/27 at this time. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |
| Capital Investment | | | | |
| Digital Investment Increasingly councils are more and more reliant on IT for the delivery and transformation of services. This investment is required to allow the Council to continue to improve service delivery and efficiency and the resident experience by investing in replacement and new digital tools. | An EQIA is not required | None | None | N/A |

Back office and Operational Proposals

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|---|---|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Savings | | | | |
| Enabling Services Review A review of all the 'enabling' or support services within the council. This includes administration, communications, finance, policy development and data analysis. The aim will be to ensure maximum value for money, reduce duplication across services and ensure efficient support to all frontline services across the organisation. | No | None | None | N/A |
| Procurement and contract management This project will be delivered in two parts. Currently 55% of the council's day to day sending is on contracts with external organisations. Workstream 1 will review all existing contracts to ensure maximum value for money. Workstream 2 will put in place increased governance to ensure that in all new contracts all options have been considered; outcomes for residents offer maximum value for money and are affordable. We will also work to improve contract management arrangements of suppliers to ensure they deliver what they are being paid for. | To be determined at individual contract/service level | Potential for improving resident outcomes by increasing value for money through external contracts. | None | N/A |
| Staffing efficiencies Core staffing budgets in the Council are approximately £160m. All Directorates will be required to deliver a 5% reduction in their staffing budget from 2025/26. Directorates will use a range of tools, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing a vacancy rate and/or reducing vacant posts. Reducing the use of agency workers. Review and reduce management posts. Service efficiencies resulting in fewer employees being required. | No | None | None | N/A |
| Asset Management | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined |

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| We will continue a number of current projects to review all rent and lease agreements within the council's commercial property portfolio with the aim of increasing rental income. In addition, we will review the number of buildings from which we are delivering our services. Any properties that are no longer needed will be considered for sale or renting out. | | | | |
| Income generation We will look across all services and assets to identify new opportunities for income generation. Much of this is likely to include an expansion of activities we already undertake for instance working with production companies to hire out empty or underutilised buildings as film sets. However, this activity may see an expansion into new areas. | Individual EQIAs will be undertaken if any of the specific projects require a policy change or have a direct impact on the way services are delivered to residents. | To be determined | To be determined | To be determined |
| Other management actions This proposal includes a range of actions that will be taken at an operational level within the council to ensure maximum efficiency and reduce costs. | No | None | None | N/A |

Additional Savings Proposals Put Forward Post Budget Consultation

| Proposal | Full EQIA conducted? | Positive Impacts anticipated | Negative Impacts anticipated | Mitigating actions anticipated |
|---|-------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Developing Community Support Model Building on Locality model and in collaboration with NHS, Housing, Public Health, voluntary and community sector, review and refresh our focus on prevention and early intervention, supporting residents to access community services which can best meet their needs and reduce demand on statutory services. This will also include a review the Adult Social Care's 'front door' to include information advice as to eligibility, how residents access | Not anticipated at this stage | This proposal aims to focus on prevention and early intervention which may improve outcomes for residents with a range of protected characteristics through developing more efficient, more responsive support | None anticipated however, the needs of people facing digital exclusion should be planned for. | Teams based in localities will enable residents to have face to face meetings with staff where a digital interaction is not accessible. |

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| the Service, progress from contact to assessment and then to receiving and reviewing support – at each stage of the residents' journey, reviewing how a digital response can inform improved demand management, more timely responses, reduce administrative burdens on staff and inform cost reductions. | | | | |
| Review Reablement Model The review of the reablement model is proposed to ensure that it is consistently focused on maintaining independence and supports safe and well-planned hospital discharge for a wide range of our residents. | Not anticipated at this stage | This proposal is about reviewing how reablement works through preventative intervention whilst delivering optimal value for money. There may be the potential for positive impacts on users of the service particularly those falling under the protected characteristics of age and disability. | None anticipated at this stage | N/A |
| Supported Living Contract Releasing efficiencies through a new contract model for Supported Living that moves away from spot purchasing through a 'Dynamic Purchasing System' and onto a framework with agreed pricing and uplifts. | An EQIA is not required | Managing the market more effectively | None | N/A |
| More Cost-Effective Sources of Temporary Accommodation The delivery of this saving is through the combination of a number of initiatives to reduce the overall cost of homes secured for temporary accommodation. Key initiatives to reduce our reliance on expensive nightly-paid accommodation include entering into longer term leases for properties; delivering a housing acquisition programme of 250 homes per annum and modernising the Council's rent setting policy for TA to ensure the Council is maximising the amount that it is legally entitled to recouped within housing benefit rules. | Not anticipated at this stage | None anticipated | None anticipated at this stage | N/A |
| Housing Related Support and Support Accommodation Commissioning efficiencies and the rationalisation of pathways for housing related supported and supported accommodation. As we move through the commissioning lifecycle there is an opportunity to consolidate contracts and service provision leading to contract savings. This | Not anticipated at this stage | The proposal is to support people to secure and maintain accommodation. Delivering efficiencies holds potential to positively impact people falling under the locally adopted socio economic characteristic | None | N/A |

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| proposal assumes savings of 10-15% applied as contracts are re-procured. | | | | |
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5. Impact of Budget/MTFS on Equalities

The council works to prevent or mitigate any potential negative impacts of MTFS proposals on equalities ensuring as far as possible that MTFS proposals taken forward align with the principles set out in section 3.3 above.

Full EQIAs will be carried out for proposals as indicated in the table above and measures tailored to the relevant proposals will be outlined in those EQIAs to mitigate any potentially disproportionate negative impacts.

5. Consultation

The budget proposals for 2025-26 have been subject to a formal public consultation. A Budget Consultation Report is appended to the Budget Cabinet Report.

Respondents were asked:

- to what extent proposals would impact them and to provide reasons for their response
- to provide their views on principles behind particular proposals e.g. the fairness of using of council resources to give discounts to leisure facilities users based on low income or additional needs
- to share their views on capital spending reductions and capital investments
- to share any other changes or proposals that might save money or achieve better value from council spending or generate income
- their views on priorities for protecting spending and any other thoughts on the council's proposed budget.

5.1 Key findings:

For most savings proposals, a majority of respondents selected 'little or no impact', or 'don't know'. However, in some case respondents indicated that neither they nor any members of their family had any experience of the potentially affected service.

The exceptions to this, were for the proposals relating to the Residents Survey and a reduction in spending on cultural activities, where a majority of respondents indicated they believed that these proposals would have a negative impact.

For the proposal relating to digital transformation, residents were supportive, providing the needs of those facing digital exclusion were kept in mind with an alternative to digital remaining accessible where needed.

Where asked for further suggestions around saving money, generating income and council priorities, residents put forward a range of suggestions. These responses can be seen on [the online budget consultation page](#) as well as in Appendix 1 of the Budget 2025-2026 Consultation Report.

5.2 Potential Impact on Residents' Protected Characteristics:

There were concerns raised about the budget proposals potentially negatively impacting the following groups:

- Older residents – particularly in relation to Adults, Health and Communities proposals
- Disabled residents – particularly in relation to Adults, Health and Communities proposals
- Those who are economically disadvantaged
- Children and Young people – particularly in relation to Children's Services proposals
- Ethnic minority groups – particularly in relation to proposals to reduce spending on cultural activities

Some respondents felt that Adult, Health and Communities proposals relating to service reviews could deliver better outcomes for services users, citing potentially positive impacts on older people and people with disabilities.

Where respondents had no direct experience of the services in proposals, some responses emphasised the need to engage directly with the service beneficiaries to gather their views.

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Annex 2 - Summary of General Fund Revenue 2025/26 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2029-2030

| | 2024/25 | Movement | 2025/26 | Movement | 2026/27 | Movement | 2027/28 | Movement | 2028/29 |
|--|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Actual | | Projected | | Projected | | Projected | | Projected |
| Directorate | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Adults, Health & Communities | 115,530 | 30,898 | 146,427 | 8,345 | 154,772 | 6,221 | 160,993 | 7,280 | 168,273 |
| Children's Services | 65,649 | 3,962 | 69,611 | 4,506 | 74,117 | 3,129 | 75,524 | 1,722 | 77,246 |
| Culture, Strategy & Engagement | 30,033 | 216 | 30,249 | (2,321) | 27,928 | (2,689) | 25,341 | (102) | 25,239 |
| Environment & Neighbourhood | 17,896 | (1,890) | 16,006 | (1,982) | 14,024 | (4,277) | 12,633 | (2,886) | 9,747 |
| Placemaking & Housing | 6,047 | 230 | 6,277 | (315) | 5,962 | (1,720) | 4,927 | (685) | 4,242 |
| Chief Executive | 22 | (249) | (228) | 0 | (228) | 0 | (228) | 0 | (228) |
| Finance | 72,359 | 10,701 | 83,060 | 26,471 | 109,531 | 57,388 | 137,360 | 29,559 | 166,919 |
| Council Cash Limit * incl. planned contributions from reserve | 302,052 | 48,120 | 351,403 | 37,704 | 384,337 | 61,052 | 416,550 | 37,888 | 451,438 |
| Further Savings to be Identified & / Exceptional Financial Support | 0 | (37,020) | (37,020) | (34,178) | (71,198) | (48,412) | (91,424) | (28,186) | (119,610) |
| Total General Fund Budget | 302,051 | 12,331 | 314,383 | 526 | 314,909 | 15,640 | 325,127 | 12,702 | 331,828 |
| Funding | | | | | | | | | |
| Council Tax | (135,533) | (6,318) | (141,851) | (6,246) | (148,098) | (4,378) | (152,476) | (129) | (152,605) |
| Council Tax Surplus | (2,500) | 2,500 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| RSG | (27,353) | (505) | (27,858) | (722) | (28,581) | (628) | (29,208) | (1,744) | (30,952) |
| Top up Business Rates | (63,686) | 1,073 | (62,613) | (29,367) | (91,979) | (4,841) | (96,820) | (4,585) | (101,405) |
| Retained Business Rates | (22,288) | 1,367 | (20,921) | (542) | (21,463) | (471) | (21,935) | (394) | (22,328) |
| Section 31 Grants | (22,251) | (3,762) | (26,013) | 26,013 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NNDR Surplus/(Deficit) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| NNDR Growth | (2,000) | 0 | (2,000) | 2,000 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total (Main Funding) | (275,611) | (5,645) | (281,256) | (8,865) | (290,121) | (10,318) | (300,439) | (6,852) | (307,291) |
| New Homes Bonus | (1,790) | 1,481 | (309) | 0 | (309) | 0 | (309) | 0 | (309) |
| Public Health | (22,727) | (487) | (23,214) | 0 | (23,214) | 0 | (23,214) | 0 | (23,214) |
| Other core grants | (1,923) | (7,681) | (9,604) | 8,339 | (1,265) | 100 | (1,165) | 150 | (1,015) |
| Total (Core/Other External Grants) | (26,440) | (6,687) | (33,126) | 8,339 | (24,787) | 100 | (24,687) | 150 | (24,537) |

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Title: Housing Revenue Account - 2025/26 Budget & MTFS 2025/26-29/30

Report for: Cabinet

Item Number: 10

Report authorised by: Taryn Eves – Director of Finance and Jonathan Kirby – Director of Placemaking and Housing

Lead Officer: Kaycee Ikegwu – Head of Finance

Ward(s) affected: All

Report for Key/Non Key Decision: Key

1. Describe the issue under consideration.

- 1.1 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) covers income and expenditure relating to the Council's own housing stock. It is an account that is ring-fenced from the Council's general fund as required by the Local Government Act 1989.
- 1.2 Every year, the Council sets a business plan for its Housing Revenue Account (HRA). This business plan considers projected income and expenditure over a 10- and 30-year period and the income generated from tenants and leaseholders is used solely for the purpose of investment in its homes, in delivering new council homes, and providing good quality services to its tenants and leaseholders.
- 1.3 The HRA and the services that the Council provides for its Council tenants and leaseholders are governed through the Social Housing (Regulation) Act 2023 which introduces a new regulatory framework, with a greater emphasis on residents' engagement. The HRA must ensure its management function of its housing stock is robust, offers good value for money and meets the needs of all its residents.
- 1.4 This report provides an update on the aims and ambitions across the medium and long term and proposals for the 2025/26 budget which will be agreed at Council in March 2025. It provides details of the assumptions for forecast income and therefore planned expenditure for next year as well as an update on the future financial outlook for the HRA.
- 1.5 The HRA supports the delivery of the Council's Housing Strategy 2024-2029 which sets out Haringey's approach to all housing in the borough and sets specific objectives and targets for its own housing stock, to significantly invest in improving its existing homes and to provide good quality services as a landlord of social housing to its tenants and leaseholders as well as delivering the Council's ambition to deliver 3,000 new council homes by 2031. Delivery of the Housing Strategy must be underpinned by a strong and sustainable HRA.

2 Cabinet Member Introduction

- 2.1 Haringey is committed to fairer housing. That means making sure our residents have safe, stable, warm and comfortable homes.

- 2.2 We invest our housing budget – the HRA (Housing Revenue Account) – into repairing and renovating our existing council homes and into building new homes for people on the waiting list. We want both existing council tenants and new council tenants to live in high quality homes and for more families and individuals in the borough who need the security of social housing to be able to set down roots and thrive.
- 2.3 Some of the key investments we make in existing council homes include:
- Improving kitchens and bathrooms
 - Keeping estates safer
 - Keeping homes warm and dry – and making homes cheaper to heat
- 2.4 Our investment in new council homes – at least 3,000 by 2031 – and in renovation work to existing council homes helps reduce the need for future expenditure on repairs.
- 2.5 As well as capital investment, the HRA delivers important services to our tenants and leaseholders, including tenancy services, income services (including the financial inclusion service), estates and neighbourhood services – so that residents that need support are able to live well in their homes and communities.
- 2.6 Setting a sustainable HRA has become significantly more challenging in recent years. Higher interest rates and inflation are driving up costs across the board. Construction costs have been rising for some years – increasing the cost of repairs and important building safety works.
- 2.7 At times council rent rises are kept below inflation – either by national government or by local councils – with a series of 1% rent cuts between 2016 and 2020 and a sub-inflation rise in 2023-24. However, we are able to continue to provide services to our tenants and leaseholders, to invest in their homes and to build thousands of new council homes over time – a major programme that is delivering genuinely affordable homes that local people need.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 It is recommended that Cabinet:
- a) Approves the proposed increases in rent of 2.7% to existing tenancies and notes that rents on other forms of tenancies will continue as approved in prior years by cabinet as stated in sections 6.28 to 6.43 of this report.
 - b) Approves the proposed average service charge increases as set out in section 6.49 to 6.53 of this report. However, noting that the increases in service charges to individual tenants will vary depending on the service they receive.
 - c) Recommends the proposed HRA 2025/26 Budget and 2025/26-29/30 MTFS, which includes the proposed revenue and capital spend over the period, for approval to the Full Council taking place on 3 March 2025.

4 Reasons for decision

- 4.1 The Council must legally set a balanced HRA budget and have a sustainable HRA Business Plan to ensure that it is able to manage and maintain its homes, provide services to tenants and leaseholders and build much needed new Council homes.

5 **Alternative options considered**

5.1 Not Applicable

6 **Background information**

- 6.1 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is the Council's record of the income and revenue expenditure relating to council housing and related services. Under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the HRA is ring-fenced and cannot be subsidised by the General Fund, including through increases in council tax. Equally, any surplus in the HRA or balances held in reserves cannot be transferred to the General Fund. Since April 2012, the HRA has been self-financing. Under self-financing, Councils retain all the money they receive from rent and use it to manage and maintain their homes.
- 6.2 The Council sets a medium and long-term Business Plan for its HRA. This allows the Council to plan for investment in its housing stock, investment in building much needed new council housing for the borough and to ensure that services for tenants and leaseholders continue to be delivered.

