Report for: Cabinet – 7 February 2023

Item number: To be added by the Committee Section

Title: **2023-24 Budget and 2023-2028 Medium Term Financial Strategy**

Report authorised by: Jon Warlow, 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 final proposed General Fund (GF) Budget for 2023/24; the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023/28; the draft HRA Budget 2023/24 and it's draft Business Plan including estimated income (funding) and expenditure adjustments, as well as the final proposed capital programmes for both funds.

1.2. The Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (PLGFS) was announced on 19th December and proposed a 9.8% increase in Core Spending Power (CSP) in 2023/24 for Haringey (9.2% Nationally). CSP measures the core revenue funding available for local authority services and includes Council Tax, locally retained business rates, Revenue Support Grant and other core grants such as New Homes Bonus and Social Care Grants.

1.3. The CSP figures assume that local authorities apply the full Council Tax and Adult Social Care (ASC) precept increases which the PLGFS confirmed as 2.99% for Council Tax and 2% for ASC (2% more in total than our December Draft Budget assumed). This 2023/24 Budget now recommends that both these increases are adopted by Haringey, recognising that much of the increase in CSP is based on the assumption that authorities increase Council Tax to the maximum permitted.

1.4. Overall, the corporate funding announced in the PLGFS was in line with the assumptions included in the December report. However, social care related grants saw a net improvement of c.£9.8m the majority of which comes from a net £6.5m increase in the Social Care grant which has been allocated across the Adults and Children's services. Two further social care grants, Discharge Funding and Adult Social Care Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding totalling £4.1m were announced and they too have been added to the Adults directorate budget.

1.5. This year's provisional settlement follows the details provided at Autumn Statement 2022 and the Policy Statement on 12 December. The PLGFS only provided funding allocations for 2023/24 but the Policy Statement set out details about the majority of funding streams for 2024-25 albeit at a national level. This information has been used to model 2024/25 funding assumptions for Haringey. Beyond that year, most grant funding is assumed as cash flat.

1.6. Since the last report, modelling has confirmed that continuing to participate in the 8 Authority business rate pool for 2023/24 is beneficial and as such £2m additional income has been assumed. Although the final North London Waste Authority (NLWA) levy for next year has not yet been received, there has been sufficient comfort provided around the estimated reduction arising from increased electricity income and reduced tonnages to build £3m reduced expenditure into the Budget. Both of these items are assumed as one-off for 2023/24 only.

1.7. Additionally, further due diligence has been undertaken against key corporate budgets such as pay, general inflation, treasury, borrowing and the main contingency budget. Although this is normal practice, given the current economic volatility this has assumed greater importance. The service-related savings and growth included in the December report have also been subject to limited updates. It should be noted that all of the previously described growth in the service areas continues to form part of this budget strategy.

1.8. The additional Social Care grant has been passported to the Adults and Children's directorates and, where this has been higher than the growth assumed in December, has allowed us to increase total gross expenditure budgets which is welcomed given the degree of challenge that they are under. The outcome of this work plus the addition of two new Adults related specific grants means that in total £10.1m growth is now proposed for Adults and £6.3m for Children's.

1.9. The Budget and MTFS have been revised to include the impact of the funding and expenditure changes outlined above and take due regard to the consultation feedback, recommendations from the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Equalities impact.

1.10. The December draft Budget had a gap of £3.1m. All of the budget changes made in total since December have improved the overall budget position by £5.5m which has delivered a balanced Budget position and enabled the planned draw down from the Strategic Budget Planning reserve to be reduced to £3.5m (£5.5m in December).

1.11. In accordance with the Local Government Finance Act (LGFA) 1992, Full Council must approve the Budget for the forthcoming year and agree council tax for that year by the statutory deadline of 11th March. This report forms a key part of this budget setting process by setting out the planned funding and expenditure for that year. Cabinet's role in this is to recommend the Budget and key policy proposals to Full Council for agreement and this report satisfies this duty. Full Council will consider the Budget package contained in this report at their meeting on 2nd March 2023.

1.12. Additionally, in order to ensure the Council's finances over the medium term are built on a sound basis, the Council always maintains a five-year future forecast of its finances via its MTFS. The 2023/24 Budget relies on a substantial level of one-off adjustments as well as £3.5m from reserves, less than the £5.5m previously anticipated. However, despite the real increase in the Social Care grant funding and increases in Council Tax, only limited progress can be made in addressing the structural budget gap which is forecast to reach £17.4m in 2027/28. The gap for 2024/25 alone is £6.3m which will be a stretch for the authority given the expected demand levels.

1.13. The Council must therefore continue to focus on delivering its agreed programme of savings which is vital in ensuring the ongoing financial sustainability of the authority in the longer term.

Capital

1.14. Our capital programme provides important opportunities to address our communities' needs, however the Council's finances are tightly constrained, and so affordability is a key consideration. Increased costs are making it increasingly difficult to achieve self-financing business cases for those schemes where this is expected.

1.15. The capital programme reflects the need for investment by the Council in its assets so that they are fit for purpose and contribute to the Council's plans. It reflects the things that we have to do, such as capital maintenance of the public realm, schools and parks.

HRA

1.16. The Autumn Statement implemented a temporary amendment to the policy on increases for social housing rents. For 2023/24 only, this has placed a 7% ceiling on rent increases, without which the maximum rent increase allowed would have been in excess of 11%. This report recommends that rents are increased by 7%.

1.17. The HRA has been updated since the draft of December including the assumed future interest rate being changed from 5% to 4.5%, resulting in the HRA Budget/MTFS now being viable across the MTFS period.

Dedicated Schools Budget

1.18. Since the proposed Budget shared in December, £2.3bn was announced nationally for schools. Haringey has £2.3m additional funding included in the High Needs Block DSG grant which has been reflected in the DSG allocations in this report. A further indicative £7.1m Maintained Schools Additional Grant (MSAG) will be payable to schools.

1.19. In summary, this report finalises the Council's General Fund and HRA 2023/24 Budgets and Medium-Term Strategies for 2023/2028.

1.20. The only items not confirmed at this stage are:

- Notification of final levy sums however, we are not forecasting any levies to be significantly different to the sums currently budgeted for;
- Confirmation of the GLA council tax element;
- Final 2020/21 Local Government Finance Settlement announcement and any other late notifications from government departments – again there are no indications that this will bring forward any / material changes to the provisional figures already received.

1.21. As stated, these final notifications are not expected to lead to any significant budget implications, but an update will be included in the Full Council report on 2nd March; this will also include details of any final budget adjustments required.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

2.1. I am pleased to introduce the final proposed 2023/24 Budget and 2023/28 MTFS to you. This Budget now incorporates the impact of funding from the long-awaited finance settlement along with a number of other important changes, not least our continued participation in the 8 Authority London business rates pool with an estimated benefit of £2m, and a forecast reduction in NLWA levy of £3m.

2.2. I confirm that we are proposing to increase the Haringey element of Council Tax to the 2.99% threshold announced in the settlement along with the full 2% ASC precept. We know that this is a really tough time for our residents with the cost-of-living crisis however, although the Government made big play of the amount of funding they were providing to the sector, the reality is that the majority of real growth is ringfenced to social care which is already under immense pressure. If we do not increase council tax to the permitted level, we will face even harder budget choices and store up financial pressures on future budgets. We have provided additional measures for protecting as much as possible our vulnerable and less well-off residents.

2.3. We are continuing our local Council Tax support scheme at the current rates, targeting support to those most in need. The Government has recently announced a £0.7m allocation of Council Tax Support grant which will be used to provide further financial reductions to those least able to manage the proposed increases. On the wider welfare front, Government is continuing the Household Support fund for a further year which we intend to use to provide support to households, particularly those including children and pensioners, who would otherwise struggle to buy food or pay essential utility bills or meet other essential living costs; this includes the continuation of the expanded Free School Meals programme at the same level as the current year.

2.4. Despite all the financial challenges that the Council is facing, this Budget for 2023/24:

- Ensures we can continue to meet the significant need of our most vulnerable residents – through £16.4m investment in Children's and Adult's services.)
- Drives value for money through a significant efficiency agenda – with every area of the council contributing (c£16.3m new savings and additional income)
- Provides financial advice and support to residents who need it including through Council Tax Reduction, our Financial Support Team, and the Haringey Support Fund.
- Maintains critical support for our children and young people with little direct funding by Central Government – including Free School Meals for 650 children who are just above the entitlement threshold and putting the funding for the Rising Green Youth Hub on a long-term footing.