HRA Financial Plan Overview

- 6.3 The 30-year HRA Business Plan is based on a long-term assessment of the need for investment in Council homes. The plan includes the development and acquisition of new housing, the acquisition of existing homes, investment in existing housing to ensure its long-term sustainability, and other cyclical maintenance requirements. It also incorporates forecasts of income streams, interest levels and inflation.
- 6.4 The plan includes the modelling of the planned revenue and capital spending, the implications of all planned work in the HRA to deliver council priorities and provides the basis for understanding the affordability of current capital programme delivery plans and assessing options to ensure a viable HRA over a longer period. It considers the build costs, inflation, exposure to housing market volatility and delivery capacity within the Council.
- 6.5 The increases in energy costs, inflation and interest rates presents a level of challenge and difficulty in delivering the investment needed now and the viability of the HRA in the medium to long-term. In addition, the failure to reduce expenditure on repairs, the high level of voids – following years of under-investment in the housing stock presents a further significant strain on the HRA.
- 6.6 This Business Plan factors in the best estimates and assumptions on cost inflation, pay award, voids rate, bad debt provision, borrowing rate, potential grants, receipts from market sales, continued investment in repairs, and legal disrepair/compensation costs. These have all been factored into this the proposed budget for next year and across the medium term.
- 6.7 The plan recognises that to undertake the proposed extensive investment programme, the HRA must be viable now and in the future. It also recognises that there will be ongoing reviews to update and test viability before future programmes of investment are released. One of the measures of viability of the HRA is the annual revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO), which reduces the need for external borrowing. RCCO is the revenue surplus after expenditure; and it is key in assessing the HRA's resilience. The plan seeks to maintain an ongoing £8m minimum annual surplus. This provides an appropriate level of in-year financial cover, in recognition of the risks such as changes in government policies, operational factors and those associated with an extensive development programme. The plan also assumes a year on year working balance of £20m. This increased position was established at the end of 2021/22 and is recommended to be retained to enable the Council

to deal with any unforeseen risks in the light of the extensive programme it is undertaking and the challenging external environmental factors.

- 6.8 In the current iteration of the Business Plan as detailed in this report, the revenue surplus is forecast at below £8m in the first two years, with surplus above £8m in the subsequent years. These two years are particularly challenging considering the amount of revenue investment needed in these years to tackle the high cost of legal disrepair. The plan also assumes an upfront recognition of Affordable Homes Programme grant, with ninety per cent of this grant expected upfront. Further work to scale up the Existing Stock Acquisition programme has also allowed the plan to recognise additional income through HCBS leases.
- 6.9 As announced in the 2024 Autumn budget, right to buy (RTB) discount caps will be reduced with effect from 21 November 2024, and maximum cash discounts will not be indexed in line with inflation.
- 6.10 This means that the discount caps going forward will revert to the figures set in 2003, when property prices were considerably lower, especially in London and the Southeast (£16,000) in contrast to recent maximum sum of £136,400.
- 6.11 This will have an impact on the number of sales and sales receipts. However, it is anticipated that local authorities will be able to retain more of its tenanted stocks.
- 6.12 It was further confirmed that local authorities will be able to use 100% of their retained receipts from RTB sales to fund replacement affordable housing, rather than returning a share of those receipts to HM Treasury.
- 6.13 These, alongside the other flexibilities announced in July as to how local authorities can use such receipts, is intended to enable better replacement rates for any homes that are still sold under RTB with the new lower discounts.
- 6.14 It is anticipated that the full implication of these will not have a significant impact on 2025/26 position. Some assumptions have been made in the plan, but these will be revisited in the next iteration of the plan when the number of sales settles to reflect the new norm.

2024/25 Quarter 2 (Q2) Financial Position

- 6.15 In March 2024, Cabinet approved the HRA budget for 2024/25 projected to achieve a surplus of £8.603m. At end of Quarter 2, the HRA is projected to achieve a surplus of £4.365m. This represents an underachievement of £4.238m against the budgeted surplus and is the starting position for developing the 2025/26 draft budget and 30-year Business Plan.
- 6.16 This reduced surplus is mainly driven by forecast overspends in the Housing Repairs service and underachievement of income due to higher than anticipated levels of voids. Further details on this and mitigations are contained in the Quarter 2 monitoring report to Cabinet in December 2024.
- 6.17 The additional spend required in future years to tackle increased numbers of repairs and the backlog of disrepair cases have been built into years one and two of this plan, which has resulted in the level of surplus in those years dipping below the assumed £8m.

HRA Income

- 6.18 The main sources of income to the HRA are rents and service charges. It is therefore essential to the sustainability of the HRA that the Council collects rent and service charges effectively and supports tenants to pay their rent and service charges in full.
- 6.19 The Council's Financial Inclusion Team works to support Haringey tenants and leaseholders who might be facing financial difficulties. They do this by working with tenants, ensuring they are able as best possible to access good quality work, and ensuring that they are accessing all benefits to which they are entitled. In turn, this means that tenants and leaseholders are better able to pay their rent and service charges, which supports the long-term sustainability of the HRA. In October 2024, Cabinet agreed the tenant and leaseholders' income collection policies and arrears policies, which further underpins this work.
- 6.20 The HRA also supports tenants who are in financial hardship due to the increased cost of living, and who are therefore finding it difficult to pay their rent and service charges, with a tenant hardship fund. This provides one-off rent credits to tenants who have recently fallen into arrears based on a data-informed approach.

Housing Rent - Existing Council Tenants

- 6.21 The Council is required to set the rent increases in council-owned homes every year but there are strict limits for existing tenants. From 2020/21, the government has permitted Local Authorities in England to increase existing tenants' rents by no more than the Consumer Price Index (CPI), at September of the previous year, plus 1%. It should be noted that this comes after a government policy of reducing council rents, which in turn impacted the long-term viability of HRAs and the ability to invest sufficiently in housing stock.
- 6.22 On 30 October 2024, the government announced in the Autumn Statement 2024 that there will be a £5bn investment in housing in 2025/26. As part of this investment, there will be a £500m boost to the affordable homes programme to build up to 5,000 extra homes. The details of this will be made available soon. It also announced that social rents will continue to increase by a maximum of September CPI + 1%.
- 6.23 Therefore, the proposed rent increase in 2025/26 of 2.7% is based on September CPI of 1.7% plus 1%.
- 6.24 On this basis, the proposed average weekly rents for general needs and sheltered/supported housing will increase by £3.44 from £127.33 to £130.77 in 2025/26. There is a range of rents across different sizes of properties. Table 1 below sets out the proposed average weekly rents by property size based on the rent increase of 2.7% for 2025/26 with effect from 7th April 2025.

Table 1: Proposed Average Weekly Rent 2025/26

| Number of Bedrooms | Number of Properties | Current average weekly rent 2024/25 | Proposed average weekly rent 2025/26 | Proposed average rent increase | Proposed percentage increase |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Bedsit | 129 | £103.30 | £106.09 | £2.79 | 2.7% |
| 1 | 5,362 | £109.41 | £112.36 | £2.95 | 2.7% |
| 2 | 5,238 | £127.52 | £130.96 | £3.44 | 2.7% |
| 3 | 3,725 | £146.01 | £149.95 | £3.94 | 2.7% |

| | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|-------------|
| 4 | 613 | £166.23 | £170.72 | £4.49 | 2.7% |
| 5 | 111 | £194.46 | £199.71 | £5.25 | 2.7% |
| 6 | 15 | £202.09 | £207.55 | £5.46 | 2.7% |
| 7 | 2 | £191.22 | £196.38 | £5.16 | 2.7% |
| All dwellings | 15,195 | £127.33 | £130.77 | £3.44 | 2.7% |

Formula Rent and Rent Caps

- 6.25 Central Government, through the Regulator of Social Housing, also sets the formula for calculating social housing rents in new tenancies.
- 6.26 The national formula for setting social rent is intended to enable Local Authorities to set rents at a level that allows them to meet their obligations to their tenants, maintain their stock (to at least Decent Homes Standard) and continue to operate a financially viable HRA, including meeting their borrowing commitments.
- 6.27 The formula is complex and uses national average rent, relative average local earning, relative local property value, and the number of bedrooms to calculate the formula rent.
- 6.28 Formula rents are subject to a national social rent cap. The rent cap is the maximum level to which rents can be increased to in any one financial year, based on the size of the property. Where the formula rent would be higher than the rent cap for a particular property, the national social rent cap must be used instead. Rent caps for 2025/26 are as shown below in table 2.

Table 2: 2025/26 Bedroom Rent Caps

| Number of Bedrooms | 2025/26 Rent Cap |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 and bedsits | £194.06 |
| 2 | £205.45 |
| 3 | £216.87 |
| 4 | £228.27 |
| 5 | £239.69 |
| 6 or more | £251.10 |

Housing Rent - New Council Tenants

- 6.29 Rents for new tenancies are set according to a formula (hence the term 'formula rent'). This is for new tenancies in either a relet of an existing council home, or a newly built council home.
- 6.30 The Policy statement on rents for social housing also includes provision for social landlords to apply a 5% flexibility on formula rents: *'The government's policy recognises that registered providers should have some discretion over the rent set for individual properties, to take account of local factors and concerns, in consultation with tenants. As a result, the policy contains flexibility for registered providers to set rents at up to 5% above formula rent (10% for supported housing – as defined in paragraphs 2.39-2.40 below). If applying this flexibility, providers should ensure that there is a clear rationale for doing so which takes into account local circumstances and affordability.'*

- 6.31 The 2024-2029 HRA Business Plan approved in March 2024, applied this 5% flexibility to formula rents. This was to ensure that, in the ongoing challenging financial climate, the Council could continue to meet its obligations to its tenants by investing in its stock, ensure that all homes meet at least the decent homes standard, ensure that homes meet the council's sustainability objectives and ensure homes are warm and cheaper to heat for tenants while still setting a balanced HRA. This continues to be the Council's policy.

London Affordable Rent

- 6.32 London Affordable Rent (LAR) was introduced by the Mayor of London in 2016 as a social housing product for new affordable homes funded by Building Council Homes for Londoners (BCHFL) grant. It reflects the 2015/16 formula rent cap uprated by CPI plus one per cent every year. These LAR rents are at the same level anywhere in London. LAR homes are let by councils on secure tenancies, and by other registered providers.
- 6.33 The BCHFL grant programme allocated grant on the basis that homes for low-cost rent would be let at London Affordable Rent (LAR) rather than formula rent. The historically relatively low level of grant – a flat rate of £100,000 per unit – reflected that expectation.
- 6.34 In the 2023/24 HRA Business Plan it was agreed to let homes built as part of the GLA's 2016-2021 programme at LAR.
- 6.35 Table 3 below shows London Affordable Rents for 2025/26. This represents an uplift on 2024/25 LAR Rents by September CPI plus 1%.

Table 3: 2025/26 LAR

| Number of Bedrooms | 2025/26 LAR |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 and bedsits | £206.87 |
| 2 | £219.02 |
| 3 | £231.18 |
| 4 | £243.35 |
| 5 | £255.52 |
| 6 or more | £267.67 |

Rent for other homes held in the HRA.

Homes acquired and leased to the HCBS.

- 6.36 All properties acquired since 1 April 2019 for housing homeless households held in the HRA are leased to Haringey Community Benefit Society (HCBS) and let by the HCBS at Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rent levels.
- 6.37 The HRA financial plan includes in its income the lease charges to HCBS for a maximum period of seven (7) years from the time of acquisition. From year eight (8), it recognises incomes from these properties at formula rent, with the normal annual rent increases of CPI plus 1%, as these properties are assumed will revert to the HRA after 7 years of lease.

- 6.38 From 7th April 2025, all other council-owned properties, in the HRA, used as temporary accommodation under a Council non-secure tenancy will have proposed rent increases of 2.7% (CPI + 1%).
- 6.39 It is proposed that the rent charged for properties held for temporary accommodation in the HRA be aligned to HRA rent standards. Currently these are set by the “Rents and Charges for Temporary Accommodation” approved on 3 April 2017. The rents and charges in this document have not been updated in light of subsequent changes in legislation, and specifically, the Rent Standard, and so restricts rents and income.
- 6.40 It is proposed that the following changes are made to allow the HRA to set rents at an appropriate level in line with the Rent Standard. Specifically, where the Rent Standard applies to new tenancies and licences in HRA properties.
- Rents for existing Council owned properties (including Lodges) are set at the level permitted by the Rent Standard.
 - Service charges are set at a level to recover the full costs of those services.
- The rent element is currently limited to formula rent plus + 5% for self-contained homes and plus 10% for Birkbeck Lodge, plus full recovery of the cost of providing services.
- 6.41 Where the Rent Standard applies to existing tenancies and licences, that rents and services charges are updated annually in April in line with the Rent Standard.
- 6.42 There may be circumstances where rents are not governed by the Rent Standard. Where the Rent Standard does not apply to properties held in the HRA, that rents will be set at a level that is fully payable through housing benefit or universal credit. Service charges should be set at a level to recover the full costs of services provided.

Shared Ownership Rents

- 6.43 There are a small number of shared ownership properties in the HRA, and their rents are to be increased in line with their contracts, typically January RPI +0.5%. The Government announced, last year, that for new shared ownership properties the rent on the unsold portion is to be increased by CPI +1%.