2.5. Our capital programme also provides important opportunities to address our communities' needs, however the Council's finances are tightly constrained, so affordability is a key consideration in this year even more than previously. However, the capital programme continues to invest for the long term and we are proposing to put investment in:

- doubling the planned investment in the Active Life in parks programme and the Parks Asset Management for 2023/24
- public realm including cycling and walking infrastructure, roads, pavements and streetlights.
- parks and green spaces
- school buildings, including creating new in borough places for children with special education needs and disabilities to provide high quality places.
- additional properties to be used for high quality, temporary accommodation.
- significant on-going investment in Council homes and delivery of the new Council homes agenda
- Building our own care facilities for Adults and Children's services.

2.6. I am pleased to present a balanced Budget in a challenging year. As a Council that treats its financial responsibilities very seriously, I am also pleased that we are able to improve our reserve position given that we recognise that we have some very difficult decisions still ahead of us before we can become financially sustainable in the longer term.

3. Recommendations

Cabinet is asked to:

3.1. Consider the outcome of the budget consultation as set out in Appendix 8, to be included in the report to Council. Having taken this into account this report does / does not propose any amendment to the Budget for 2023/24 nor to the MTFS 2023/28.

3.2. Approve the responses made to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations following their consideration of the draft budget proposals as set out in Appendix 9.

3.3. Propose approval to the Council of the 2023/24 Budget and MTFS 2023/28 Budget new growth and savings proposals as set out in appendices 2 and 3.

3.4. Propose approval to the Council of the 2023/24 General Fund Revenue Budget as set out in Appendix 1, including specifically a General Fund budget requirement of £279.517m, but subject to final decisions of the levying and precepting bodies and the final local government finance Settlement.

3.5. Propose approval to the Council of the General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023/2028 as set out in Appendix 1.

3.6. Propose approval to the Council that the overall Haringey element of Council Tax to be set by London Borough of Haringey for 2023/24 will be £1,558.0 per Band D property, which represents a 2.99% increase on the 2022/23 Haringey element and with an additional 2% for the Adult Social Care Precept amount.

3.7. 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 79,718 for the financial year 2023/24 (Appendix 11).

3.8. Propose approval to the Council of the 2023/24 Housing Revenue Account budget as set out in Table 9.3.

3.9. Propose approval to the Council of the Housing Revenue Account Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2023/2028 as set out in Table 9.3.

3.10. Approve the changes to the rent levels for residents in temporary accommodation, Council tenants in General Needs and Sheltered/Supported homes reflecting the temporary amendment to the government's policy on maximum annual increases for social housing rents which set a 7% ceiling on rent increases for 2023/24 only. This will increase the average weekly rents as set out in Tables 9.1.

3.11. Agree the changes to service charges to tenants as set out in Table 9.2.

3.12. Propose approval to the Council of the 2023/24 – 2027/28 General Fund capital programme detailed in Appendix 4.

3.13. Propose approval to the Council of the 2023/24 – 2027/28 Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme detailed in Table 9.4.

3.14. Propose approval to the Council of the Capital Strategy detailed in Section 8 of this report.

3.15. 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 6).

3.16. Propose to the Council the Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) allocations for 2023/24 of £298.163m as set out in Appendix 7.

3.17. Note the funding to be distributed to primary and secondary schools for 2023/24 based on the figures advised to Schools Forum and submitted to the Education Funding Agency in January 2022 set out in Section 10.

3.18. Note the budgets (including the use of brought forward DSG) for the Schools Block, Central Services Block, High Needs Block and Early Years Block as per Appendix 7.

3.19. Delegate to the Director of Children Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children, Education and Families, the power 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.

3.20. Delegate to the Section 151 officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the power to make further changes to the 2023/24 budget proposals to Full Council up to a maximum limit of £1.0m.

4. Reasons for decision

4.1. The Council has a statutory requirement to set a balanced budget for 2023/24 and this report forms a key part of the budget setting process by setting out the forecast funding and expenditure for that year. Additionally, in order to ensure the Council's finances for the medium term are maintained on a sound basis, this report also sets out the funding and expenditure assumptions for the following four years in the form of a Medium Term Financial Strategy. If agreed by Cabinet, it will then be presented to Full Council on 2 March 2023 for review and ultimate adoption.

5. Alternative options considered.

5.1. The Cabinet must consider how to deliver a balanced 2023/24 Budget and sustainable MTFS over the five-year period 2023-28, to be reviewed and ultimately adopted at the meeting of Full Council on 02 March 2023.

5.2. The Council has developed the proposals contained in this report in light of its 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 and legacy Covid-19 pandemic, and the Council's overall financial position. It is this appraisal that has led to these options being presented in this report.

5.3. These final proposals now presented take into consideration the funding allocations announced in the Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement, the responses to the budget consultation and the Overview & Scrutiny process.

5.4. The Housing Revenue Account section of the report includes a consideration of the challenges presented by adverse economic changes on the HRA, including the increased cost of borrowing and inflation, meaning that the Council has had to consider how best to be able to maintain financial sustainability and continue a strong new build programme. A number of options have been modelled, including for some new homes, changing from formula rent to Shared Ownership or London Living Rent or London Affordable Rent. The option which best ensures the long-term sustainability of the HRA is to use London Affordable Rent for some homes.

6. Funding Assumptions

6.1. The Council has access to five main sources of funding:

- Business Rates
- Council Tax
- Grants
- Fees & Charges
- Reserves

Business Rates and Grants are largely driven by the outcome of Spending Reviews (SR) and the Local Government Finance settlement.

6.2. The following paragraph provides an update on recent Government announcements on grant and other support to Local government along with wider economic factors impacting on budgetary assumptions. This is then followed by a section on each of the main sources of funding which set out the assumptions made in this final 2023/24 Budget and MTFS 2023/28.

Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement (PLGFS), Autumn Budget Statement and other Government Announcements

6.3. The PLGFS was only announced on 19 December 2022, after the publication of the draft Budget/MTFS report. This provided detailed draft allocations of funding many of which had been provided at a National funding level in the Autumn Budget Statement.

6.4. The main messages from the PLGFS are:

- 9.2% increase in Core Spending Power (CSP) Nationally.
- 9.8% increase in CSP for Haringey

Core Spending Power (CSP) measures the core revenue funding available for local authority services, including Council Tax, locally retained business rates, Revenue Support Grant and other core grants such as New Homes Bonus and Social Care Grants.

These % increases assume that Local Authorities apply the full Council Tax and Adult Social Care (ASC) precept increases which are now confirmed as 2.99% for Council Tax and 2% for ASC (2% more than our December Draft Budget assumed).

- Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) (Revenue Support Grant plus Business Rates baseline funding) will increase by 5% to £15.7bn (£2.9bn London boroughs).
- Compensation for under-indexation of the business rates multiplier will total £2.2bn in 2023-24, an increase of £930m.
- The Social Care Grant will increase by £1.5bn in 2023-24 to £3.9bn (£612m in London).
- ASC Market Sustainability and Improvement will be supported by a £562m ringfenced grant with £400m added to the existing £162m Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund.
- The IBCF continues alongside an additional ASC Discharge Grant worth £300m nationally.
- Services Grant will reduce by 44% in 2023-24 to £464m (England) and £86m in London.
- The Lower Tier Services Grant will be discontinued.
- There will be a new one-off CSP funding guarantee to ensure all authorities receive a minimum 3% increase (no London boroughs will receive this).
- The New Homes Bonus will continue in 2023-24 as an annual grant. Legacy payments will end, and the future of the grant will be confirmed before the 2024-25 LGF Settlement.
- Four existing grants (worth £239m) will be rolled into SFA and the Social Care Grant.
- Tariffs/top-ups will be adjusted to ensure the 2023 Revaluation, as far as practicable, will not impact on boroughs' retained business rates.
- Neither fundamental reform to needs assessments nor the business rates reset will be implemented before 2025-26.

6.5. The main implications of the PLGFS for **Haringey** are:

- Overall, the RSG, Business Rates and non-Social care grants are largely in line with the December Draft Budget report.
- The main genuine funding growth is estimated as c.£6.5m in the Social Care Grant (can be applied against Adults and Children)
- Two further social care grants however current assumption is that these come with specific responsibilities.
- So, overall while the increase in CSP seems positive it isn't a game changer. Particularly in the light of the expenditure pressures currently forecast in 2022/23 against Adults and Children and expectation nationally that local authorities help alleviate pressure on the NHS.