Tenants' Service Charges

- 6.44 In addition to rents, tenants pay charges for services they receive which are not covered by the rent.
- 6.45 Service charges must be set at a level that recovers the cost of the service, and no more than this. Charges are calculated by dividing the budgeted cost of providing the service to tenants by the number of tenants receiving the service. Therefore, a flat rate is charged to tenants receiving each service and the weekly amount is fixed. The amount tenants pay increases where the cost of providing the service is anticipated to increase. Equally, charges are reduced when the cost of providing the service reduces or where there has been an over-recovery in the previous year.
- 6.46 The Council's policy is to fully recover the cost of providing a service to tenants. Service charges are covered by housing benefit and Universal Credit, so any tenant in receipt of these benefits will have these costs covered.
- 6.47 The services tenants currently pay for are listed below:

- Concierge
- Grounds maintenance
- Caretaking
- Street sweeping (Waste collection)
- Estates road maintenance
- Light and power (Communal lighting)
- TV aerial maintenance
- Door entry system maintenance
- Sheltered housing cleaning service
- Good neighbour cleaning service
- Window cleaning service
- Landlord communal inspection (Converted properties cleaning)
- Heating

6.48 Tenants living in sheltered and supported housing also pay the following additional support charges:

- Sheltered Housing Charge
- Good Neighbour Charge
- Additional Good Neighbour Charge

6.49 The applicable charges proposed for 2025/26 is as shown in table 4 below.

Table 4 – Proposed Tenants’ Service Charges with effect from 7th April 2025

| Tenants' Service Charges | Current Weekly Charge 2024/25 | Proposed Weekly Charge 2025/26 | Increase / Decrease | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------|
| Property Charges : | | | | |
| Concierge | £26.62 | £27.39 | £0.77 | 3% |
| Grounds Maintenance | £3.47 | £3.15 | -£0.32 | -9% |
| Caretaking | £7.62 | £9.25 | £1.63 | 21% |
| Street Sweeping | £8.57 | £8.54 | -£0.03 | 0% |
| Estates Road maintenance | £0.77 | £0.77 | £0.00 | 0% |
| Communal Lighting (Light & Power) | £4.04 | £3.45 | -£0.59 | -15% |
| TV aerial maintenance | £0.41 | £0.38 | -£0.03 | -7% |
| Door entry system maintenance | £1.11 | £1.12 | £0.01 | 1% |
| Sheltered housing cleaning service | £2.48 | £2.72 | £0.24 | 10% |
| Good neighbour cleaning service | £1.76 | £1.85 | £0.09 | 5% |
| Window cleaning | £0.67 | £0.69 | £0.02 | 3% |
| Landlord Communal Inspection (Converted properties cleaning) | £3.93 | £5.06 | £1.13 | 29% |
| Sheltered Housing Blocks Heating | £18.33 | £12.94 | -£5.39 | -29% |
| Garton House / Lowry House Heating | £15.33 | £11.42 | -£3.91 | -26% |
| Ferry Lane Estate / Runcorn Heating | £21.83 | £15.15 | -£6.68 | -31% |
| Rosa Luxemburg - District Heating 8 | £7.14 | £5.35 | -£1.79 | -25% |
| William Atkinson House Heating | £19.45 | £13.37 | -£6.08 | -31% |
| Broadwater Farm DEN Heating | £21.11 | £15.41 | -£5.70 | -27% |
| Support Charges : | | | | |
| Sheltered Housing Charge | £33.40 | £35.68 | £2.28 | 7% |
| Good Neighbour Charge | £14.93 | £15.24 | £0.31 | 2% |
| Good Neighbour Charge (Stokley Court) | £18.17 | £18.80 | £0.63 | 3% |

Heating charges

- 6.50 The Council has two types of heating charges: flat rate charges and metered charges. A policy for setting both types of heating charges was agreed by Cabinet in March 2023.
- 6.51 The heating charges reflect the projected usage in the blocks and projected energy rates for 2025/26. The current intelligence from the Council's energy supplier (Laser) is that costs in 2025/26 are expected to be approximately 28% lower than costs budgeted in 2024/25. This, together with the surplus on the 2023/24 heating account, has been reflected directly in the proposed charges in the table above.
- 6.52 Where properties are metered, the charges will be based on usage for each property and proposed tariffs are detailed in the table below.
- 6.53

Table 5 – Proposed Metered Tariffs with effect from 7th April 2025 (2025/26)

| Metered blocks (same tariff applies to all sites) | Current Tariff 2024/25 | Proposed Tariff 2025/26 | Increase / Decrease | |
|---|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|------|
| Weekly standing charge (£/wk) | £3.65 | £7.44 | £3.79 | 104% |
| Price per unit of heat (pence/kWh) | 7.90p | 5.09p | -2.81p | -36% |

Rent Consultation

- 6.54 There is no requirement for tenant consultation on existing rents and service charge increases (but there is a duty to notify tenants of such increases once a decision has been made). Haringey Council's rents are set in accordance with government rent standard and no new charges are being introduced for the tenants' service charges. Tenants must be given at least four weeks' notice before the new rents and service charges for 2025/26 start on 7th April 2025.

The Council undertook planned engagement with tenants and leaseholders on this HRA Business Plan using the established tenant and leaseholder engagement channels. Feedback from the engagement have been considered and this engagement is now built into the HRA annual budget setting process.

HRA Revenue Expenditure

- 6.55 Significant items of revenue expenditure in the HRA include repairs costs (£38.9m), housing management costs (£32.9m), capital financing charges (£25.4m) and depreciation (£22.8m). These four items constitute approximately 82% (£120.0m) of the total expected HRA expenditure (£145.8m) in 2025/26.
- 6.56 The proposed spend on repairs to the housing stock presents a significant strain on the HRA. The increase in the cost of repairs shows the Council's commitment to providing a good, timely, repairs service, in line with the new responsive repairs policy agreed by Cabinet in October 2024.
- 6.57 The cost of repairs is significant and comes following a failure to sufficiently invest in council housing over a number of years. It is expected that as investment in homes increases in the coming years, as described below, the number of repairs and therefore the cost of repairs will come down.
- 6.58 Additionally, the cost of repairs includes the cost of bringing void properties back into use – in other words, when a home is vacated and ready to be relet, works are carried out to bring the home up to the required standard. When new homes are delivered through the delivery programme, they are often let in the first instance to existing tenants through the Neighbourhood Moves Scheme. Although these homes are offered in the first instance to tenants who are freeing up a large home and are downsizing to their new home (and therefore allowing larger family homes to be let to households who need these) and then to overcrowded households; households who have no housing need are also allowed to move to new homes through the Neighbourhood Moves Scheme. This means that void costs are incurred without meeting housing need. Amending the Neighbourhood Moves Scheme could therefore lead to reduced void costs. Any change to the Neighbourhood Moves Scheme would need to be implemented through an amended Housing Allocations Policy.
- 6.59 The management cost is also significant and is necessary to ensure that tenants and leaseholders are provided with a good quality service from the council. This plan makes

provision for the Council to increase the number of housing officers to ensure that tenants are provided with the necessary support and advice.

- 6.60 The capital financing charge is the interest on HRA loans and internal funding and is budgeted at slightly lower level compared to 2024/25 due to the impact of assumed level of upfront grant anticipated in 2025/26.
- 6.61 Depreciation is a cash charge to the HRA to reflect the need to finance the replacement of components within HRA homes over time. The depreciation charges to the HRA are transferred into the Major Repairs Reserve (MRR). The Major Repairs Reserve is used to build up capital sums that can be used to finance the capital programme.
- 6.62 The proposed HRA capital programme supports the delivery of over £3.1bn investment in the Council's existing stock over the next 30 years, and the delivery of over 3,000 new council homes by March 2031.
- 6.63 There are of course risks such as the impact of the current inflation and interest rate rises on collection of rent, capacity to build, and overall sustainability of the HRA. However, these risks have been factored into this iteration of the HRA budget/Business Plan. The forecast revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO) is currently below the set minimum of £8m in the first two years of the proposed MTFS period (2025/26-2029/30).
- 6.64 Beyond year two the proposed plan forecast RCCO is above £8m year on year. It should be noted that the financial plan recognises the management of risks in these periods via the use of working balance which currently is projected at £20m by March 2025.

Proposed HRA Business Plan (2025/26-2029/30)

- 6.65 This report sets out the proposed HRA 5 years Budget/Business Plan in Table 6 below. It accommodates the scale of development presently assumed within the business and financial planning in terms of its impact of the future years HRA revenue position. It also takes into consideration the current inflation and interest rates and its impact in next year's rent charges. The draft HRA budget for 2025/26 to 2029/30 is as shown below in Table 6. The subsequent 5 years depicts an improvement in the HRA financial position as shown in Table 6.1.

Table 6 – Proposed HRA 5-Year Revenue Budget (2025/26 – 2029/30)

| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Total |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Income & Expenditure | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 5 Years |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| Dwellings Rent Income | (116,096) | (124,638) | (136,916) | (145,600) | (156,462) | (679,712) |
| Void Loss | 2,128 | 1,183 | 1,292 | 1,365 | 1,459 | 7,427 |
| Hostel Rent Income | (2,343) | (2,409) | (2,476) | (2,545) | (2,616) | (12,389) |
| Service Charge Income | (16,782) | (17,619) | (18,661) | (19,477) | (20,310) | (92,849) |
| Leaseholder Income | (10,829) | (11,086) | (11,353) | (11,627) | (11,907) | (56,802) |
| Other Income (Garages /Aerials/Interest) | (1,842) | (2,223) | (2,276) | (2,330) | (2,386) | (11,057) |
| Total Income | (145,764) | (156,792) | (170,390) | (180,214) | (192,222) | (845,382) |
| Expenditure | | | | | | |
| Repairs | 38,933 | 35,818 | 33,003 | 33,512 | 34,111 | 175,377 |
| Housing Management | 32,920 | 32,334 | 32,943 | 33,564 | 34,198 | 165,960 |
| Estates Costs (Managed) | 14,534 | 14,825 | 15,121 | 15,423 | 15,732 | 75,635 |
| Provision for Bad Debts (Tenants) | 2,205 | 1,244 | 1,352 | 1,430 | 1,525 | 7,756 |
| Provision for Bad Debts (Leaseholders) | 260 | 266 | 272 | 279 | 286 | 1,363 |
| Other Costs (GF Services) | 3,671 | 3,744 | 3,819 | 3,895 | 3,973 | 19,102 |
| Other Costs (Property/Insurance) | 4,756 | 4,851 | 4,948 | 5,047 | 5,148 | 24,751 |
| Capital Financing Costs | 25,462 | 33,282 | 42,657 | 51,728 | 60,089 | 213,218 |
| Contribution to Major Repairs (Depreciation) | 22,754 | 23,885 | 25,302 | 26,400 | 27,530 | 125,871 |
| Revenue Contributions to Capital | 269 | 6,543 | 10,973 | 8,935 | 9,629 | 36,349 |
| Total Expenditure | 145,764 | 156,792 | 170,390 | 180,214 | 192,222 | 845,382 |
| HRA (Surplus) / Deficit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Table 6.1: Proposed HRA Revenue budget (2030/31-2034/25)

| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | Year 6 | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Total |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Income & Expenditure | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 | 2034-35 | 5 Years |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Income | | | | | | |
| Dwellings Rent Income | (166,758) | (176,922) | (186,843) | (195,530) | (205,039) | (931,092) |
| Void Loss | 1,547 | 1,634 | 1,718 | 1,789 | 1,869 | 8,557 |
| Hostel Rent Income | (2,689) | (2,764) | (2,842) | (2,921) | (3,003) | (14,219) |
| Service Charge Income | (21,192) | (22,058) | (22,842) | (23,455) | (24,163) | (113,710) |
| Leaseholder Income | (12,194) | (12,487) | (12,787) | (13,094) | (13,409) | (63,971) |
| Other Income (Garages /Aerials/Interest) | (2,433) | (2,482) | (2,532) | (2,582) | (2,634) | (12,663) |
| Total Income | (203,719) | (215,079) | (226,128) | (235,793) | (246,379) | (1,127,097) |
| Expenditure | | | | | | |
| Repairs | 34,721 | 35,416 | 36,124 | 36,847 | 37,584 | 180,692 |
| Housing Management | 34,845 | 35,504 | 36,176 | 36,862 | 37,562 | 180,949 |
| Estates Costs (Managed) | 16,047 | 16,368 | 16,695 | 17,029 | 17,369 | 83,508 |
| Provision for Bad Debts (Tenants) | 1,616 | 1,706 | 1,794 | 1,870 | 1,954 | 8,940 |
| Provision for Bad Debts (Leaseholders) | 293 | 300 | 307 | 314 | 322 | 1,536 |
| Other Costs (GF Services) | 4,053 | 4,134 | 4,216 | 4,301 | 4,387 | 21,090 |
| Other Costs (Property/Insurance) | 5,251 | 5,356 | 5,463 | 5,573 | 5,684 | 27,327 |
| Capital Financing Costs | 66,795 | 71,524 | 74,924 | 77,925 | 79,418 | 370,586 |
| Contribution to Major Repairs (Depreciation) | 28,732 | 29,903 | 30,967 | 31,806 | 32,761 | 154,169 |
| Revenue Contributions to Capital | 11,367 | 14,868 | 19,461 | 23,266 | 29,338 | 98,300 |
| Total Expenditure | 203,719 | 215,079 | 226,128 | 235,793 | 246,379 | 1,127,097 |
| HRA (Surplus) / Deficit | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Proposed HRA 5 Years Capital Programme (2025/26 – 2029/30)

- 6.66 The HRA has a significant capital investment programme. This programme can be divided into two main strands: investment in existing housing stock and investment in delivering and acquiring new housing into the HRA.
- 6.67 Both strands are essential to ensure that all residents are living in good quality, safe, secure housing. They are also essential to ensuring the long-term financial sustainability of the HRA. Investing in the Council's housing now means that in the longer term the cost of repairs and disrepair is minimised. Establishing a holistic programme of planned investment helps us to ensure that these works provide value for money and the programme ensures the long-term safety of our homes, and their sustainability.
- 6.68 Investing in new housing – whether that is through the direct delivery of newly built housing, the acquisition of newly built housing or the acquisition of existing homes, generally used to provide accommodation for homeless households, supports the long-term sustainability of the HRA by growing the revenue base through increased rental income.
- 6.69 The HRA Business Plan is geared towards maximising the use of other available resources and use of borrowing as last resort, while maintaining a working balance of £20m. The capital programme funding is through a mix of grant funding, S106 monies, revenue contributions and prudential borrowing. The total capital investment in 2025/26 is expected to be £333.8m, fully funded from grants, the Major Repairs Reserve, revenue contributions, RTB retained capital receipts, leaseholder contributions and borrowing. Details are set out in Table 7 for forecast capital spend between 2025/26 to 2029/30.

Table 7 – Proposed HRA 5 Year Capital Programme (2025/26 – 2029/30)

| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Investment & Financing | 2025-26 | 2026-27 | 2027-28 | 2028-29 | 2029-30 | 5 Years |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Capital Investment | | | | | | |
| Major Works (Haringey Standard) | 62,550 | 70,164 | 75,850 | 75,769 | 80,510 | 364,843 |
| Fire Safety Works | 8,041 | 8,366 | 7,460 | 5,631 | 5,743 | 35,241 |
| Broadwater Farm Works | 19,713 | 17,575 | 16,975 | 16,975 | 16,974 | 88,212 |
| Total Existing Stock Investment | 90,304 | 96,105 | 100,285 | 98,375 | 103,227 | 488,296 |
| New Homes Build Programme | 99,689 | 102,970 | 116,335 | 128,069 | 91,573 | 538,636 |
| New Homes Acquisitions | 42,007 | 36,801 | 18,683 | 2,432 | 263 | 100,185 |
| TA Acquisitions | 101,767 | 42,414 | 43,686 | 44,997 | 46,346 | 279,210 |
| Total Capital Investment | 333,767 | 278,290 | 278,990 | 273,873 | 241,409 | 1,406,328 |
| | | | | | | |
| Capital Investment Financing | | | | | | |
| Grants (GLA) | 169,815 | 32,328 | 37,165 | 8,643 | 12,221 | 260,172 |
| Major Repairs Reserve | 22,754 | 23,885 | 25,302 | 26,400 | 27,530 | 125,871 |
| Revenue Contributions | 0 | 4,448 | 10,974 | 8,934 | 9,628 | 33,984 |
| RTB Capital Receipts | 11,335 | 17,202 | 18,488 | 18,270 | 18,844 | 84,139 |
| Leaseholder Contributions to Major Works | 7,144 | 6,965 | 7,022 | 6,936 | 6,965 | 35,032 |
| Market Sales Receipts | 0 | 7,000 | 1,482 | 0 | 0 | 8,482 |
| Borrowing | 122,720 | 186,462 | 178,558 | 204,689 | 166,223 | 858,652 |
| Total Capital Financing | 333,767 | 278,290 | 278,990 | 273,873 | 241,409 | 1,406,328 |

6.70 The projected HRA capital programme budget over the subsequent 5 years is as shown in Table 7.1 below.

Table 7.1: Projected HRA Capital Programme (2030/31- 2034/35)

| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | Year 6 | Year 7 | Year 8 | Year 9 | Year 10 | Total |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Investment & Financing | 2030-31 | 2031-32 | 2032-33 | 2033-34 | 2034-35 | 5 Years |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Capital Investment | | | | | | |
| Major Works (Haringey Standard) | 78,954 | 62,604 | 58,733 | 59,884 | 48,388 | 308,563 |
| Fire Safety Works | 1,172 | 1,195 | 1,219 | 1,243 | 1,243 | 6,072 |
| Broadwater Farm Works | 16,725 | 16,725 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33,450 |
| Total Existing Stock Investment | 96,851 | 80,524 | 59,952 | 61,127 | 49,631 | 348,085 |
| New Homes Build Programme | 67,747 | 65,085 | 71,407 | 78,112 | 36,033 | 318,384 |
| New Homes Acquisitions | 0 | 178 | 2,710 | 2,892 | 731 | 6,511 |
| TA Acquisitions | 47,737 | 49,169 | 50,644 | 52,163 | 0 | 199,713 |
| Total Capital Investment | 212,335 | 194,956 | 184,714 | 194,294 | 86,395 | 872,693 |
| Capital Investment Financing | | | | | | |
| Grants (GLA) | 6,450 | 19,305 | 18,680 | 14,125 | 6,820 | 65,380 |
| Major Repairs Reserve | 28,732 | 29,903 | 30,967 | 31,806 | 32,761 | 154,169 |
| Revenue Contributions | 11,366 | 14,870 | 19,461 | 23,268 | 13,596 | 82,561 |
| RTB Capital Receipts | 19,438 | 20,050 | 20,680 | 21,331 | 512 | 82,011 |
| Leaseholder Contributions to Major Works | 6,567 | 5,578 | 4,934 | 4,652 | 4,171 | 25,902 |
| Market Sales Receipts | 0 | 25,183 | 26,246 | 27,363 | 28,536 | 107,328 |
| Borrowing | 139,781 | 80,067 | 63,746 | 71,750 | 0 | 355,344 |
| Total Capital Financing | 212,335 | 194,956 | 184,714 | 194,294 | 86,395 | 872,693 |

- 6.71 The Council continues to project an ambitious HRA capital programme both in terms of investing in its existing stock and new build. The financial sustainability of this is reflected in the forecast revenue position as set out in Tables 6 and 6.1.
- 6.72 This Business Plan presents reprofiled costs in major works, carbon reduction and fire safety budgets – to meet current regulatory requirements (Building Safety & Fire Safety legislation) and reach 100% Decent Homes standard, following self-referral.