6.6. The Government issued a Policy Statement on 12 December which set out some planning assumptions for the **2024/25** local government finance settlement including details over the majority of funding streams for 2024/25. The key points of note are:

- The Review of Relative Needs and Resources ('Fair Funding Review') and a reset of Business Rates growth will not be implemented in the next two years.
- The council tax referendum principles will continue the same as 2023/24.
- Revenue support grant will continue and be uplifted in line with baseline funding levels (assumed now to be now based on September 2023 CPI), while social care grants will increase as set out in the table above.
- Business rates pooling will continue.
- The Government will set out the future position of New Homes Bonus ahead of the 2024/25 local government finance settlement.
- The 2024/25 settlement will include a new funding stream, subject to successful delivery of the Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging (pEPR) scheme as soon as is feasible within this financial year. Local authorities can expect to receive additional income from the scheme whilst being asked to submit data relevant to their waste collection services.

6.7. Based on the publication of this Policy Statement, and confirmation of funding totals at a national level for most grants, the 2024/25 budget has been updated to reflect our funding levels, assuming the same distribution methodology as used for 2023/24. Clearly these will need to be revisited again as part of next year's financial planning process.

Business Rates and Revenue Support Grant

6.8. When the new localised business rates system was introduced in 2013, it set a 'baseline' for each local authority against which growth could be measured. It was recognised that the baseline would need to be re-visited after a number of years to ensure that the incentive to grow businesses in local areas was maintained.

6.9. The intention was for business rates baselines to be reset from April 2020 however, both SR19 and SR20 confirmed annual delays. SR21 was silent on the reset, and it wasn't implemented for 2022/23. Government confirmed that a revaluation would take place effective from 1 April 2023 but again was silent on the reset. Therefore, the Budget now assumes a reset in 2024 rather than 2023. As Haringey is a top up authority, even if this assumption proves incorrect, it is expected that a similar level of funding will accrue from a redistribution of business rates income in the form of additional/alternative grant.

6.10. Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and the amount provided to local government is just one part of the overall amount of funding determined during a Spending Review. However, for local authorities, since the introduction of the Business Rate Retention Scheme, Revenue Support Grant is the primary source of funding from central government and is calculated via the Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) which consists of the local share of business rates, and Revenue Support Grant. The SFA is uprated year on year in line with the change in the small business multiplier, normally based on September CPI (previously RPI).

6.11. Both the 2023 business rates revaluation and the transfer of some business types from the local lists to the central lists are assumed to have a neutral impact on the budget as Government adjust for any implications via the top up/tariff system.

6.12. The Council participated in the London Pool for three years (2018/19 – 2020/21). London chose not to continue the Pool in 2021/22 due to the significant impact that the Covid 19 pandemic had had on the business community and therefore forecast revenues. Pooling was revisited for 2022/23 and, while a London-wide pool was not deemed viable, a smaller pool consisting of Haringey and 7 other London boroughs was put into place for this year.

6.13. As confirmed in the draft Budget report, modelling undertaken during September showed that the continuation of this 8 Borough pool was expected to have a similar financial benefit in 2023/24 to the current year. Further due diligence was undertaken during December and early January which confirmed the earlier assessment. Therefore, the Director of Finance in consultation with the Lead Member for Finance confirmed Haringey's participation for 2023/24 and a one-off £2m additional pooling benefit has been built into the budget for 2023/24. Given the uncertainty over the financial benefit for the following year, nothing has yet been built into the Budget/MTFS model.

6.14. The Budget figures for business rates income including RSG have been updated based on the data provided in the PLGFS and our NNDR1 form, which sets out the authority's estimated billing, reliefs and S31 grants for the forthcoming year. The figures for the following two years of the MTFS have been updated based on estimated inflationary figures; beyond that the income has remained flat. This will be revisited in next year's planning process.

6.15. In terms of net growth in the business rates taxbase / hereditaments, the planning assumption across the MTFS period is that there will be no net growth. This is in line with the previous assumptions.

6.16. The forecast income from business rates related income, including revenue support grant, is shown in table 6.1 below.

Table 6.1

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Revenue Support Grant	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**
RSG	(22,797)	(25,635)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)
NNDR Top Up Grant	(60,770)	(59,451)	(62,668)	(88,712)	(88,712)	(88,712)
NNDR Income & Fees	(21,218)	(19,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)
Section 31 Grants	(6,737)	(21,546)	(22,609)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Bus Rates Pool Benefit	(2,000)	(2,000)	-	-	-	-
NNDR (Surplus)/Deficit	225	1,271	-	-	-	-
Total	**(113,298)**	**(127,162)**	**(133,122)**	**(136,558)**	**(136,558)**	**(136,558)**

6.17. There continues to be uncertainty around the business rates regime beyond 2023/24. A reset of the baseline is still assumed to take place although no actual date has been set; wider reforms to the existing system have been expected for some years but again, no date or definite decisions have been announced. Given that there will be a general election during the next 24 months any decisions on the wider reforms are unlikely to be progressed before that.

Council Tax

6.18. The financial modelling in this Budget has been updated and the following assumptions made about Council Tax:

- A 2.99% increase in Council Tax in 2023/24 and 2024/25, the threshold announced in the PLGFS after which it returns to 1.99% for each subsequent year.
- A 2% Adult Social Care (ASC) Precept for 2023/24 and 2024/25, the allowable charge as announced in the PLGFS after which it is assumed to cease.
- The tax base is set at 79,718 for 2023/24 a growth of 0.3% which is lower than the figure assumed in the draft Budget report. It is assumed that the increase returns to 1% p.a. across the rest of the MTFS planning period.
- The collection rate is assumed to continue a post pandemic improvement and is forecast at 96.0% in 2023/24 before increasing to 97.00% in the subsequent years. These assumptions will be kept under review along with any potential impact arising from the cost-of-living crisis. In future years, the Council must aspire to increase collection rates.
- The Council Tax Collection Fund account surplus was refined and reduced as part of last year's financial planning process to reflect the forecast impact of the C19 pandemic on revenues. This has now been further amended to remove any budgeted surplus.

6.19. The resulting projections for Council Tax income and Band D rates are set out in Table 6.2 below. These figures are subject to formal Council ratification of Council Tax Rates in March 2023.

Table 6.2

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Taxbase before collection rate	80,151	82,823	83,038	83,868	84,707	85,554
Taxbase change	3.50%	0.26%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
Taxbase for year	82,823	83,038	83,868	84,707	85,554	86,410
Collection Rate	95.75%	96.00%	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%	97.00%
Taxbase after collection rate	**79,303**	**79,716**	**81,352**	**82,166**	**82,987**	**83,818**
Council Tax increase	1.99%	2.99%	2.99%	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%
Social Care precept	1.00%	2.00%	2.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Band D rate	1,484	1,558	1,636	1,668	1,702	1,736
Council Tax Before Surplus	**117,696**	**124,212**	**133,085**	**137,091**	**141,215**	**145,466**
Previous Year (Estimated) Surplus	**1,950**					
Council Tax Yield	**119,646**	**124,212**	**133,085**	**137,091**	**141,215**	**145,466**

Grants

6.20. The Council receives several grants in addition to its main funding allocation. The Council is mostly allowed to use these grants to fund any council services, but some are ring-fenced, which means they can only be spent on specific services.

Social Care Grants

6.21. The PLGFS announced increases to the Social Care grant, albeit with the £0.7m Independent Living Fund rolled in, as well as a couple of new grants. This grant can be applied against both Adults and Children's activities. The Discharge Funding grant has been provided to upper tier authorities to ensure those people who need to draw on social care when they are discharged from hospital can leave as soon as possible. The Discharge Funding must be pooled as part of the Better Care Fund. The Adult Social Care Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding is a new grant. It is intended for local authorities to make tangible improvements to adult social care, and to address discharge delays; social care waiting times; low fee rates; workforce pressures; and to promote technological innovation in the sector. The 2022/23 Market Sustainability and Fair Cost of Care Fund grant has been rolled into this new grant.

provided to upper tier authorities to ensure those people who need to draw on social care when they are discharged from hospital can leave as soon as possible. The Discharge Funding must be pooled as part of the Better Care Fund

6.22. Funding allocations for 2024/25 from these three grants have been estimated based on the Autumn and Policy statements provided by Government in late November/ mid-December. With no further information, these grants are assumed to be cash flat from 2025/26.

6.23. The Better Care Fund (BCF) and Improved and Additional Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF) is assumed to remain at the 2022/23 levels across the whole MTFS period.

6.24. Table 6.3 shows Social Care related grants and assumptions.

Table 6.3

Revenue Support Grant	2022/23 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/27 £'000	2027/28 £'000
Better Care Fund (BCF) - (CCG Contribution)	(6,047)	(6,388)	(6,388)	(6,388)	(6,388)	(6,388)
Improved & Add'l Imp Better Care Fund (iBCF)	(9,806)	(9,806)	(9,806)	(9,806)	(9,806)	(9,806)
Social Care Support Grant	(11,905)	(19,261)	(22,322)	(22,322)	(22,322)	(22,322)
Mkt Sustainability & Fair Cost of Care Fund	(775)	-	-	-	-	-
Adult Social Care Market Sustainability and Improvement Funding		(2,689)	(4,043)	(4,043)	(4,043)	(4,043)
Discharge Funding grant		(1,375)	(2,291)	(2,291)	(2,291)	(2,291)
Manual adj for rolling in of Independent Living Fund grant into overall CSP		681				
Total	**(28,533)**	**(38,837)**	**(44,849)**	**(44,849)**	**(44,849)**	**(44,849)**

6.25. It should also be noted that all these social care grants have been allocated directly against the relevant service budget heads rather than being kept corporately.

Housing Prevention Grant (HPG)

6.26. The Government has been consulting on the funding arrangements for the HPG for 2023/24 onwards with the stated aim of deriving a new funding formula based on current homelessness pressures, with the aim of ensuring that funding is distributed fairly to local authorities and is driven by a current picture of need.

6.27. On 23 December 2022, DLUHC responded to the previous consultation on changing the distribution of the Homelessness Prevention Grant (HPG) for 2023/24 and 2024/25. The Government has published final allocations of the grant for 2023/24 and 2024/25, making this a 2-year settlement but the Department committed to a further review of the distribution formula ahead of confirmation of allocations for 2025/26, so the distribution could be subject to change beyond the 2-year period.

6.28. As previously consulted, the Government will continue to notionally split the grant into several elements, each with its own separate distribution methodology. A transitional policy is then applied on the overall total allocations so that no council will see a cash reduction it its allocation compared to previous years.

6.29. The allocations for each of the years 2023/24 & 2024/25 is £8.394m, which includes £2.681m transitional funding. This is in line with the 2022/23 grant.

Core Grants

6.30. The updated assumptions about the level of Core grants anticipated to be received in 2023/24 and across the remainder of the MTFS are set out below:

- Revenue Support Grant (RSG) is a core grant but fundamentally linked to the Business Rates system and so discussed in the Section above. It has been increased by an inflationary 10.1% and also includes funding from the rolling in of some previously separate grants: Independent Living Fund, the Local Council Tax Support Admin Subsidy grant and Natasha's law grant.

- The Local Council Tax Support Administration Subsidy grant has been rolled into RSG so will no longer be received as a specific grant.
- The Housing Benefit Admin grant has yet to be announced but is assumed to be cash flat but continue across the MTFS.
- The Public Health (PH) grant is currently still assumed as cash flat across the MTFS however in recent years some uplift has been applied. Announcements of the final value have not yet been received and are normally received after the final budget reports. This grant is ringfenced to PH activity.
- New Homes Bonus – the PLGFS confirmed that 2023/24 would be the final year of this grant and therefore the MTFS writes this income out from 2024/25. It should be noted however, that Haringey's 2023/24 allocation is £0.826m higher than assumed in the draft budget.
- Lower Tier Services Grant - the PLGFS confirmed that this grant would not continue beyond 2022/23 and therefore has now been written out of the 2023/24 Budget and MTFS.
- The 2022/23 Service Grant has been renamed the Service Grant and reduced compared to prior year due to the cancellation of the increase in National Insurance Contributions and to move funding to the Supporting Families programme. No allocations have been provided beyond 2023/24 but the MTFS assumes it continues across the period but cash flat.

6.31. Table 6.4 shows the Core grant values across the MTFS period currently assumed.

Table 6.4

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Grant	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**
Council Tax Support Admin Grant	(457)	0	0	0	0	0
Housing Benefit Admin Grant	(1,351)	(1,351)	(1,351)	(1,351)	(1,351)	(1,351)
Public Health Grant	(20,353)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)
New Homes Bonus (NHB) / Replacement Funding	(1,208)	(2,105)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
2022/23 Service Grant / Replacement Funding	(5,652)	(3,185)	(3,185)	(3,185)	(3,185)	(3,185)
Lower Tier Services Grant / NHB Replacement	(796)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	**(29,817)**	**(28,143)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**
RSG	(22,797)	(25,635)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)
Total (inc. RSG)	**(52,614)**	**(53,778)**	**(53,083)**	**(53,083)**	**(53,083)**	**(53,083)**

6.32. Overall, for 2023/24 the announcements in the PLGFS for core grants, business rates income and council tax have seen c. £0.5m deterioration to the funding assumed in the draft Budget presented in December. There has been c. £6.5m improvement in the Social Care grant compared to the December assumption.

Fees and Charges

6.33. The Council's policy in relation to varying external income requires service managers to review the level of fees and charges annually as part of budget setting and that charges should generally increase by the rate of inflation to maximise allowable income.

6.34. The setting of fees and charges, along with raising essential financial resources, can contribute to meeting the Council's objectives. Through the pricing mechanism and wider market forces, outcomes can be achieved, and services can be promoted through variable charging policies and proactive use of fees to promote or dissuade certain behaviours.

6.35. In the main, fees and charges are set at a level where the full cost of provision is recovered through the price structure. However, in many circumstances those charges are reduced through subsidy to meet broader Council priorities.

6.36. Each year the Council reviews the level of its fees and charges through consideration of a report by the Cabinet and its Licensing Committee where it is a requirement that they are considered and approved outside of the Executive.

6.37. The proposed 2023/24 fees and charges will be presented to Cabinet as part of the same agenda as this Budget report and the implications built into the budget assumptions.

Use of Reserves

6.38. The Council's (Non-Earmarked) General Fund Balance is held to cover the net impact of risks and opportunities and other unforeseen emergencies. The funds held in the General Fund Reserve can only be used once and therefore are not a recurring source of income that can meet permanent budget gaps.

6.39. In setting a balanced budget for 2022/23 the Council agreed to use £4.7m of the Strategic Budget Planning reserve which had been previously earmarked for this purpose, in anticipation of the timescales that would be associated with responding to future budget changes. Last year's MTFS assumed the balance of this reserve, a further £5.5m, would be utilised to balance the 2023/24 Budget, again in recognition of the need to part smooth the step-up in savings requirements. The 2023/24 Budget now presented assumes a £2m reduction to this with a lower draw down of £3.5m.

6.40. The March 2023 Full Council report will provide a more comprehensive review of the overall sufficiency of Council reserves as part of the S151 statement included in the Final Budget/MTFS report. However, it should be recognised here that the need to maintain sufficient levels of reserves to help the authority cope with unforeseen changes in circumstances must be more important now than ever before.

Summary of Funding Assumptions

6.41. A summary of the final assumed funding levels and sources for 2023/24 and across the remainder of the MTFS period is set out in Table 6.5 below.

Table 6.5

	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Funding Source	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**	**£'000**
Council Tax	(117,884)	(124,212)	(133,085)	(137,090)	(141,214)	(145,466)
Council Tax Surplus	(1,925)	-	-	-	-	-
RSG	(22,797)	(25,635)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)
Top up Business Rates	(60,770)	(59,451)	(62,668)	(88,712)	(88,712)	(88,712)
Retained Business Rates	(21,218)	(19,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)
Section 31 Grants	(6,737)	(21,546)	(22,609)	(0)	(0)	(0)
NNDR Surplus/(Deficit)	225	1,271	-	-	-	-
NNDR Pool	(2,000)	(2,000)	-	-	-	-
New Homes Bonus	(1,208)	(2,105)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Public Health	(20,353)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)
Other core grants	(8,256)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)
Total External Funding	**(262,924)**	**(279,517)**	**(292,245)**	**(299,686)**	**(303,810)**	**(308,062)**
Contributions from Reserves	(4,564)	(3,500)	-	-	-	-
Total Funding	**(267,487)**	**(283,017)**	**(292,245)**	**(299,686)**	**(303,810)**	**(308,062)**

7. General Fund Revenue Assumptions

22/23 Financial Performance – General Fund Revenue

7.1 The Qtr2 2022/23 Budget Update report, reported £16.1m variance from the agreed budget. This consists of £8.1m base budget pressures and £8.0m non-delivery of agreed savings. The base budget pressures are largely driven by the two care services as they continue to report not only increased demand but also increased complexity and acuity which has a big impact on the cost of the care package. This pressure is being offset by underspends elsewhere.