Investment in our existing stock

- 6.73 The existing stock investment programme has been prioritised to achieve the following targets:
- Ensuring that 100% of homes meet the Government's Decent Homes Standard by the end of 2028, as agreed with the regulator of social housing, and to ensure all homes continue to meet the decency standard thereafter.
 - Ensuring the Council's housing stock meets all regulatory and statutory obligations including those of the Building Safety and Fire Safety acts.
 - Improving the energy performance of homes to minimise the impact of rising energy costs for tenants and to reduce carbon emissions.
- 6.74 A full stock condition survey was completed in 2024 and information was collected for 74% of the Council's properties. This ensures that the Council has the information needed to effectively plan for the required investment across the medium term.

- 6.75 The council is procuring four geographically based, long-term partnering contracts which will provide the Council with the capacity and capability required to deliver around £570m of the overall planned investment in homes over the next 10 years. These contracts will be mobilised and will start on site in 2025/26.

Major Works & Decent Homes Works

- 6.76 The Council estimate that £110m will need to be invested by the end of 2028 in order to achieve the Council's target of ensuring all homes meet the decent homes standard by 2028. This will pay for new kitchens and bathrooms, improvements to heating and electrical systems and roof, window and door replacements.
- 6.77 Over the first 5 years of the programme, the Council will also be prioritising high-rise buildings to carry out building safety works and works to communal mechanical and electrical systems alongside decent homes improvements.

Carbon Reduction Works

- 6.78 The Council will be improving the energy performance of homes in order to reduce carbon emissions and minimise the effects of rising energy bills on tenants. The Council will be taking a fabric first approach by investing in improvements to windows, doors and wall and roof insulation. Where possible, works will be aligned with other major works programmes and comply with PAS2035/2030 standards.
- 6.79 Over the next 3 years, the Council will be delivering a retrofit programme to up to 289 properties, including 217 on the Coldfall Estate in Muswell Hill. This will deliver £10m of investment which is being part funded by a Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund Grant of £1.7m. The measures being installed include energy efficient windows and doors; loft/roof insulation; external wall insulation and ventilation.

Fire Safety Works

- 6.80 The proposed budget/Business Plan is to ensure that all housing stock continues to meet changing statutory requirements. The budget was refreshed in the last year and additional investment of £2m was added over the planning period to ensure that the requirement of the recent Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 are met. The programme includes front entrance door replacements, window infill panel replacements, Automatic Fire Detection (AFD) to street properties, automatic Fire detection and compartmentation works to timber clad buildings, Intrusive Fire Risk Assessments (FRA) and follow up works.

New Homes

- 6.81 Haringey has a significant housing delivery programme, with the ambition to deliver 3,000 Council homes by 2031. By the end of 2024, just under 700 households will have moved into newly built council homes as part of the programme.
- 6.82 Haringey's programme is supplemented by significant grant subsidy from the Greater London Authority (GLA). The anticipated capital spend to 2030 allows the Council to deliver 3,000 Council homes at approximately £594m, of which around £150m is grant subsidy.
- 6.83 The programme is a mix of homes that are being directly delivered by Haringey, and homes that have been acquired by the Council.

- 6.84 This financial plan continues to provide for financial resources to meet the Council's commitment to the delivery of high-quality Council homes. This is an integral part of the Council's core HRA business, with a delivery programme that is viable in the long term.
- 6.85 Over the past five years, the Council has established a housing delivery programme that is committed to delivering 3,000 new council homes for council rent by 2031. The programme has been reprofiled to still deliver the 3,000 homes by 2031, while reducing capital expenditure by 14%. Over 2,000 homes have started on site or completed.
- 6.86 The new homes are designed through an iterative process of consultation and engagement with Members, planners, and the community.
- 6.87 Clear, explicit design principles mean that these homes will have the highest standards of design quality – so that homes are beautiful, but also safe, comfortable, and accessible. They will also be easy and affordable to look after for the Council and for the tenant.
- 6.88 Climate change, carbon management, and sustainability is integral to the design of the Council's new generation of Council homes with the Council targeting zero-carbon and Passivhaus on every development.
- 6.89 More than 10% of new homes are fully wheelchair accessible, with a target of 20%. Through the Bespoke Homes programme the Council are actively identifying households on the housing register with specific accessibility needs in order to ensure that new homes are designed for them. Additionally, 10% of the programme will be delivered as supported housing for people who need additional support to live independently. It is expected that these supported housing units will also lead to General Fund savings in the future.
- 6.90 The need for genuinely affordable homes in Haringey, as it is across the country is urgent. More than 12,500 households are currently on the Council's housing register.
- 6.91 Some housing delivery schemes that are providing a significant number of new council homes for the borough, or are providing much needed supported housing are listed below:
- Walter Tull House - 131 new council homes and a new health centre
 - Hale Wharf - 191 new council homes
 - Ashley Road Depot - 272 new council homes
 - Barbara Hucklesbury - 14 new council homes in partnership with a supported housing provider to provide support for survivors of domestic abuse under the GLA DASHA Programme
 - Mallard Place - 150 new council homes
 - Sir Frederick Messer - 66 new council homes
 - St. Ann's - 131 new council homes including a specialist supported housing building
 - Mecca Bingo - 78 new council homes as part of a larger multi-tenure scheme including student housing, commercial space and a pocket park
 - High Road West – 546 new council homes as part of a significant new scheme
 - Selby – 206 new council homes as part of a significant new scheme

Broadwater Farm Improvement Works and New Build Programme

- 6.92 The Broadwater Farm (BWF) improvement aims to regenerate the whole estate with £250m of planned investment which will deliver nearly 300 new homes, will retrofit more than 800 existing homes and will make improvements to the public realm and facilities. This is part of the Council's broader Housing Delivery Programme and will make a significant contribution to the Council's overall new council housing target.

- 6.93 The programme will support social value and placemaking. The Social Value commitments made by contractors will deliver measurable and impactful training, employment and social opportunities.
- 6.94 New housing, retail units, a health centre and enterprise units will be delivered, alongside major public realm improvements. In terms of improvements to existing homes and blocks, this will include fire door replacements, decorations to communal areas, new flooring, structural water-proofing, improved energy performance, and accessibility works

Existing Homes Acquisitions – Temporary Accommodation (TA)

- 6.95 The Council's TA acquisition programme is based on the purchase of homes and subsequent leasing to the Haringey Community Benefit Society (HCBS) to provide housing to households in housing need nominated to it by Haringey Council. This scheme will generate adequate rental income to cover the cost of capital and associated cost. There is also a General Fund (GF) saving generated by the provision of homes to homeless households in the HRA via reduction in the use of privately-owned temporary accommodation in GF. This plan recognises the proposal for an additional 200 homes as part of the temporary accommodation reduction plan. These will be funded by government grant, General fund capital contribution and borrowing in the HRA.

7 Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026 High level Strategic outcomes

- 7.1 This report sets out the Council's commitment to 'creating homes for the future'

8 Carbon and Climate Change

- 8.1 This report contributes to the Council's commitment of 'responding to the climate emergency' and details are contained throughout the report.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance, Procurement, Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance

- 9.1 As the Budget/MTFS report is primarily financial in its nature, comments of the Chief Financial Officer are contained throughout the report.
- 9.2 The formal Section 151 Officer assessment of the robustness of the HRA's budget, including adequacy of reserves to mitigate against future risks will be made as part of the budget report to Cabinet in February 2025.

Procurement

- 9.2 Procurement notes the contents of the report.

Assistant Director of Legal & Governance

- 9.3 The Assistant Director of Legal & Governance has been consulted in the content of this report. The Council has a duty to keep a HRA under section 74 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the keeping of which must be in accordance with Schedule 4 of that Act. Under Schedule 15 of the Localism Act 2011, local authorities were required to be self-financing in relation to their

housing stock, financing their housing stock from their own rents. This report is for noting pending a further report in February 2025 and does not at this stage raise any legal issues.

Equality

9.4 The Council has a public sector equality duty under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share those protected characteristics and people who do not;
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

9.5 The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/fait, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status apply to the first part of the duty.

9.6 Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

9.7 This report details the draft medium term financial strategy for the HRA. Cabinet is asked to approve the business plan. This decision is needed to ensure that the Council has a sustainable HRA. A sustainable HRA means that the council as a landlord can provide services to council tenants and leaseholders, and can invest in their homes, and in new homes for future tenants and leaseholders.

9.8 Ensuring a sustainable HRA benefits two groups in particular. The first group is our existing council tenants and leaseholders, since they live in homes owned and managed by the council. The second group is households on the council's housing register, in particular those in bands A and B, since they stand to benefit from new council homes brought forward in the borough.

9.9 Haringey Council's tenant population shows the following characteristics compared to the wider borough population:

- a significantly higher proportion of young people (under 24) and older people (over 50).
- a significantly higher proportion of individuals who have a disability under the Equalities Act.
- a slightly higher proportion of individuals who report their gender identity as different from sex registered at birth.
- a significantly lower proportion of individuals who are married or in a registered civil partnership.
- a significantly higher proportion of individuals who identify as Muslim, and slightly higher proportion of individual who identify as Christian, Buddhist or another religion. This is countered by a significantly lower proportion of tenants who don't associate with any religion or identify as Jewish, Hindu or Sikh.
- a significantly higher proportion of female individuals.
- a significantly lower proportion of individuals who report their sexual identity as something other than Straight or Heterosexual

9.10 Building new council homes benefits existing council tenants in housing need, and households currently living in temporary accommodation. Data held by the council suggests that women, young people, and people who are BAME are over-represented among those living in temporary

accommodation. Furthermore, individuals with these protected characteristics, as well as those who identify as LGBTQ+ and disabled people are known to be vulnerable to homelessness.

9.11 As such, it is reasonable to anticipate a positive impact on residents with these protected characteristics.

10 Use of Appendices

10.1 None

11 Background papers

11.1 None

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London Borough of Haringey

Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2025/26

1. Introduction

- 1.1. Treasury management is the management of the Council's cash flows, borrowing and investments, and the associated risks. The Council has borrowed and invested substantial sums of money and is therefore exposed to financial risks including the loss of invested funds and the revenue effect of changing interest rates. The successful identification, monitoring and control of financial risk are therefore central to the Council's prudent financial management.
- 1.2. Treasury risk management at the Council is conducted within the framework of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2021 Edition* (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year. This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the *Local Government Act 2003* to have regard to the CIPFA Code.
- 1.3. Investments held for service purposes or for commercial profit are considered in a different report.

2. External Context – provided by the Council's appointed treasury advisor, Arlingclose

Economic background

- 2.1. The impact on the UK from the government's Autumn Budget, slower expected interest rate cuts, a short-term boost to but modestly weaker economic growth over the medium term, together with the impact from President-elect Trump's second term in office and uncertainties around US domestic and foreign policy, will be major influences on the Authority's treasury management strategy for 2025/26.

UK inflation, interest rates and economic growth outlook

- 2.2. The Bank of England's (BoE) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held Bank Rate at 4.75% at its December 2024 meeting, having reduced it to that level in November and following a previous 25 basis point cut from the 5.25% peak at the August MPC meeting. At the December meeting, six Committee members voted to maintain Bank Rate at 4.75% while three members preferred to reduce it to 4.50%.
- 2.3. The November quarterly Monetary Policy Report (MPR) expected Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth to pick up to around 1.75% (four-quarter GDP) in the early period of the BoE's forecast horizon before falling back. The impact from the Budget pushes GDP higher in 2025 than was expected in the previous MPR, before becoming weaker. Current GDP growth was shown to be zero (0.0%) between July and September 2024 and 0.4% between April and June 2024, a further downward revision from the 0.5% rate previously reported by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).
- 2.4. ONS figures reported the annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation rate at 2.6% in November 2024, up from 2.3% in the previous month and in line with expectations. Core CPI also rose, but by more than expected, to 3.6% against a forecast of 3.5% and 3.3% in

the previous month. The outlook for CPI inflation in the November MPR showed it rising above the MPC's 2% target from 2024 into 2025 and reaching around 2.75% by the middle of calendar 2025. This represents a modest near-term increase due to the ongoing impacts from higher interest rates, the Autumn Budget, and a projected margin of economic slack. Over the medium-term, once these pressures ease, inflation is expected to stabilise around the 2% target.

- 2.5. The labour market appears to be easing slowly, but the data still require treating with some caution. The latest figures reported the unemployment rate rose to 4.3% in the three months to October 2024 and economic inactivity fell to 21.7%. Pay growth for the same period was reported at 5.2% for both regular earnings (excluding bonuses) and for total earnings. Looking ahead, the BoE MPR showed the unemployment rate is expected to increase modestly, rising to around 4.5%, the assumed medium-term equilibrium unemployment rate, by the end of the forecast horizon.

Global economic outlook

- 2.6. The US Federal Reserve has also been cutting interest rates, bringing down the Fed Funds Rate by 0.25% at its November 2024 monetary policy meeting to a range of 4.5%-4.75%. Further interest rate cuts are expected, but uncertainties around the potential inflationary impact of incoming President Trump's policies may muddy the waters in terms of the pace and magnitude of further rate reductions. Moreover, the US economy continues to expand at a decent pace, rising at an annual rate of 3.1% in the third quarter of 2024, and inflation remains elevated suggesting that monetary policy may need to remain more restrictive in the coming months than had previously been anticipated.
- 2.7. Euro zone inflation rose above the European Central Bank (ECB) 2% target in November 2024, hitting 2.2% as was widely expected and a further increase from 2% in the previous month. Despite the rise, the ECB continued its rate cutting cycle and reduced its three key policy rates by 0.25% in December. Inflation is expected to rise further in the short term, but then fall back towards the 2% target during 2025, with the ECB remaining committed to maintaining rates at levels consistent with bringing inflation to target, but without suggesting a specific path.