7.2. Challenges in delivering the agreed MTFS savings is being felt across most Directorates and arise mainly due to capacity in the service, reassessment of the original proposals or wider environmental changes. Where it is not possible to achieve plans in this year, savings have been re-profiled into future years; where genuinely not deliverable because the original assumptions are no longer viable or are unable to deliver to the value originally intended, this has been recognised and they have been written out of the draft Budget.

7.3. It is not clear at this point the extent to which the cost of living crisis will have on residents ability to pay council tax and other fees and charges and businesses ability to pay business rates. This will be reviewed in detail as part of the closure of the 2022/23 accounts when existing provisions for bad debt are re-calculated.

7.4. The impact of the persistent high levels of inflation is playing into the base budget pressures. The 2022/23 Budget was set including prudent assessments of pay and general inflation rates, albeit these were necessarily constrained by the availability of funding. The nationally negotiated pay settlement was c.1.2% higher than budgeted for which is adding an additional pressure of c. £1.6m to 2022/23 and will also impact on the 2023/24 budgets. Inflationary pressure on index linked contracts is manifesting as supply side costs linked to foreign currencies where the pound sterling has fallen. Borrowing costs have risen due to these wider economic factors and this is also being closely tracked as we progress through the year.

7.5. The number of identified pressures and overall volatility is concerning and makes forecasting in year open to considerable challenges. Furthermore, many of the issues are outside the direct control of Council.

7.6. Despite this, the financial planning process to date has sought to acknowledge and respond to these factors and to ensure that as far as possible they are addressed in the Budget for 2023/24.

The 2023/24 Budget and 2023/28 MTFS Strategy

7.7. It became clear early on in this year that the financial situation had worsened for most local authorities, this Council included, and this has been key in shaping the approach to the financial planning work for 2023/24. There has been a further step-up in finance and budget dialogue with managers throughout the Council, mirrored by Cabinet members.

7.8. Strategies have been aimed at driving efficiencies from focussing on getting the basics right, collecting all the income due to the Council, improving commissioning strategies, implementing 'Digital First' to modernise customer services and minimise transactional costs, and putting a challenge to the existing and proposed capital programme.

7.9. The number of identified pressures, unknowns and overall volatility has been concerning and has made setting a balanced 2023/24 Budget challenging. Furthermore, many of the issues, such as inflation and increased demand are outside the Council's direct control.

7.10. For **2023/24** with the Administration's emphasis on the importance of being a **competent, radical and collaborative** Council, the strategies have covered:

- Looking to drive efficiencies via focussing on doing things well
- Recognising that optimising Value for Money (VFM) (Efficiency, Effectiveness and Economy) is central to protecting services
- Looking to improving income collection
- Fees and charges review work
- Digital – to improve and modernise customer services, making it easier for residents to access services and to minimise transactional costs
- Tight control on the Capital programme

7.11. Although the PLGFS provided a certain level of certainty over the funding envelope for the local government sector for **2024/25,** given the continuing forecast pressures particularly on social care services coupled with uncertainty over the speed in which inflation will reduce, the Council must plan early for the change work and other measures necessary to ensure our services meet needs and commitments while maintaining financial sustainability.

7.12. **Budget Growth / Pressures**

7.13. The main corporate assumptions across the MTFS period are outlined below followed by a section focussing on the policy priorities and service specific items.

7.14. **Pay Inflation**

7.15. The pay deal for 2022/23 was agreed at a flat rate / employee. This amounted to an average 5.4% increase which was c. £1.6m above the funding set aside for this purpose.

7.16. Although inflation has continued to fall and is now into single digits, it is uncertain whether the rate will fall below the 7.4% forecast in the Autumn statement. Even if the rate does fall, if the Bank of England maintains the current strategy of increasing interest rates, this will impact on disposable income for many people and likely prompt calls for a similar level of pay increase to 2022/23. Therefore, the Budget now assumes c.5% pay award for 2023/24 before reverting back to the more stable 2% across the remainder of the MTFS period.

7.17. **Non-Pay Inflation**

7.18. The impact of inflationary increases in the demand led services is addressed as part of the overall annual demand modelling exercise. The Budget now presented continues to assume a 5% inflationary increase for the social care purchasing budgets for 2023/24 which totals £5.0m however, following the PLGFS the savings assumed to offset this pressure has been reduced down. Strategies to offset the balance will focus on improved commissioning and efficiencies; looking to reduce or eliminate the need for out-of-borough care and build internal capacity; increased integration and collaboration across the social care sector.

7.19. For all other non-pay inflation, the assumption continues that the services will broadly have to manage within existing budgets, thus absorbing any inflationary pressures. However, in recognition that some contracts include inflation-linked increases and utility costs continue to be volatile and difficult to predict an annual allowance is built into the budget to address these items should they arise.

7.20. Since the December draft Budget report, the estimates have been revisited and updated where appropriate however, overall, there has been little movement and c.£5.0m has been provided for 2023/24. Due to the various services impacted, the % increases vary from 14% to 77% - the latter for gas. From 2024/25 the budget allowance returns to a more stable figure of c. £1.0m pa.

Employer Pension Contributions

7.21. No changes are proposed to the assumptions included in the draft Budget report. That confirmed that the latest triennial valuation, covering the period 2023/24 - 2025/26, required no change for 2023/24 but that the Council would need to increase its contribution rate by 0.5% across each of the years 2024/25 & 2025/26. This is estimated to have a £0.6m budgetary impact each year and has been built into the draft Budget.

7.22. No assumptions have been made about the financial impact of the next triennial valuation (2026-2028).

Treasury & Capital Financing

7.23. The 2022/23 GF Budget and MTFS were updated to reflect the implications of the updated capital programme but subsequently interest rate costs have risen markedly as described in the Treasury section below (Section 8). The draft Budget report indicated that this could push treasury costs to be c. £3m higher than originally modelled. Both the capital programme and the estimated impact of increases to short term borrowing interest rates on the Council's MRP and interest budgets have been revisited since December. The net impact for 2023/24 has been an increase of £2.5m. The MTFS assumes a further step up in 2024/25 after which interest rates, and therefore budget requirement, are forecast to reduce.

7.24. Conversely, the increases made by the Bank of England to interest rates has allowed for an additional £0.5m assumed interest income to be received in 2023/24.

7.25. The continuing degree of volatility and uncertainty associated with markets and inflation means that this area of the budget represents one of the significant budget risks for next year.

Levies

7.26. The current assumption that all Levy costs except the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) levy will remain broadly in line with the 2022/23 figures across the period.

7.27. The NLWA has seen significant increased income and cost savings so far this financial year. Less waste and higher recycling rates are forecast compared with the budget. On the back of this, the NLWA waived the November 2022 levy payment to each authority which represented £0.655m for Haringey. Due to the rising value of electricity, London Energy Ltd is also earning considerably more for electricity. Since the draft report was produced, further budget forecasts have been received from NLWA which continue to propose that this additional income, coupled with retained surpluses, will be applied to reduce the 2023/24 levy. On the strength of this, the 2023/24 Budget now assumes a £3m reduction to the levy, for one year only before reverting back to previously assumed figures.

7.28. Their final budget meeting will take place after the publication of this Budget report with final figures confirmed in February 2023. Therefore any material changes to this assumed position will be reported in the Full Council report of 2 March.

Contingency

7.29. The Council holds a single corporate contingency largely to manage any slippage to the agreed budget reduction programme in any one year as well as addressing unforeseen circumstances which cannot realistically be built into budget plans. This Budget assumes that the contingency for 2023/24 and across the remainder of the MTFS is £7.4m.

7.30. **Policy Priorities**

7.31. Despite the financial challenges facing the authority, this Budget for 2023/24:

- Ensures we can continue to meet the significant need of our most vulnerable residents – through £16.4m investment in Children's and Adult's services;
- Drives value for money through a significant efficiency and reform agenda – with every area of the council contributing. (c£15.4m in savings and additional income);
- Provides financial advice and support to residents who need it including through Council Tax Reduction, our Financial Support Team, and the Haringey Support Fund *and*
- Maintains critical support for our children and young people with little direct funding by Central Government – including Free School Meals for an additional 650 children who are just above the entitlement threshold: Putting the funding for the Rising Green Youth Hub on a long-term footing.

Service Growth Budget Adjustments

7.32. The existing MTFS contains a level of growth in the service areas. This has been reviewed and still found to be required.

7.33. The financial planning process this year again sought to identify and address existing budget challenges that could not be mitigated by services as well looking ahead and estimating new requirements largely driven by demographic change, inflation and the cost of living crisis. These assumptions have been reviewed since the draft Budget report and in the light of the PLGFS announcements which included some new specific grants for Adults as well as increases to the Social Care grant along with increases flexibilities over council tax and ASC precept increases.

7.34. Appendix 2 details the proposed additions by Directorate and these are summarised in the table below.

Growth	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
Culture Strategy & Engagement	1,310	(184)	(165)	(187)	(134)	640
Environment & Neighbourhoods	2,746	-	-	-	-	2,746
Adults, Health & Communities	11,064	3,270	-	-	-	14,334
Children's Services	6,302	(438)	(600)	-	-	5,264
Placemaking & Housing	230	(230)	-	-	-	-
Head of Legal & Governance	300	-	-	-	-	300
Total	**21,952**	**2,418**	**(765)**	**(187)**	**(134)**	**23,284**

7.35. Attention is drawn to the c.£17.3m growth being added to Adults, Health and Communities (AHC) and Children's Services. This is on top of the sums already built into the current MTFS. £4.0m of the growth in AHC is from the two new specific grants, Discharge grant and Market Sustainability & Improvement Funding announced in the PLGFS plus £1m growth has been added to the Temporary Accommodation budget since December in recognition of the inflationary pressure manifesting across London private sector rents.

7.36. The growth in the other Directorates is largely addressing recurring base budget pressures.

Budget Reduction Proposals / Savings

7.37. The Council has previously agreed £1.394m savings to be delivered across the period 2023-2026 as outlined in the table below.

Management Area	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/ £'000	2027/28 £'000	Total £'000
Culture Strategy & Engagement	(6)					(6)
Environment & Neighbourhoods	1,370	(1,360)	(170)			(160)
Adults, Health & Communities	(586)	(12)				(598)
Children's Services	(130)	(230)				(360)
Placemaking & Housing	(100)	(100)	(70)			(270)
Corporate Budgets						-
Total	**548**	**(1,702)**	**(240)**	**-**	**-**	**(1,394)**

7.38. The 2022/23 financial planning process did not propose any additional savings. It instead acknowledged that the new and any brought forward delivery programme for 2022/23 was £20m, which was challenging in itself.

7.39. As is the practice at this Council, existing savings plans have been reviewed and challenged robustly to ensure that they can still be met as originally agreed and if not, looks to re-profile. If after all actions have been explored, the savings targets are still acknowledged to be undeliverable, they are proposed to be written out of the financial plans.

7.40. This outcome of this process is shown in the table below and the implications built into the Budget. In total c.£8.9m of savings won't be delivered as planned, though nearly £3m of these have been re-profiled for delivery in later years. These assumptions have not been changed since the draft Budget report.

Amended Savings	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total £'000
Culture Strategy & Engagement	2,967	(525)	(1,860)			582
Environment & Neighbourhoods	490					490
Adults, Health & Communities	5,421	(486)				4,935
Children's Services						-
Placemaking & Housing						-
Total	**8,878**	**(1,011)**	**(1,860)**	**-**	**-**	**6,007**

7.41. It should be noted that the major adjustment in Culture, Strategy and Engagement relates to the cross-council Digital Together saving. This programme has now been refocussed and requires a wider timeframe to deliver; hence it has been re-profiled out across the period 2023/24 - 2025/26. In Adults, Heath and Communities, the majority of the final year of a challenging savings programme has been removed but has been replaced by a similar level of new proposals (see below).

7.42. The table below sets out the new savings proposals in this budget, by Directorate across the period. The majority of these are planned for delivery in 2023/24.

7.43. The main components of the Environment and Neighbourhoods proposals relate to parking and highways and are based on our current policy of implementing LTNs. We have committed to reviewing the operation of the LTN schemes and if changes are made as part of that process, these projections will be adjusted to reflect that. Appendix 3 provides further details of the proposals.

New Savings	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/ £'000	2027/28 £'000	Total £'000
Culture Strategy & Engagement	(1,157)	(870)	(210)	(5)	(5)	(2,247)
Environment & Neighbourhoods	(6,614)	869	(1,289)	6	(44)	(7,072)
Adults, Health & Communities	(5,762)	(3,055)	159	100	-	(8,558)
Children's Services	(1,500)	-	-	-	-	(1,500)
Placemaking & Housing	(370)	(10)	-	-	-	(380)
Corporate Budgets						
Total	**(15,403)**	**(3,066)**	**(1,340)**	**101**	**(49)**	**(19,757)**

7.44. Overall, the impact of the above proposals delivers a <u>net</u> savings programme totalling £15.1m across the MTFS period. This is set out in the table below.

Net Savings Proposed 2023-2028	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000	2026/ £'000	2027/28 £'000	Total £'000
Culture Strategy & Engagement	1,804	(1,395)	(2,070)	(5)	(5)	(1,671)
Environment & Neighbourhoods	(4,754)	(491)	(1,459)	6	(44)	(6,742)
Adults, Health & Communities	(927)	(3,553)	159	100	-	(4,221)
Children's Services	(1,630)	(230)	-	-	-	(1,860)
Placemaking & Housing	(470)	(110)	(70)	-	-	(650)
Corporate Budgets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Savings	**(5,977)**	**(5,779)**	**(3,440)**	**101**	**(49)**	**(15,144)**

7.45. It should be noted that these figures do not reflect any further non-delivery of 2022/23 savings which would add to these totals.

Summary Revenue Budget Position 2023/24 – 2027/28

7.46. After taking into account the proposed amendments to existing plans and funding, the new savings and growth proposals discussed in the sections above, the current revenue Budget position for next year and across the MTFS period is set out in the table below. The proposed 2023/24 General Fund Budget now assumes a lower £3.5m contribution from the Strategic Budget Planning reserve.

Directorate	2022/23 Budget £'000	2023/24 Draft Budget £'000	2024/25 Projected £'000	2025/26 Projected £'000	2026/27 Projected £'000	2027/28 Projected £'000
Adults, Health & Communities	109,648	108,701	105,984	108,931	111,852	111,852
Children's Services	52,006	62,949	62,889	62,909	62,929	62,529
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	31,581	33,569	32,416	32,041	32,399	32,260
Environment & Neighbourhood	14,785	14,565	19,270	21,411	21,417	21,373
Placemaking & Housing	8,000	7,829	7,114	7,044	7,014	7,014
Chief Executive	287	305	305	305	305	305
Corporate Governance	1,531	2,283	2,283	2,283	2,283	2,283
Finance	45,086	52,815	68,301	74,001	80,789	87,823
Council Cash Limit	**262,924**	**283,017**	**298,563**	**308,926**	**318,989**	**325,440**
Planned Contributions from Reserves	(4,564)	(3,500)				
Further Savings to be Identified	-	(0)	(6,318)	(9,240)	(15,179)	(17,378)
Total General Fund Budget	**258,360**	**279,517**	**292,245**	**299,686**	**303,810**	**308,062**
Council Tax	(117,884)	(124,212)	(133,085)	(137,090)	(141,214)	(145,466)
Council Tax Surplus	(1,925)	-	-	-	-	-
RSG	(22,797)	(25,635)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)	(27,045)
Top up Business Rates	(60,770)	(59,451)	(62,668)	(88,712)	(88,712)	(88,712)
Retained Business Rates	(21,218)	(19,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)	(20,800)
Section 31 Grants	(6,737)	(21,546)	(22,609)	(0)	(0)	(0)
NNDR Surplus/(Deficit)	225	1,271	-	-	-	-
NNDR Growth	(2,000)	(2,000)	-	-	-	-
Total Main Funding	**(233,107)**	**(251,374)**	**(266,207)**	**(273,648)**	**(277,772)**	**(282,024)**
New Homes Bonus	(1,208)	(2,105)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Public Health	(20,353)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)	(21,502)
Other core grants	(8,256)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)	(4,536)
Total Core/Other External Grants	**(29,817)**	**(28,143)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**	**(26,038)**
Total Income	**(262,924)**	**(279,517)**	**(292,245)**	**(299,686)**	**(303,810)**	**(308,062)**

Review of assumptions and risks 2023/24 – 2027/28

7.47. 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 will be made as part of the final report on the Council's budget in March 2023 and will draw on independent assessments of the Council's financial resilience where available however, it is critical that this report outlines the assumptions and approach to risk taken when arriving at the budget proposals included in the draft Budget & MTFS.