Credit Outlook

- 2.8. Credit Default Swap (CDS) prices have typically followed a general trend downwards during 2024, reflecting a relatively more stable financial period compared to the previous year. Improved credit conditions in 2024 have also led to greater convergence in CDS prices between ringfenced (retail) and non-ringfenced (investment) banking entities again.
- 2.9. Higher interest rates can lead to a deterioration in banks' asset quality through increased loan defaults and volatility in the value of capital investments. Fortunately, the rapid interest rate hikes during this monetary tightening cycle, while putting some strain on households and corporate borrowers, has not caused a rise in defaults, and banks have fared better than expected to date, buoyed by strong capital positions. Low unemployment and robust wage growth have also limited the number of problem loans, all of which are positive in terms of creditworthiness.
- 2.10. Moreover, while a potential easing of US financial regulations under a Donald Trump Presidency may aid their banks' competitiveness compared to institutions in the UK and other regions, it is unlikely there will be any material impact on the underlying creditworthiness of the institutions on the counterparty list maintained by Arlingclose, the authority's treasury adviser.

- 2.11. Overall, the institutions on our adviser Arlingclose's counterparty list remain well-capitalised and their counterparty advice on both recommended institutions and maximum duration remain under constant review and will continue to reflect economic conditions and the credit outlook.

Interest rate forecast (December 2024)

- 2.12. The Authority's treasury management adviser Arlingclose expects the Bank of England's MPC will continue reducing Bank Rate through 2025, taking it to around 3.75% by the end of the 2025/26 financial year. The effect from the Autumn Budget on economic growth and inflation has reduced previous expectations in terms of the pace of rate cuts as well as pushing up the rate at the end of the loosening cycle.
- 2.13. Arlingclose expects long-term gilt yields to remain broadly at current levels on average (amid continued volatility), but to end the forecast period modestly lower compared to now. Yields will continue to remain relatively higher than in the past, due to quantitative tightening and significant bond supply. As ever, there will be short-term volatility due to economic and (geo)political uncertainty and events.
- 2.14. A more detailed economic and interest rate forecast provided by Arlingclose is included in this document as Appendix A.
- 2.15. For the purpose of setting the budget, it has been assumed that new treasury investments will be made at an average rate of 4.00%, and that new long-term loans will be borrowed at an average rate of 5.50%.

3. Local Context

Capital Expenditure and Financing

- 3.1. The Council's capital plans are the primary driver of the Council's borrowing requirement, and they are outlined in the Council's Capital Strategy 2025 to 2030 included in the Council's main budget report and has been considered when producing this report. Table 1 below summaries the Council's expenditure plans, both those previously agreed, and those to be agreed as part of this year's budget/MTFS plan. Members are asked to consider the following expenditure forecasts.

Table 1: Capital Expenditure

| | 31.3.24 | 31.3.25 | 31.3.26 | 31.3.27 | 31.3.28 | 31.3.29 | 31.3.30 |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Actual | Estimate | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| General Fund Account (GF) | 72,858 | 107,479 | 147,995 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 |
| Commercial Activities & Investments | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Housing Revenue Account (HRA) | 158,783 | 161,694 | 256,407 | 260,804 | 261,529 | 225,897 | 199,968 |
| Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) | - | 20,000 | 37,000 | - | - | - | - |

| | 31.3.24 | 31.3.25 | 31.3.26 | 31.3.27 | 31.3.28 | 31.3.29 | 31.3.30 |
|--------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Estimate | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Total | 231,641 | 289,173 | 441,402 | 412,002 | 374,047 | 293,617 | 305,679 |

- 3.2. A key aspect of the regulatory and professional guidance is that elected members are aware of the size and scope of any commercial activity in relation to the Council's overall financial position. The capital expenditure figures shown in Table 1 above indicate that no such activity is proposed in the future programme.
- 3.3. The above programme excludes other long-term liabilities, such as Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and leasing arrangements, that already include borrowing instruments.
- 3.4. If approved by MHCLG, the Exceptional Financial Support (see Section 3.16 to 3.19) will allow for certain items of revenue expenditure to be charged to Capital.
- 3.5. The proposed funding of the capital programme for 2025/26 to 2029/30 is set out in Table 2. Any shortfall of resources results in a borrowing need.

Table 2: Capital Financing

| | 31.3.24 | 31.3.25 | 31.3.26 | 31.3.27 | 31.3.28 | 31.3.29 | 31.3.30 |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Estimate | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Borrowing | 39,320 | 79,463 | 93,622 | 44,963 | 44,396 | 11,840 | 9,130 |
| Borrowing - Self-Funding | - | 8,504 | 38,894 | 37,203 | 6,402 | 4,686 | - |
| Capital Grants | 28,349 | 24,526 | 23,214 | 39,875 | 19,110 | 8,584 | 8,231 |
| Capital Receipts | - | - | 10,000 | - | - | - | - |
| Capital Reserves | - | 1,100 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Community Infrastructure Levy | 2,204 | 4,690 | 5,879 | 3,407 | 2,781 | 2,781 | - |
| HRA Contributions | - | - | 5,000 | - | - | - | - |
| Revenue contributions | 210 | 300 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 |
| S106/Developer Contributions | 2,775 | 8,896 | 7,886 | 25,250 | 39,329 | 39,329 | 87,850 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND (GF) FINANCING | 72,858 | 127,479 | 184,996 | 151,198 | 112,518 | 67,720 | 105,711 |
| Capital Grants | 55,271 | 20,932 | 45,820 | 74,042 | 35,032 | 28,616 | 10,468 |
| Major Repairs Reserve | 22,901 | 22,597 | 22,729 | 23,776 | 25,044 | 26,181 | 27,434 |
| Revenue contributions | - | 4,365 | 2,005 | 6,689 | 6,703 | 4,490 | 5,994 |
| RTB Capital Receipts | 7,533 | 9,758 | 9,455 | 9,735 | 9,795 | 6,461 | 6,818 |
| Leaseholder Contributions to Major Works | 1,269 | 8,289 | 7,144 | 6,965 | 7,022 | 6,936 | 6,965 |

| | 31.3.24 | 31.3.25 | 31.3.26 | 31.3.27 | 31.3.28 | 31.3.29 | 31.3.30 |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Actual | Estimate | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast | Forecast |
| | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 | £'000 |
| Market Sales Receipts | - | 4,717 | 1,348 | 1,613 | 1,482 | 15,450 | 450 |
| Borrowing | 71,809 | 91,036 | 167,906 | 137,984 | 176,451 | 137,763 | 141,840 |
| TOTAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) FINANCING | 158,783 | 161,694 | 256,407 | 260,804 | 261,529 | 225,897 | 199,968 |
| TOTAL CAPITAL FINANCING | 231,641 | 289,173 | 441,402 | 412,002 | 374,047 | 293,617 | 305,679 |

3.6. The Council's capital Strategy and programme is robustly scrutinised and tested to ensure that the capital plans are affordable and prudent. Table 1 shows the five-year effects of the Council's capital programme; however, all capital plans are assessed in their entirety (i.e., some schemes are for a greater than five year time frame).

3.7. On 31 December 2024, the Council held £956.9m of borrowing and £72.6m of treasury investments. This is set out further in detail at Annex B. Forecast changes in these sums are shown in the balance sheet analysis in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Balance Sheet Summary and Forecast (Capital Financing Requirement)

| | 31.3.24 Actual £m | 31.3.25 Estimate £m | 31.3.26 Forecast £m | 31.3.27 Forecast £m | 31.3.28 Forecast £m | 31.3.29 Forecast £m | 31.3.30 Forecast £m |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| General Fund CFR | 677.3 | 726.1 | 844.9 | 936.9 | 997.1 | 1,023.3 | 1,035.5 |
| HRA CFR | 542.9 | 587.8 | 733.4 | 877.4 | 1,046.1 | 1,191.6 | 1,332.6 |
| Total CFR | 1,242.2 | 1,313.9 | 1,578.3 | 1,814.3 | 2,043.2 | 2,214.9 | 2,368.1 |
| Less: Other debt liabilities* | -22.0 | -17.7 | -13.2 | -10.6 | -9.9 | -9.2 | -8.5 |
| Loans CFR | 1,220.2 | 1,296.2 | 1,565.1 | 1,803.7 | 2,033.3 | 2,205.7 | 2,359.6 |
| Less: Internal borrowing | -328.3 | -261.5 | -285.4 | -306.5 | -326.1 | -313.5 | -297.4 |
| CFR Funded by External Borrowing | 891.9 | 1,034.7 | 1,279.7 | 1,497.2 | 1,707.2 | 1,892.2 | 2,062.2 |
| Breakdown of External Borrowing: | | | | | | | |
| Existing borrowing** | 891.9 | 954.8 | 864.8 | 852.3 | 832.3 | 792.3 | 772.3 |
| New borrowing to be raised | - | 79.9 | 414.9 | 644.9 | 874.9 | 1,099.9 | 1,289.9 |

* leases and PFI liabilities that form part of the Authority's total debt

** shows only loans to which the Authority is committed and excludes optional refinancing

- 3.8. The underlying need to borrow for capital purposes is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The Council's current strategy is to maintain borrowing and investments below their underlying levels, sometimes known as internal borrowing.
- 3.9. CIPFA's *Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* recommends that the Council's total debt should be lower than its highest forecast CFR over the next three years. Table 3 shows that the Council expects to comply with this recommendation during the medium-term financial strategy (MTFS) forecast period.

Reporting Requirements

- 3.10. CIPFA published the revised Treasury Management Code and Prudential Code on 20th December 2021 and has stated that revisions need to be included in the reporting framework from 2023/24 financial year. The Council receives and approves the reports below, which incorporate a variety of strategies and policies, and estimated and actual figures:
 - Quarterly Treasury Management Update Reports, including Mid- year update that provides progress and updates members on the capital position, amending Prudential Indicators as necessary, and advises whether any policies require revision
 - Annual Treasury Management Report - This is a backward-looking review and provides details of a selection of actual prudential capital and treasury management indicators and of actual treasury operations compared to the estimates
 - Treasury Management Strategy - Prudential capital and treasury management indicators and treasury strategy (this report)
- 3.11. The Council adheres to these Codes of Practice and reporting requirements when it prepares the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and related reports during the financial year, reporting to Audit Committee, Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Full Council as required during the reporting cycle.

Training

- 3.12. The Treasury Management Code requires a Council officer (the "responsible officer") to ensure that members with responsibility for treasury management receive adequate training in that function. This especially applies to members responsible for scrutiny. Furthermore, the Code states that all organisations are expected to have a formal and comprehensive knowledge and skills or training policy for the effective acquisition and retention of treasury management knowledge and skills for those responsible for management, delivery, governance and decision making.
- 3.13. Training is made available to all Members involved in the monitoring of treasury management performance. Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committee members receive Treasury Management training for the review, scrutiny and approval of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement annually as part of the budget planning process. The council will regularly assess whether treasury management staff and members have the required knowledge and skills to undertake their roles and ensure these skills are maintained and kept up to date.

Treasury management advisors

- 3.14. The Council recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. Haringey

employ the services of Arlingclose Ltd for advice on treasury management. Services cover advice on strategy setting and implementation, regulatory compliance, reporting, investments, counterparty credit worthiness, economic outlook, financial markets, interest rates, debt management, funding, training, and technical accounting support.

- 3.15. Treasury management decisions is the responsibility of the Council based on, but not solely, on the most up to date information available by external advisors. The Council will continue to ensure that undue reliance is not placed upon the services of Treasury Advisors.

Exceptional Financial Support

- 3.16. The Council's financial position is challenging. Efforts to reduce costs and identify additional savings continues but as part of contingency planning, Haringey made an application to the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government for Exceptional Financial Support (EFS) to be made available if it is required during 2025/26.
- 3.17. The application for EFS is a necessary response to the Council's financial circumstances and if required, support will be provided through an agreement by Government that the Council can capitalise part of its day to day running costs. In practice this means that the Council has permission to either borrow or use capital receipts from the sale of assets to fund day-to-day expenditure. Haringey's EFS application totals £37m for 2025/26 and is a combination of the two. Capital receipts already received and those planned from the disposal of surplus assets during 2025/26 equate to £10m but borrowing of up to £27m may be required. The associated borrowing costs have been factored into the treasury management budget from 2025/26
- 3.18. An update on the Council's financial position has been presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 30 January 2025 for comments before the Cabinet consider the final draft budget on 11 February 2025. For planning purposes, this draft TMSS has been prepared on the basis that £37m of EFS will be approved and through a capitalisation directive, that allows borrowing for some day to day services. The outcome of the Council's application will not be known until the end of February 2025 after the final Local Government Finance Settlement 2025/26 is published. The expectation that any EFS required to balance the budget will be minimised. This draft TMSS following Audit Committee on 27 January 2025 has been updated to reflect the £37m EFS application, with the final TMSS presented to Full Council on 03 March 2025 for approval. Full details are also set out in the Chief Finance Officer's Section 25 Statement of the 2025/26 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy report going to Cabinet on 11 February 2025.
- 3.19. Support through EFS is not a long term sustainable financial strategy and work will continue through 2025/26 to reduce the amount of EFS drawdown and avoid the need for any EFS from 2026/27 onwards.
- 3.20. The Council has an increasing CFR due to the capital programme, but minimal treasury investments, therefore there will be a new borrowing requirement of up to £1,289.9m over the forecast period 2025/26 to 2029/30 (See Table 3). Table 4 below shows a breakdown of the forecast borrowing position at each financial year end to finance both the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account's (HRA) capital programmes.