7.48. Given the increased financial pressure that is falling upon this council's budget and the uncertain national political and economic picture, this statutory role is acquiring more and more significance. The number and breadth of potential risks and level of uncertainty, particularly around the legacy impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, inflationary levels, cost of living crisis and levels of Government funding, underlines the need to maintain both a budgeted resilience contingency and keep general and earmarked reserves at current levels.

7.49. The main uncertainties and risks identified to date which my impact on the Council's budget for 2023/24 and over the period of the MTFS are:

- Funding quantum and distribution methodology is unclear from 2025/26 and it is likely that current assumptions will need significant revisions.
- The ongoing economic impact of inflation and the war in Ukraine is likely to continue to put pressure on costs and supply chain.
- Level of interest rates and their subsequent impact on borrowing costs.
- These will continue to place stress on individuals and businesses manifesting in the cost of living crisis.
- While significant progress has been made working with the DfE on the Safety Valve programme, final confirmation of support has yet to be received; furthermore, delivery of the agreed strategy will be challenging.
- The Levelling Up agenda and associated funding distribution methodologies could be negative for this Council's funding allocations.
- Planned actions to increase Council managed temporary accommodation options do not progress at the pace expected.
- The Council's savings programmes do not deliver the required savings, do not deliver savings quickly enough.
- Any further deterioration in the forecast 2022/23 position including non-delivery of in year savings.
- The ability to retain and attract suitably qualified and skilled workforce hampers the delivery of the Council's ambitions.

8. Council's Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2023/24 – 2027/28

8.1 This capital strategy report 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.

8.2 The current economic environment has impacted the capital programme in a number of ways. Inflation and the subsequent Bank of England response in raising interest rates has meant that the interest that the Council pays on the borrowing that it undertakes to fund the capital programme (both the existing capital programme and the proposed additions) has increased significantly. The increase in inflation has impacted the cost of raw materials and the tightness in the supply chain for capital works (labour and materials) has added both cost and time to schemes. In addition, the increased costs are making it increasingly difficult to achieve self-financing business cases for those schemes where this is expected.

8.3 Looking forward, the Council's capital investment proposals include continued investment in the school estate. The budget proposals include the potential development of Edwards Drive into a centre for adults with learning difficulties as well as funding for the locality's strategy.

8.4 There is increased investment in the infrastructure of the borough's parks and streets. The proposals double the planned investment in the Active Life In Parks programme and the Parks Asset Management for 2023/24. Historically the Council received significant funding from TfL to support the highways of the borough. The pandemic hit TfL's finances hard, and it has not been able to provide the level of support to borough's as it used to. The Council's proposals allow for funding of the type of work previously funded by TfL in 2023/24 to be met by Council borrowing. In future years it has been assumed that external grant will be available to fund these works. There is also significant new investment in the Cycling & Walking Action Plan in 2023/24 and again in future years the investment is dependent on the Council identifying external funding.

8.5 The Council is continuing to invest in its economic infrastructure with funding for the construction for the Wards Corner, the Gourley Triangle and the Selby Urban Village schemes. Progression to construction will be subject to a successful business case for each scheme. There is also additional investment in school streets and investment in School Clean Air Zones and investment in the Council's commercial and operational property.

8.6 The Council is also investing in its digital offering to ensure that our customers receive the best possible service as well enhancements to its digital infrastructure.

8.7 The Council continues to invest in housing through its new homes programme. This expenditure is contained within the housing revenue account (HRA).

8.8 Since the December report the capital programme has been amended with a number of schemes having been re-profiled in the light of developments, and a number of cyclical capital maintenance programmes have been updated to add budgets to the latter years of the MTFS. In total the budget for the MTFS period under consideration has increased by £66.3m when compared to the budget in December 2022. The main movements are set out in the table below

Budget Movement December to February	£000's
BUDGET INCREASES	48,345
REDUCTION/DELETIONS	(9,670)
REPROFILING	27,630
	66,305

8.9 Of the capital budget increases a proportion relate to additions to 2026/27 and 2027/28 programmes to continue annual expenditures. These include annual capital maintenance programmes of £14m, such as capital maintenance in Children's Services (£9m, grant funded) and Parks Asset Management. A number of other capital budgets have been increased. Both the Osbourne Grove Nursing Home and the Civic Centre projects have had their financial envelopes increased by £4.2m and £13.6m respectively due to rising costs. There have also been budget increases totalling £13m in Placemaking & Housing which are largely grant funded additions such as the Tottenham Hale regeneration programme and the Future High Streets Fund.

8.9 The local NHS Integrated Care Board has proposed making a grant to the Council of £3.152m to a range of health and social care projects that the Council has undertaken in 2022/23. In addition, the Council has been requested by the NHS Integrated Care Board to make a contribution of £3.152m to the Welbourne Health Centre project in 2023/24 and these arrangements will be covered by a S256 and a S76 agreement. The acceptance of the grant and the making of the contribution will be the subject of a Cabinet Member signing.

8.10 The budget proposed now reflect Cabinet's decision to delete a budget of £1.2m and it proposed to delete other budgets, recognising that more advanced business cases need to be developed to be recognised in future MFTS.

The overall reprofiling of £27.630m does not actually increase the capital programme as the resources have been transferred from 2022/23 into later years of the MTFS.

The Council has been successful in its application for £7m of safety valve funding from the DfE. The safety valve is part of a suite of actions to reduce the overspend in the high needs block.

Background

8.9 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.

8.10 Capital programmes can shape the local environment (e.g. through the provision of new housing, traffic schemes or regeneration schemes);

positively impact people's lives (e.g. through creating appropriate housing for adults with learning difficulties or investment in parks and open spaces); transform the way the Council interacts with local residents (e.g. through the libraries investment programme or proposals for locality provision); and deliver fit for purpose schools.

8.11 The key objectives for the Council's capital programme are to deliver the Corporate Delivery Plan and assist the Council in meeting the service and financial challenges that it continues to face.

Capital expenditure and financing

8.12 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.

8.13 The table below shows a high-level summary of the Council's outline capital spending in the medium-term i.e., for the financial years 2023/24-2027/28, which shows the continued and growing capital investment that is being undertaken to support the achievement of the Corporate Delivery Plan objectives and to improve people's lives.

Table 8.1: Capital expenditure plans overview 2023/24 - 2027/28

	2022/23 Budget (£'000)	2023/24 Budget (£'000)	2024/25 Budget (£'000)	2025/26 Budget (£'000)	2026/27 Budget (£'000)	2027/28 Budget (£'000)	Total (£'000)
Previously Agreed							
General Fund Account (GF)	259,670	245,718	164,279	101,153	41,119		**811,939**
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	276,900	453,834	323,065	228,633	227,953		**1,510,385**
Total =	**536,570**	**699,552**	**487,344**	**329,786**	**269,072**		**2,322,324**
Proposed							
General Fund Account (GF)		220,900	200,102	217,103	276,220	93,859	**1,008,184**
Housing Revenue Account (HRA)		262,962	289,102	322,107	305,880	246,218	**1,426,269**
Total =		**483,862**	**489,204**	**539,210**	**582,100**	**340,077**	**2,434,453**

8.14 The capital programme is composed of individual directorate programmes. Within these directorate totals there are schemes and within most schemes there are individual projects. For instance, Scheme 302, Borough Roads, will contain individual projects on individual roads.

8.15 Where additional funding is proposed for an existing scheme, this will be added to the scheme rather than creating a new scheme. A full list of proposed additions to the capital programme are contained in appendix 5.

8.16 About 18% of the capital programme, down from a 33% last year, is composed of schemes that are wholly funded by Council borrowing and not self-financing or met from external resources. These schemes largely reflect the statutory duties of the council. In large part these schemes are not able to attract external resources to either supplement or supplant Council borrowing as they are core to the Council's operation.

There are a range of schemes (called self-financing schemes) within the General Fund capital programme that will only proceed, if they are estimated to result in a net reduction in expenditure. That reduction will include the cost of financing the borrowing and contribute to the MTFS through making savings or increasing income. The decision to proceed with these schemes will follow the production of a detailed business case that supports the investment and identifies reductions in expenditure.

8.17 The Children's Services capital programme is largely reliant on Council borrowing. For the period 2023/24-2027/28 the Council is planning to spend £86.74m, of which approximately £34.6m is funded through government grant leaving a borrowing requirement of £52.1m. The cost of the increased borrowing investment in schools falls on the Council's revenue account through increased borrowing costs.

8.18 The Adults, Health & Communities Services capital programme is £103.3m, of which much of the programme is self-financed at £80.9m. In addition, there is £15.6m of grant funded expenditure.