Table 4: Year-end Borrowing Position Summary

| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| | 31.3.24 Actual £m | 31.3.25 Estimate £m | 31.3.26 Forecast £m | 31.3.27 Forecast £m | 31.3.28 Forecast £m | 31.3.29 Forecast £m | 31.3.30 Forecast £m |
|------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| General Fund borrowing | 445.0 | 495.4 | 595.4 | 667.9 | 707.9 | 747.9 | 777.9 |
| HRA borrowing | 446.9 | 539.3 | 684.3 | 829.3 | 999.3 | 1,144.3 | 1,284.3 |
| Total borrowing | 891.9 | 1,034.7 | 1,279.7 | 1,497.2 | 1,707.2 | 1,892.2 | 2,062.2 |

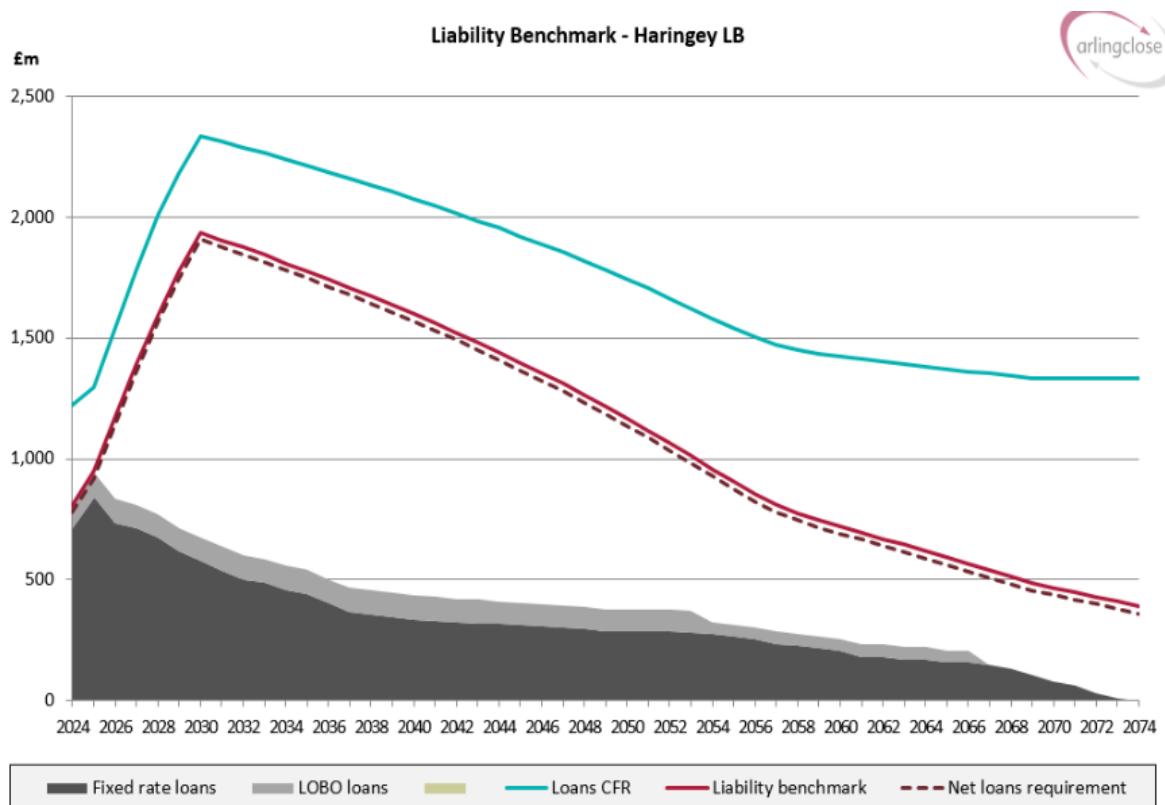
Liability Benchmark

- 3.21. The liability benchmark has been calculated to compare the Council's actual borrowing against an alternative strategy. The liability benchmark shows the lowest risk level of borrowing. This assumes the same borrowing forecasts as Table 3 above, but that cash and investment balances are kept to a minimum level of £30m at each year-end to maintain sufficient liquidity but minimise credit risk.
- 3.22. The liability benchmark is an important tool to help establish whether the Council is likely to be a long-term borrower or a long-term investor in the future. This is important in developing the Council's strategic focus and decision making. The liability benchmark itself represents an estimate of the cumulative amount of external borrowing the Council must hold to fund its current capital and revenue plans while keeping treasury investments at the minimum level required to manage day-to-day cash flow.

Table 5: Prudential Indicator – Liability Benchmark

| | 31.3.24 Actual £m | 31.3.25 Estimate £m | 31.3.26 Forecast £m | 31.3.27 Forecast £m | 31.3.28 Forecast £m | 31.3.29 Forecast £m | 31.3.30 Forecast £m |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Loans CFR | 1,220.2 | 1,296.2 | 1,565.1 | 1,803.7 | 2,033.3 | 2,205.7 | 2,359.6 |
| Less: Balance Sheet resources | -443.8 | -377.0 | -397.2 | -417.2 | -436.6 | -424.0 | -407.9 |
| Net loans requirement | 776.4 | 919.2 | 1,167.9 | 1,386.5 | 1,596.7 | 1,781.7 | 1,951.7 |
| Plus: Liquidity allowance | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 | 30.0 |
| Liability Benchmark | 806.4 | 949.2 | 1,197.9 | 1,416.5 | 1,626.7 | 1,811.7 | 1,981.7 |

- 3.23. The long-term liability benchmark assumes the same capital expenditure funded by borrowing as included in the CFR, minimum revenue provision on new capital expenditure based on a 25-year asset life and income, expenditure and reserves all increasing by inflation of 2.5% a year. This is shown in the chart on the following page together with the maturity profile of the Council's existing borrowing.



4. **Borrowing Strategy**

- 4.1. On 31 December 2024, the Council held £956.9m of loans as part of its strategy for funding previous years' capital programmes. The balance sheet forecast in Table 3 shows that the Council expects to increase its borrowing by up to £414.9m by the end of 2025/26. The Council may also borrow additional sums to pre-fund future years' borrowing requirements, provided this does not exceed the authorised limit for borrowing as set out in the Capital Strategy.
- 4.2. Borrowing can take the form of internal or external borrowing. Internal borrowing is a temporary position where the Council delays the need to borrow externally by temporarily using its cash it holds for other purposes. If not used for internal borrowing, these cash balances would be invested in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy providing the Council with a return on investment.

Objectives

- 4.3. The Council's main objective when borrowing money is to strike an appropriately low risk balance between securing low interest costs and achieving certainty of those costs over the period for which funds are required. The flexibility to renegotiate loans should the Council's long-term plans change, is a secondary objective.

Strategy

- 4.4. Given the significant reductions in national public expenditure and, in particular, to local government funding, the Council's borrowing strategy continues to address the key issue of affordability without compromising the longer-term stability of the debt portfolio. The scale of the Council's capital programme, and the need to diversify the Council's debt portfolio to further minimise refinancing risk means that long term borrowing will be required during

2025/26. Therefore, the Council's strategy will be to fulfil its borrowing requirement during the financial year with a mixture of short-term and long-term borrowing.

- 4.5. The Council aims to strike a balance between borrowing short-term loans that may be refinanced at a lower cost if rates fall, against the certainty of longer term fixed rate debt that will protect the council if interest rates rise.
- 4.6. The Council has in recent years raised all its long-term borrowing from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) but will continue to consider long-term loans from other sources including banks, pension funds and other local authorities, and may investigate the possibility of issuing bonds and similar instruments, in order to lower interest costs and reduce over-reliance on one source of funding in line with the CIPFA Code. The council has struggled to borrow from other sources due to it being perceived as having a higher risk than other local authorities. PWLB loans are no longer available to local authorities planning to buy investment assets primarily for yield; the Council has not done this in the past and intends to avoid this activity in order to retain its access to PWLB loans.
- 4.7. Alternatively, the Council may arrange forward starting loans, where the interest rate is fixed in advance, but the cash is received in later years. This would enable certainty of cost to be achieved without suffering a cost of carry in the intervening period.
- 4.8. In addition, the Council may borrow short-term loans to cover unplanned cash flow shortages.
- 4.9. The councils Medium Term Financial Strategy includes the provision of a Capitalisation Direction from Government. If agreed, the council has permission to either borrow or use capital receipts from the sale of assets to fund day-to-day expenditure. It is for the Council to decide which of its capital resources eg capital receipts or borrowing to allocate for this purpose at year end. With the previous Government, should a Council choose to borrow from the PWLB to finance a Capitalisation Direction, it was charged at the more disadvantageous rate of PWLB+1% . However, the new Government announced in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (PLGFS) in December 2025 that as part of a framework, that they have put in place to support councils in the most difficult positions, they will not seek to replicate conditions that made borrowing more expensive. It has therefore been assumed in the TMSS that borrowing will be at PWLB rates included in Appendix A and MRP will be required using the asset life method with a proxy 'asset life' of no more than 20 years.

Sources of Borrowing

- 4.10. The approved sources of long-term and short-term borrowing are:
 - HM Treasury's PWLB lending facility (formerly the Public Works Loan Board)
 - UK Infrastructure Bank Ltd
 - any institution approved for investments (see below)
 - any other bank or building society authorised to operate in the UK
 - any other UK public sector body
 - UK public and private sector pension funds (except Haringey Pension Fund and the London Collective Investment Vehicle)
 - capital market bond investors
 - retail investors via a regulated peer-to-peer platform
 - UK Municipal Bonds Agency plc and other special purpose companies created to enable local authority bond issues.

Other Sources of Debt Finance

4.11. In addition, capital finance may be raised by the following methods that are not borrowing, but may be classed as other debt liabilities:

- Leasing
- Hire Purchase
- Private Finance Initiative
- Sale and Lease Back
- Similar asset based finance

Municipal Bonds Agency

4.12. The UK Municipal Bonds Agency was established in 2014 by the Local Government Association as an alternative to the PWLB. It issues bonds on the capital markets and lends the proceeds to local authorities. This is a more complicated source of finance than the PWLB for two reasons: borrowing authorities will be required to provide bond investors with a guarantee to refund their investment in the event that the agency is unable to for any reason; and there will be a lead time of several months between committing to borrow and knowing the interest rate payable. There are no plans to borrow during 2025/26 from the Municipal Bonds Agency and any decision to borrow from the Agency will therefore be the subject of a separate report to the Audit Committee.

LOBOs

4.13. The Council holds £100m of LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option) loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate at set dates, following which the Council has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. £50m of these LOBOs have options exercisable during 2025/26, and with interest rates having risen sharply recently, there is now a reasonable likelihood that lenders will explore their ability to exercise their options. If they do, the Council will take the option to repay the LOBO loans to reduce refinancing risk in later years.

4.14. Some LOBO lenders may be open to negotiating premature exit terms from LOBO loans via payment of a premium to the lender. The Council's policy will be to exit LOBO agreements if the costs of replacing the loans, including all premium, transaction and funding costs, generate a material net revenue saving for the Council over the life of the loan in net present value terms, and all costs are consistent with Haringey's approved medium term financial strategy. The decision to repay a LOBO loan will be determined by the S151 Officer in consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services, in line with Haringey's constitution.

4.15. When loans are prematurely repaid, there is usually a premium payable to the lender, to compensate them for interest forgone at the contractual rate, where prevailing interest rates are lower. The Council would need to refinance LOBOs by raising borrowing for both the original sum borrowed, and the premium payable to the lender. However, this type of arrangement can prove beneficial where interest savings exceed premium costs. Replacing LOBOs that contain an option for lenders to increase the rate, with fixed rate debt would reduce refinancing and interest rate risk.

Short-term and Variable Rate Loans

4.16. These loans leave the Council exposed to the risk of short-term interest rate rises and are therefore subject to the interest rate exposure limits in the treasury management indicators below. Financial derivatives may be used to manage this interest rate risk.

Debt Rescheduling

- 4.17. The PWLB allows authorities to repay loans before maturity and either pay a premium or receive a discount according to a set formula based on current interest rates. Other lenders may also be prepared to negotiate premature redemption terms. The Council may take advantage of this and replace some loans with new loans, or repay loans without replacement, where this is expected to lead to an overall cost saving or a reduction in risk. A rise in interest rates means that more favourable debt rescheduling opportunities should arise than in previous years.

Borrowing Limits

- 4.18. The Council's total borrowing limits are set out in Table 6 below.
- 4.19. The **Authorised Limit** sets the maximum level of external borrowing on a gross basis (i.e., not net of investments) and is the statutory limit determined under Section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003 (referred to in the legislation as the Affordable Limit). The indicator separately identifies borrowing from other long-term liabilities such as finance leases. The Authorised Limit has been set on the estimate of the most likely, prudent but not worst-case scenario with sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for unusual cash movements.
- 4.20. The **Operational Boundary** links directly to the Council's estimates of the CFR and estimates of other cashflow requirements. This indicator is based on the same estimates as the Authorised Limit reflecting the most likely, prudent but not worst-case scenario but without the additional headroom included within the Authorised Limit. The Operational Boundary and Authorised Limit apply at the total level.
- 4.21. The Chief Finance Officer has the delegated authority, within the total limit for any individual year, to effect movement between the separately agreed limits for borrowing and other long-term liabilities. Decisions will be based on the outcome of financial option appraisals and best value considerations. Any movement between these separate limits will be reported to the next meeting of the Audit Committee.

Table 6: Borrowing Limits

| | 2023/24 Limit £m | 2024/25 Limit £m | 2025/26 Limit £m | 2026/27 Limit £m | 2027/28 Limit £m | 2028/29 Limit £m |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Authorised limit - borrowing | 1,208.9 | 1,481.9 | 1,723.1 | 1,953.5 | 2,126.6 | 2,281.3 |
| Authorised limit - PFI & Leases | 23.3 | 17.4 | 13.9 | 13.0 | 12.1 | 11.2 |
| Authorised limit - total external debt | 1,232.2 | 1,499.3 | 1,737.0 | 1,966.5 | 2,138.7 | 2,292.5 |
| Operational boundary - borrowing | 1,158.9 | 1,431.9 | 1,673.1 | 1,903.5 | 2,076.6 | 2,231.3 |
| Operational boundary - PFI & Leases | 21.2 | 15.8 | 12.7 | 11.8 | 11.0 | 10.1 |
| Operational boundary - total external debt | 1,180.1 | 1,447.7 | 1,685.8 | 1,915.3 | 2,087.6 | 2,241.4 |

5. **Treasury Investment Strategy**

- 5.1. The Council holds invested funds, representing income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. In the past 12 months, the Council's treasury investment balance has ranged between £33m and £84m, and similar levels are expected to be maintained in the forthcoming year.

Objectives

- 5.2. The CIPFA Code requires the Council to invest its treasury funds prudently, and to have regard to the security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return, or yield. The Council's objective when investing money is to strike an appropriate balance between risk and return, minimising the risk of incurring losses from defaults and the risk of receiving unsuitably low investment income. Where balances are expected to be invested for more than one year, the Council will aim to achieve a total return that is equal or higher than the prevailing rate of inflation, in order to maintain the spending power of the sum invested. The Council aims to be a responsible investor and will consider environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors when making investment decisions.

Strategy

- 5.3. As demonstrated by the liability benchmark above, the Council expects to be a long-term borrower and new treasury investments will therefore be made primarily to manage day-to-day cash flows using short-term low risk instruments. The Council aims to maintain its policy of utilising highly creditworthy and highly liquid investments such as deposits with the Debt Management Office (DMO), AAA rated money market funds and other entities on the Arlingclose approved counterparty list.

ESG policy

- 5.4. Environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations are increasingly a factor in global investors' decision making, but the framework for evaluating investment opportunities is still developing and therefore the Council's ESG policy does not currently include ESG scoring or other real-time ESG criteria at an individual investment level. When investing in banks and funds, the Council will prioritise banks that are signatories to the UN Principles for Responsible Banking and funds operated by managers that are signatories to the UN Principles for Responsible Investment, the Net Zero Asset Managers Alliance and/or the UK Stewardship Code.

Business Models

- 5.5. Under the IFRS 9 standard, the accounting for certain investments depends on the Council's "business model" for managing them. The Council aims to achieve value from its treasury investments by a business model of collecting the contractual cash flows and therefore, where other criteria are also met, these investments will continue to be accounted for at amortised cost.

Approved Counterparties

- 5.6. The Council may invest its surplus funds with any of the counterparty types in Table 7, subject to the limits shown.

Table 7: Treasury Investment Counterparties and Limits

| Sector | Time Limit | Counterparty Limit | Sector Limit |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| The UK Government | 50 years | Unlimited | n/a |
| Money Market Funds | n/a | £10m | Unlimited |
| Local authorities & other government entities | 25 years | £5m | Unlimited |

| | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|
| Banks (secured)* | 2 years | £5m | Unlimited |
| Banks (unsecured)* | 13 months | £5m | Unlimited |
| Building societies (unsecured)* | 13 months | £5m | £20m |
| Registered providers (unsecured)* | 5 years | £5m | £20m |
| Strategic Pooled Funds | n/a | £5m | Unlimited |
| Real Estate Investment Trusts | n/a | £5m | Unlimited |

Minimum Credit Rating

- 5.7. Treasury investments in the sectors marked with an asterisk will only be made with entities whose lowest published long-term credit rating is no lower than A-. Where available, the credit rating relevant to the specific investment or class of investment is used, otherwise the counterparty credit rating is used. However, investment decisions are never made solely based on credit ratings, and all other relevant factors including external advice will be taken into account.

Government

- 5.8. The Council may invest in loans, and bonds and bills issued or guaranteed by, national governments, regional and local authorities and multilateral development banks. These investments are not subject to bail-in, and there is generally a lower risk of insolvency, although they are not zero risk. Investments with the UK Government are deemed to be zero credit risk due to its ability to create additional currency and therefore may be made in unlimited amounts for up to 50 years.

Bank Secured Investments

- 5.9. Bank secured investments are investments that are secured on the borrower's assets, which limits the potential losses in the event of insolvency. The amount and quality of the security will be a key factor in the investment decision. Covered bonds and reverse repurchase agreements with banks and building societies are exempt from bail-in. Where there is no investment specific credit rating, but the collateral upon which the investment is secured has a credit rating, the higher of the collateral credit rating and the counterparty credit rating will be used. The combined secured and unsecured investments with any one counterparty will not exceed the cash limit for secured investments.

Banks and Building Societies (unsecured)

- 5.10. The Council may invest in accounts, deposits, certificates of deposit and senior unsecured bonds with banks and building societies, other than multilateral development banks. These investments are subject to the risk of credit loss via a bail-in should the regulator determine that the bank is failing or likely to fail. See below for arrangements relating to operational bank accounts.

Registered Providers (unsecured)

- 5.11. The Council may invest in loans, and bonds issued or guaranteed by, registered providers of social housing or registered social landlords, formerly known as housing associations. These bodies are regulated by the Regulator of Social Housing (in England), the Scottish Housing Regulator, the Welsh Government and the Department for Communities (in Northern Ireland). As providers of public services, they retain the likelihood of receiving government support if needed.

Money Market Funds

- 5.12. Money market funds are pooled funds that offer same-day or short notice liquidity and very low or no price volatility by investing in short-term money markets. They have the advantage

over banks of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager in return for a small fee. Although no sector limit applies to money market funds, the Council will take care to diversify its liquid investments over a variety of providers to ensure access to cash at all times.

Strategic Pooled Funds

- 5.13. Strategic pooled funds include bond, equity and property funds that offer enhanced returns over the longer term but are more volatile in the short term. These allow the Council to diversify into asset classes other than cash without the need to own and manage the underlying investments. Since these funds have no defined maturity date, but are available for withdrawal after a notice period, their performance and continued suitability in meeting the Council's investment objectives will be monitored regularly.

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs)

- 5.14. REITs are publicly traded companies that invest mainly in real estate and pay most of their rental income to investors in a similar manner to pooled property funds. As with property funds, REITs offer enhanced returns over the longer term, but are more volatile especially as the share price reflects changing demand for the shares as well as changes in the value of the underlying properties.

Operational Bank Accounts

- 5.15. The Council may incur operational exposures, for example through current accounts, collection accounts and merchant acquiring services, to any UK bank with credit ratings no lower than BBB- and with assets greater than £25 billion. These are not classed as investments but are still subject to the risk of a bank bail-in, and balances will therefore be kept below £10m per bank. The Bank of England has stated that in the event of failure, banks with assets greater than £25 billion are more likely to be bailed-in than made insolvent, increasing the chance of the Authority maintaining operational continuity.

Risk Assessment and Credit Ratings

- 5.16. Credit ratings are obtained and monitored by the Council's treasury advisers, who will notify changes in ratings as they occur. Where an entity has its credit rating downgraded so that it fails to meet the approved investment criteria then:
- no new investments will be made,
 - any existing investments that can be recalled or sold at no cost will be, and
 - full consideration will be given to the recall or sale of all other existing investments with the affected counterparty.
- 5.17. Where a credit rating agency announces that a credit rating is on review for possible downgrade (also known as "negative watch") so that it may fall below the approved rating criteria, then only investments that can be withdrawn on the next working day will be made with that organisation until the outcome of the review is announced. This policy will not apply to negative outlooks, which indicate a long-term direction of travel rather than an imminent change of rating.

Other Information on the Security of Investments

- 5.18. The Council understands that credit ratings are good, but not perfect, predictors of investment default. Full regard will therefore be given to other available information on the credit quality of the organisations in which it invests, including credit default swap prices, financial statements, information on potential government support, reports in the quality financial press and analysis and advice from the Council's treasury management adviser. No investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality, even though it may otherwise meet the above criteria.

Reputational aspects

- 5.19. The Council acknowledges that investing with certain counterparties, although financially secure, may subject it to criticism, whether valid or not, that could impact its public reputation. This risk will be considered when making investment decisions.
- 5.20. When deteriorating financial market conditions affect the creditworthiness of all organisations, as happened in 2008, 2020 and 2022, this is not generally reflected in credit ratings but can be seen in other market measures. In these circumstances, the Council will restrict its investments to those organisations of higher credit quality and reduce the maximum duration of its investments to maintain the required level of security. The extent of these restrictions will be in line with prevailing financial market conditions. If these restrictions mean that insufficient commercial organisations of high credit quality are available to invest the Council's cash balances, then the surplus will be deposited with the UK Government, or with other local authorities. This will cause investment returns to fall but will protect the principal sum invested.

Investment Limits

- 5.21. The Council's revenue reserves available to cover investment losses are forecast to be £30 million on 31st March 2025 and £30 million on 31 March 2026. In order that no more than 100% of available reserves will be put at risk in the case of a single default, the maximum that will be lent to any one organisation (other than the UK Government) will be £10 million. A group of entities under the same ownership will be treated as a single organisation for limit purposes.
- 5.22. Limits are also placed on fund managers, investments in brokers' nominee accounts and foreign countries as below. Investments in pooled funds and multilateral development banks do not count against the limit for any single foreign country since the risk is diversified over many countries.

Table 8: Additional Investment Limits

| | Cash Limit |
|---|------------------|
| Any single organisation, except the UK Central Government | £10m each |
| UK Central Government | Unlimited |
| Any group of organisations under the same ownership | £10m per group |
| Any group of pooled funds under the same management | £10m per manager |
| Negotiable instruments held in a broker's nominee account | £10m per broker |
| Foreign countries | £10m per country |
| Registered providers and registered social landlords | £10m in total |
| Unsecured investments with building societies | £10m in total |
| Loans to unrated corporates | £10m in total |
| Money market funds* | £50m in total |
| Real Estate Investment Trusts | £10m in total |

* These limits apply for both Haringey Council and Haringey Pension Fund, so the limit for Money Market Funds is £10m per MMF and £50m aggregate limit for the Council, and £50m for the Pension Fund.

Liquidity Management

- 5.23. The Council uses purpose-built cash flow forecasting software to determine the maximum period for which funds may prudently be committed. The forecast is compiled on a prudent basis to minimise the risk of the Council being forced to borrow on unfavourable terms to

meet its financial commitments. Limits on long-term investments are set by reference to the Council's medium-term financial plan and cash flow forecast.

6. **Treasury Management Prudential Indicators**

- 6.1. The Council measures and manages its exposures to treasury management risks using the following indicators.

Security

- 6.2. The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to credit risk by monitoring the value-weighted average credit rating of its investment portfolio. This is calculated by applying a score to each investment (AAA=1, AA+=2, etc.) and taking the arithmetic average, weighted by the size of each investment. Unrated investments are assigned a score based on their perceived risk.

| Credit Risk Indicator | Target |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Portfolio average credit rating | Above A, score of 6 or lower |

Liquidity

- 6.3. The Council has adopted a voluntary measure of its exposure to liquidity risk by monitoring the amount of cash available to meet unexpected payments within a rolling 3-month period, without additional borrowing.

| Liquidity Risk Indicator | Target |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Total cash available within 3 months | £30m |

Interest rate exposures

- 6.4. This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limits on the one-year revenue impact of a 1% rise or fall in interest rates will be:

| Interest Rate Risk Indicator | Target |
|--|--------|
| Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>rise</u> in interest rates | £2m |
| Upper limit on one-year revenue impact of a 1% <u>fall</u> in interest rates | £2m |

- 6.5. The impact of a change in interest rates is calculated on the assumption that maturing loans and investments will be replaced at current rates.

Maturity structure of borrowing

- 6.6. This indicator is set to control the Council's exposure to refinancing risk. The upper and lower limits on the maturity structure of borrowing are shown on the following page:

| Refinancing Rate Risk Indicator | Upper Limit | Lower Limit |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Under 12 months | 40% | 0% |
| 12 months and within 24 months | 40% | 0% |
| 24 months and within 5 years | 50% | 0% |
| 5 years and within 10 years | 50% | 0% |
| 10 years and above | 100% | 0% |

- 6.7. Time periods start on the first day of each financial year. The maturity date of borrowing is the earliest date on which the lender can demand repayment.

Total short-term borrowing

- 6.8. In recent years, the Council has used short term borrowing (under 1 year in duration) from other local authorities to meet short-term liquidity requirements. Short term borrowing can also be raised from other counterparties such as banks. This approach offers increased flexibility for cash flow management by the Council and can serve as an alternative to borrowing from PWLB over a longer term.
- 6.9. Short-term borrowing exposes the Council to refinancing risk. This is the risk that interest rates may rise quickly over a short period of time, resulting in significantly higher rates when the loans mature. In such cases, there is a risk that the new replacement borrowing would need to be taken at higher interest rates compared to the maturing loans.
- 6.10. Bearing this in mind, the Council has set a limit on the total amount of short-term borrowing that has no associated protection against interest rate rises, as a proportion of all borrowing.

| Short term borrowing | Target |
|--|--------|
| Upper limit on short-term borrowing that exposes the Council to interest rate rises as a percentage of total borrowing | 20% |

Long-term treasury management investments

- 6.11. The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of its investments. The prudential limits on the long-term treasury management investments will be:

| Price Risk Indicator | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|
| Limit on principal invested beyond year end | £5m | £5m | £5m |

7. Related Matters

- 7.1. The CIPFA Code requires the Council to include the following in its treasury management strategy.

Financial Derivatives

- 7.2. Local authorities have previously made use of financial derivatives embedded into loans and investments both to reduce interest rate risk (e.g., interest rate collars and forward deals) and to reduce costs or increase income at the expense of greater risk (e.g., LOBO loans and callable deposits). The general power of competence in section 1 of the *Localism Act 2011* removes much of the uncertainty over local authorities' use of standalone financial derivatives (i.e., those that are not embedded into a loan or investment).
- 7.3. The Council will only use standalone financial derivatives (such as swaps, forwards, futures, and options) where they can be clearly demonstrated to reduce the overall level of the financial risks that the Council is exposed to. Additional risks presented, such as credit exposure to derivative counterparties, will be considered when determining the overall level of risk. Embedded derivatives, including those present in pooled funds and forward starting transactions, will not be subject to this policy, although the risks they present will be managed in line with the overall treasury risk management strategy.
- 7.4. Financial derivative transactions may be arranged with any organisation that meets the approved investment criteria, assessed using the appropriate credit rating for derivative exposures. An allowance for credit risk will be included to count against the counterparty credit limit and the relevant foreign country limit.

- 7.5. In line with the CIPFA Code, the Council will seek external advice and will consider that advice before entering into financial derivatives to ensure that it fully understands the implications.

Housing Revenue Account

- 7.6. On 1st April 2012, the Council notionally split each of its existing long-term loans into General Fund and HRA pools. In the future, new long-term loans borrowed will be assigned in their entirety to one pool or the other. Interest payable and other costs/income arising from long-term loans (e.g., premiums and discounts on early redemption) will be charged/credited to the respective revenue account. Differences between the value of the HRA loans pool and the HRA's underlying need to borrow (adjusted for HRA balance sheet resources available for investment) will result in a notional cash balance which may be positive or negative. This balance will be measured each month and interest transferred between the General Fund and HRA at the Authority's average interest rate on investments, adjusted for credit risk.

Markets in Financial Instruments Directive

- 7.7. The Council has opted up to professional client status with its providers of financial services, including advisers, banks, brokers and fund managers, allowing it access to a greater range of services but without the greater regulatory protections afforded to individuals and small companies. Given the size and range of the Council's treasury management activities, the Director of Finance (S151 Officer) considers this to be the most appropriate status.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. The budget for investment income in 2025/26 is £2.0m based on an average investment portfolio of £50 million at an interest rate of 4.0%.
- 8.2. The budget for total debt interest paid in 2025/26 is detailed in Table 9 below for both the General Fund and HRA. If the actual levels of investments and borrowing, or the actual interest rates, differ from those forecasted, the performance against the budget will be correspondingly different. This will be reported through the quarterly Treasury Management report to Audit Committee.
- 8.3. As debt needs to be repaid the Council is required by statute to set aside from its revenue account an annual amount sufficient to repay its borrowing. This is known as the minimum revenue provision (MRP). No MRP is required for the HRA. Table 9 sets out the revenue budgets in both the General Fund and HRA for both interest costs on borrowing and minimum revenue provision (MRP) charges.
- 8.4. The Council's MRP Policy Statement is included in the Capital Strategy 2025-2030 of the main Budget report going to Cabinet 11 February 2025.
- 8.5. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) now Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), issued statutory guidance (updated 2018) on determining a prudent level of MRP. The Council's Minimum MRP Policy is under review for 2025/26 and any significant updates will be factored into this report for Audit Committee on 27 January 2025.

Table 9: Revenue budget for interest costs and MRP

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| | 2024/25 Budget £m | 2025/26 Forecast £m | 2026/27 Forecast £m | 2027/28 Forecast £m | 2028/29 Forecast £m | 2029/30 Forecast £m |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| MRP - pre 2008 expenditure | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 | 5.0 |
| MRP - post 2008 expenditure | 11.7 | 13.5 | 15.1 | 16.3 | 16.7 | 17.2 |
| Total MRP | 16.7 | 18.5 | 20.1 | 21.3 | 21.7 | 22.2 |
| Interest Costs (GF) | 14.1 | 19.2 | 25.2 | 28.3 | 30.6 | 32.4 |
| Capital Financing Costs (GF) | 30.8 | 37.7 | 45.3 | 49.6 | 52.3 | 54.6 |
| Offsetting Savings for self-funded schemes | -0.1 | -1.1 | -2.7 | -3.7 | -4.2 | -5.2 |
| Estimated Capital Financing Budgets | 30.7 | 36.6 | 42.6 | 45.9 | 48.1 | 49.4 |
| | | | | | | |
| Interest Costs (HRA) | 20.2 | 26.2 | 34.0 | 42.1 | 49.6 | 55.9 |

9. Other Options Considered

- 9.1. The CIPFA Code does not prescribe any particular treasury management strategy for local authorities to adopt. The Director of Finance (S151 Officer), having consulted the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Services, believes that the above strategy represents an appropriate balance between risk management and cost effectiveness. Some alternative strategies, with their financial and risk management implications, are as follows.

| Alternative | Impact on income and expenditure | Impact on risk management |
|---|--|---|
| Invest in a narrower range of counterparties and/or for shorter times | Interest income will be lower | Lower chance of losses from credit related defaults, but any such losses may be greater |
| Invest in a wider range of counterparties and/or for longer times | Interest income will be higher | Increased risk of losses from credit related defaults, but any such losses may be smaller |
| Borrow additional sums at long-term fixed interest rates | Debt interest costs will rise; this is unlikely to be offset by higher investment income | Higher investment balance leading to a higher impact in the event of a default; however long-term interest costs may be more certain |
| Borrow short-term or variable loans instead of long-term fixed rates | Debt interest costs will initially be lower | Increases in debt interest costs will be broadly offset by rising investment income in the medium term, but long-term costs may be less certain |
| Reduce level of borrowing | Saving on debt interest is likely to exceed lost investment income | Reduced investment balance leading to a lower impact in the event of a default; |

| Alternative | Impact on income and expenditure | Impact on risk management |
|-------------|----------------------------------|--|
| | | however long-term interest costs may be less certain |

Appendix A – Arlingclose Economic & Interest Rate Forecast – December 2024

Underlying assumptions:

- As expected, the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) held Bank Rate at 4.75% in December, although, with a 6-3 voting split and obvious concerns about economic growth, presented a much more dovish stance than had been expected given recent inflationary data.
- The Budget measures remain a concern for policymakers, for both growth and inflation. Additional government spending will boost demand in a constrained supply environment, while pushing up direct costs for employers. The short to medium-term inflationary effects will promote caution amongst policymakers.
- UK GDP recovered well in H1 2024 from technical recession, but underlying growth has petered out as the year has progressed. While government spending should boost GDP growth in 2025, private sector activity appears to be waning, partly due to Budget measures.
- Private sector wage growth and services inflation remain elevated; wage growth picked up sharply in October. The increase in employers' NICs, minimum and public sector wage levels could have wide ranging impacts on private sector employment demand and costs, but the near-term impact will likely be inflationary as these additional costs get passed to consumers.
- CPI inflation rates have risen due to higher energy prices and less favourable base effects. The current CPI rate of 2.6% could rise further in Q1 2025. The Bank of England (BoE) estimates the CPI rate at 2.7% by year end 2025 and to remain over target in 2026.
- The MPC re-emphasised that monetary policy will be eased gradually. Despite recent inflation-related data moving upwards or surprising to the upside, the minutes suggested a significant minority of policymakers are at least as worried about the flatlining UK economy.
- US government bond yields have risen following strong US data and uncertainty about the effects of Donald Trump's policies on the US economy, particularly in terms of inflation and monetary policy. The Federal Reserve pared back its expectations for rate cuts in light of these issues. Higher US yields are also pushing up UK gilt yields, a relationship that will be maintained unless monetary policy in the UK and US diverges.

- In line with our forecast, Bank Rate was held at 4.75% in December.
- The MPC will reduce Bank Rate in a gradual manner. We see a rate cut in February 2025, followed by a cut alongside every Monetary Policy Report publication, to a low of 3.75%.
- Long-term gilt yields have risen to reflect both UK and US economic, monetary and fiscal policy expectations, and increases in bond supply. Volatility will remain elevated as the market digests incoming data for clues around the impact of policy changes.
- This uncertainty may also necessitate more frequent changes to our forecast than has been the case recently.
- The risks around the forecasts lie to the upside over the next 12 months but are broadly balanced in the medium term.

Interest Rate Forecast:

The table below shows the most recent interest rate forecast provided by Arlingclose.

| | Current | Mar-25 | Jun-25 | Sep-25 | Dec-25 | Mar-26 | Jun-26 | Sep-26 | Dec-26 | Mar-27 | Jun-27 | Sep-27 | Dec-27 |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Official Bank Rate | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| Central Case | 4.75 | 4.50 | 4.25 | 4.00 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 | 3.75 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.25 | -0.25 | -0.50 | -0.50 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 |
| 3-month money market rate | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.25 | 0.50 | 0.50 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 0.75 |
| Central Case | 4.90 | 4.60 | 4.35 | 4.10 | 3.90 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 | 3.85 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.25 | -0.25 | -0.50 | -0.50 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.75 |
| 5yr gilt yield | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 |
| Central Case | 4.34 | 4.30 | 4.20 | 4.10 | 4.00 | 3.90 | 3.90 | 3.95 | 4.00 | 4.05 | 4.05 | 4.05 | 4.05 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.50 | -0.60 | -0.65 | -0.65 | -0.70 | -0.70 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 |
| 10yr gilt yield | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 |
| Central Case | 4.56 | 4.55 | 4.45 | 4.30 | 4.20 | 4.20 | 4.20 | 4.20 | 4.25 | 4.25 | 4.25 | 4.25 | 4.25 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.50 | -0.60 | -0.65 | -0.65 | -0.70 | -0.70 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 |
| 20yr gilt yield | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 |
| Central Case | 5.05 | 5.00 | 4.90 | 4.80 | 4.70 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 | 4.65 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.50 | -0.60 | -0.65 | -0.65 | -0.70 | -0.70 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 |
| 50yr gilt yield | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Upside risk | 0.00 | 0.70 | 0.80 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.90 |
| Central Case | 4.52 | 4.70 | 4.60 | 4.50 | 4.40 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 | 4.35 |
| Downside risk | 0.00 | -0.50 | -0.60 | -0.65 | -0.65 | -0.70 | -0.70 | -0.75 | -0.75 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 | -0.80 |

PWLB Standard Rate = Gilt yield + 1.00%

PWLB Certainty Rate = Gilt yield + 0.80%

PWLB HRA Rate = Gilt yield + 0.40%

National Wealth Fund (NWF) Rate = Gilt yield + 0.40%

Annex B – Existing Investment & Debt Portfolio Position - December 2024

| | Actual portfolio £m | Average rate % |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| External borrowing: | | |
| Public Works Loan Board | 781.9 | 3.2% |
| LOBO loans from banks | 100.0 | 4.7% |
| Local authorities | 75.0 | 5.0% |
| Total external borrowing | 956.9 | 3.5% |
| Treasury investments: | | |
| The UK Government | 52.6 | 4.7% |
| Money market funds | 20.0 | 4.8% |
| Total treasury investments | 72.6 | 4.7% |

Haringey Council – Reserves Policy

Background

1. Sections 32 and 43 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 require local authorities to consider the level of reserves when setting a budget requirement. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Financial Officer (Section 151 Officer) to report formally on the adequacy of proposed reserves when setting a budget requirement. The accounting treatment for reserves is set out in the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.
2. CIPFA issued Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) Bulletin No.55, Guidance Note on Local Authority Reserves and Balances and Bulletin 13 (Local Authority Reserves and Balances). Compliance with the guidance is recommended in CIPFA's Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government.
3. This note sets out the Council's policy for compliance with the statutory regime and relevant non-statutory guidance.

Overview

4. The Council's overall approach to reserves will be defined by the system of internal control. The system of internal control is set out, and its effectiveness reviewed, in the Annual Governance Statement. Key elements of the internal control environment are objective setting and monitoring, policy and decision-making, compliance with statute and procedure rules, risk management, achieving value for money, financial management and performance management.
5. The Council will maintain:
 - a General Fund general reserve;
 - a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) general reserve; and
 - a number of earmarked reserves.
6. Additionally, the Council is required to maintain **unusable** reserves to comply with accounting requirements although, as the term suggests, these reserves are not available to fund expenditure.

General Fund general reserve

7. The purpose of the general reserve is to manage the impact of emergencies or unexpected events. Without such a reserve, the financial impact of such events could cause a potential financial deficit in the general fund, which would be severely disruptive to the effective operation of the authority. The reserve should mitigate against immediate service reductions if there were any unforeseen financial impacts.

8. The level of the general reserve is a matter for the Council to determine having had regard to the advice of the S151 Officer. The level of the reserve will be a matter of judgement which will take account of the specific risks identified through the various corporate processes. It will also take account of the extent to which specific risks are supported through earmarked reserves. The level will be expressed as a cash sum over the period of the general fund medium-term financial strategy. The level will also be expressed as a percentage of the general funding requirement (to provide an indication of financial context).

HRA general reserve

9. The purpose of the HRA general reserve is similar to the General Fund general reserve above except applied to the ring-fenced HRA. The financial plan has a target of an ongoing £8m minimum annual surplus (though in this MTFS period that is forecast to not be possible for all years). This is to provide an appropriate level of in-year financial cover, in recognition of the risks such as changes in government policies, operational factors and those associated with an extensive development programme. The plan also assumes a year on year working balance of £20m. This increased position was established at the end of 2021/22.

Earmarked reserves

10. The purpose of earmarked reserves is to enable sums to be set aside for specific purposes or in respect of potential or contingent liabilities where the creation of a provision is not required or permitted.
11. The Council will maintain the following earmarked reserves

Risks and Uncertainties:

Transformation Reserve - This reserve is earmarked for the costs associated with the Council's Transformation programmes including the investment necessary to deliver longer term efficiencies and change.

Labour Market Growth Resilience Reserve - It is beneficial for the Council to support people into work and this reserve will support activities which achieve that aim.

Budget Planning Reserve – This reserve is a key tool for managing the impact of financial plans from one year to another. This reserve requires balances to be at different levels year to year depending on the demand as identified through previous and current budget plans.

Collection Fund Smoothing Reserve – As local tax revenue has become a more significant source of income for the authority over recent years, this reserve is a vital tool to smooth funding streams across the MTFS period. It will also be used to manage the profiling of when the impact of government Section 31 hit the Council's General Fund.

Contracts and Commitments:

Schools Reserve - This balance represents the net balances held by the Council's 63 schools. The Secretary of State for Education allows Local Authorities to have within their Scheme for Financing Schools, a provision whereby surplus balances that are deemed excessive can be withdrawn from the school in question and applied elsewhere within the Dedicated Schools Budget.

Services Reserve - It is Council policy that services may request funds to be carried forward, subject to approval by the Cabinet in the year-end financial outturn report. This reserve earmarks those funds to either be carried forward to the following financial year or retained.

PFI lifecycle Reserve - The PFI reserve is increased by PFI grant received in excess of contractual payments. This will be utilised to fund future years' PFI related costs.

Debt Repayment Reserve - this reserve represents funds the Council has set aside for debt related costs including the potential repayment of debt and for funding of future capital expenditure, and management of risk inherent within the Council's treasury management activities.

Insurance Reserve - The Council self-insures a number of risks including liability, property and theft. Insurance claims are erratic in their timings and so the Council maintains a reserve to smooth the charge to the Council's revenue account in the same way as a premium to an external insurance provider would smooth charges to the revenue account.

Unspent Grants Reserve - This reserve holds grant income recognised in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement (CIES) when received, but which will finance related expenditure in future years. These come with conditions setting out how the funding must be used.

Management and control

12. The schools reserve and the insurance reserve are clearly defined and require no further authority for the financing of relevant expenditure.
13. The use of all other reserves requires budgetary approval in the normal way.
14. All reserves are reviewed as part of the budget preparation, financial management and closing processes.

Reporting and review

15. The Council will consider a report from the S151 Officer on the adequacy of the reserves in the annual budget-setting process. The report will contain estimates of reserves where necessary. The Audit Committee will consider actual reserves when approving the statement of accounts each year.
16. The Council will review the reserves policy on an annual basis.

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Annex 6

The Formal Budget Resolution

The Council is recommended to resolve, in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (the 'Act'), as amended by the Localism Act 2011, as follows:

1. It is noted that on 16 January 2025 the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer, after consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance and Local Investment, calculated the 2025/26 Council Tax Base for the whole Council area as **82,589**.
2. The Council Tax Requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2025/26 is calculated as **£ 141,851,562.84**
3. That the following amounts be calculated for the year 2025/26 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Act:
 - a. **£ 860,997,579.82**
being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) (a) to (f) of the Act;
 - b. **£ 719,146,016.98**
being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) (a) to (d) of the Act;
 - c. **£ 141,851,562.84** being the amount by which the aggregate at 3(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3(b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax Requirement for the year;
 - d. **£1,717.56**
being the Council Tax Requirement at 3(c) above, divided by the Council Tax Base at 1, above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;
4. To note that the Greater London Authority has issued a precept to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Act for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below.
5. That the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Act, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2025/26 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

Haringey

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1145.04 | 1335.88 | 1526.72 | 1717.56 | 2099.24 | 2480.92 | 2862.60 | 3435.12 |

GLA

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 326.92 | 381.41 | 435.89 | 490.38 | 599.35 | 708.33 | 817.30 | 980.76 |

Total

| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| 1471.96 | 1717.29 | 1962.61 | 2207.94 | 2698.59 | 3189.25 | 3679.90 | 4415.88 |

6. Pursuant to Section 52ZB of the Act and the principles determined by the Secretary of State to apply to local authorities in England in 2025/26 as set out in The Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2025/26, it is determined that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year is not excessive.



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and English
Devolution*

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Councillor Peray Ahmet
Leader of the London Borough of Haringey
By email

20 February 2025

Dear Councillor Ahmet,

I am writing in relation to the London Borough of Haringey's request of the 14 December 2024 for Exceptional Financial Support in respect of 2024-25 and 2025-26.

The Exceptional Financial Support process exists to support those councils facing unmanageable financial pressures. This government understands that fragility in the system has left some councils in difficult positions and recognises that support is required in exceptional circumstances to balance budgets. Going forward, as set out as part of the Local Government Finance Settlement, we are clear that we will continue to work to support local services and put the system back on a sustainable footing.

We recognise however that these reforms will take time. I understand that this is a difficult time for the council and that difficult decisions have been taken locally before this request for support. I appreciate your engagement in this process whilst we move towards wider reform from 2026/27. The Deputy Prime Minister, as Secretary of State, has considered the council's position including all the measures that have been taken locally to support the continued delivery of sustainable services for residents, particularly for those who are most vulnerable.

This letter therefore sets out the department's current position but does not constitute a capitalisation direction.

With respect to the financial years 2024-25 and 2025-26, the Deputy Prime Minister is minded to approve a capitalisation direction of a total not exceeding £65 million. The total is broken down by each financial year as follows, as per your request:

- £28 million in 2024-25;
- £37 million in 2025-25.

I am keen that this government takes a collaborative approach to Exceptional Financial Support that recognises the challenges many local authorities are experiencing. However, this government continues to expect local authorities to spend resources effectively and deliver for residents. Therefore, consistent with those councils that have previously sought Exceptional Financial Support, in order for the department to provide a final capitalisation direction, the council is required to undergo an external assurance review which will include, but will not be limited to, an assessment of the council's financial position and governance arrangements. The department reserves the right to extend the scope of the review to consider any other relevant issue that is deemed necessary. The department may make exception to this requirement where the council has already undertaken an independent review that is deemed acceptable by the department.

We will work with councils on how best we can support local authorities through these reviews, including how they might help local authorities to identify the action needed to recover and reform. My officials will confirm review scopes with you in due course.

Capitalisation directions may be subject to conditions, which would be set out in any directions should the Deputy Prime Minister decide to exercise her powers as Secretary of State under sections 16(2)(b) and 20 of the Local Government Act 2003. If the Deputy Prime Minister decides to give any directions, she is minded to attach the following conditions:

- i. The authority may only capitalise expenditure when it is incurred;
- ii. Where expenditure is capitalised, the authority shall charge annual MRP using the asset life method with a proxy 'asset life' of no more than 20 years.

If the Deputy Prime Minister gives any directions, she will confirm the final amount of capitalisation support and any conditions that will apply in due course. The approval of any capitalisation directions will also be contingent on the council reporting to the department the final amounts identified for which it requires capitalisation for each year, with the agreement of the council's external auditors.

If you are considering financing capitalisation support through capital receipts, I want to make clear at this stage that it is my expectation that councils should avoid the disposal of community heritage assets where possible to protect the public ownership of locally significant sites to ensure residents can continue to benefit from them.

Thank you for your continued support and the support of your officers whilst we have considered your request for Exceptional Financial Support. Officials will continue to closely support you through the next steps of the process.

Yours ever,



JIM MCMAHON OBE MP

Minster of State for Local Government and English Devolution