8.19 Within the Environment & Resident Experience directorate, the proposed capital programme for the period 2023/24-2027/28 is broadly estimated at £90.6m of which approximately £29.5m is externally funded.

8.20 The Placemaking & Housing capital programme has an estimated value of £623.8m, of which £249.8m is funded externally and £317.4m is self-financing. Council borrowing in this part of the capital programme is proportionately lower than in others at £56.6m. The majority of this borrowing is to match fund schemes in the South Tottenham Regeneration projects, the Wood Green Regeneration Strategy and the Corporate Landlord remediation works.

8.21 The basic premise for the Placemaking & Housing programme is to provide a funding envelope within the budget and policy framework (through the creation of enabling budgets) which equips the council with the ability to respond to opportunities in a timely way. This means that this capital programme is both front loaded and prone to reporting slippage.

8.22 The Culture, Strategy & Engagement capital programme is estimated at £103.8m with the majority, £86.8m funded through self-financing. £52.9m of this self-financing relates to the Civic Centre refurbishment and £20.1m relates to the Bruce Castle Museum restoration work.

8.23 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.

8.24 Service managers bid annually as part of the Council's budget setting process. The bids are assessed against their response to need in relation to the Council's priorities, the asset management plan and meeting the objectives of the medium-term financial strategy (MTFS). In addition, schemes have been considered for their contribution to economic recovery, to growth, and to jobs.

8.25 The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account, which ensures that the Council's housing activities are not subsidised by the Council's non-housing activities. It also ensures that the Council's non-housing activities are not subsidised by its HRA. HRA capital expenditure is recorded separately.

8.26 The Capital Programme for 2023/24 has considered and been reviewed to ensure that it delivers in line with the Council's Carbon Reduction ambition. There are no projects that will increase the carbon footprint of the Council. There are several projects however, where there is the opportunity that these can be designed to ensure that at the delivery stages Zero Carbon requirements will be delivered. These include:

- Land Purchases for future development. At the development stage these projects will have to deliver on site the zero carbon requirements for Planning and the long-term asset owners and occupiers.

- Construction works (such as the Parkland Walk Bridge). The procurement for these works will include carbon within the selection for materials and contractors works.

- Road Safety Programme and Highways Maintenance. To deliver transport infrastructure that is safe and supports active travel options.

- School's capital Maintenance – the Council has just completed its Energy Action Plan for its schools, and this capital funding will deliver this through including carbon reduction measures (insulation, glazing, low carbon heating) within these programmes.

- Local Business Space Energy Improvements – With local SME's struggling with energy costs the Council will review its commercial portfolio and improving the energy efficiency levels, the heating and lighting systems.

- Street Light upgrades – continuing the upgrades of lights to LED and new street light columns that can house electric vehicle charging points in the base.

- Parks Improvements – creating new biodiversity areas, tree planting, activity areas and active travel options in and around our parks.

- Active and health spaces around our schools - We are increasing the funding for our successful School Streets programme and introducing Healthy Schools Zones to improve air quality in our most polluted schools of the borough. Creating safe space and infrastructure to encourage active travel options.

- Delivering on our Walking and Cycling Action Plan - funding to successfully deliver on the Council's active travel ambition with improved and new infrastructure.

The table below details the proposed capital expenditure plans by directorate.

Table 8.2: Capital expenditure plans by directorate

	2023/24 Budget (£'000)	2024/25 Budget (£'000)	2025/26 Budget (£'000)	2026/27 Budget (£'000)	2027/28 Budget (£'000)	Total (£'000)
Children's Services	33,774	22,801	15,801	7,331	7,031	**86,737**
Adults, Health & Communities	15,802	31,393	37,066	12,673	6,377	**103,310**
Environment & Resident Experience	26,948	21,078	19,768	16,441	6,349	**90,584**
Placemaking & Housing	121,268	84,426	110,202	234,659	73,232	**623,787**
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	23,109	40,404	34,267	5,116	870	**103,766**
Total General Fund (GF)	**220,900**	**200,102**	**217,103**	**276,220**	**93,859**	**1,008,184**
Housing (HRA)	**262,962**	**289,102**	**322,107**	**305,880**	**246,218**	**1,426,269**
Overall Total	**483,862**	**489,204**	**539,210**	**582,100**	**340,077**	**2,434,453**

8.27 Appendix 4 includes the previously agreed schemes plus any changes since the last budget (up to and including the December 2022 Cabinet), plus the new schemes and adjustments proposed. This indicates how each scheme is financed:

H is for schemes that are funded by borrowing,
S is for schemes that are funded by the borrowing but where there are compensating savings are made in service budgets,
E is for schemes that are funded by an external party, and

Where there is more than one letter, this indicates that the scheme is funded from more than one source with the source contributing the most indicated first.
Appendix 5 provides details of the new and adjusted schemes. The following paragraphs provide a high-level description of each directorate's new capital proposals.

8.28 Children's Services

At the time of the December budget there was one new scheme, the Safety Valve scheme, of £7m (subject to a successful application to the Department for Education) proposed for Children's Services. This bid has been successful and will part fund the creation of in borough specialist provision for children special educational need and disabilities (SEND). This would provide high quality provision at a lower cost through not sending children out of borough. The site or sites for the provision have not been identified at this time.

8.29 Adult, Health, and Communities

There are two new schemes proposed for the area. The first, Edwards Drive, which is intended to develop much needed supported living facilities with integrated on-site health and care services for learning disabled adults. The Council would need to acquire the property from the NHS. The budget for this is £21m and is subject to a successful business case. The second scheme is to take forward the Council's localities strategy to bring integrated services from a range of providers (the Council, NHS, voluntary sector) into 4-6 hubs and has a budget of 3m. Since the December report the OGNH project has had its budget envelope increased by £4.2m to reflect increased costs. The aids and adaptations budget, which is grant funded, has been extended into 2027/28 by £2.2m.In addition, a new scheme Welbourne Health Centre, £31.52m has been added.

8.30 Environment & Resident Experience

The existing Environment & Resident Experience capital programme is designed to make the borough a cleaner and safer place where residents can lead active and healthy lives. The proposed new capital schemes build on these priorities with additional investment.

A previously significant source of funding for the borough's infrastructure was grants received from Transport for London (TfL). Due to the financial situation of TfL these grants have largely ceased. Even though these grants have ceased the works still need to be undertaken.

It is proposed to invest a further £1m in the road casualty reduction initiative with Council borrowing, £0.8m, as there was very limited funding provided by Transport for London (TfL), £0.2m.

Additional investment is proposed of £3.495m for investment in a range of road and pavement infrastructure which is being funded by the Council through borrowing as there was no TfL funding allocated.

There is a proposal to double the amount of investment in the Active Life in Parks programme, by £0.23m, and to double the investment in the Parks Asset Management, by £0.3m. In addition, there is additional investment in the Parkland Walk Bridges programme. The programme also allows for the continuation of investment in street lighting and borough roads in future years.

The level of funding for the borough roads scheme and the accident reduction scheme are included in the programme as being funded by Haringey borrowing in 2023/24, with a slight downward adjustment compared to the existing budget. In future years it has been assumed that there will be external funding provided to undertake the works.

The February report now includes the addition of £2.6m of annual schemes, such as Parks Asset Management, Active Life In Parks that have been added to the years 2026/27 and 2027/28.

8.31 Placemaking & Housing

There is a significant increase in the investment proposed for the Wards Corner scheme (£66m), the Gourley Triangle scheme (£108m), the Selby Urban Village scheme (£46.7m) and the SME intensification scheme (£11.4m). The proposed investment is in addition to existing budgets and subject to successful business cases. The investments are included within the capital programme on the basis that they are self-financing.

The Walking & Cycling Action Plan is included in the capital programme. In 2023/24 the three elements, Cycle Route Delivery, £1.75m, LTN Delivery, £1.2m, and Cycle Parking (Hangers) Delivery are funded through SCIL and limited TfL funding. The expenditure in future years will proceed if funding is identified.

Also included are proposals for the expansion of school streets, £0.4m, investment for Clean Air School Zones, £0.4m which are funded by borrowing. The expenditure in future years will proceed if funding is identified.

Further investment in the Councils assets are proposed for the operational buildings and the commercial portfolio.

There have been a number of budget increases that are mostly grant funded such as the Future High Streets Fund and the Tottenham Hale regeneration strategy which come to £12.8m which are offset by a reduction in the Wood Green Regen budget pending revisions to the programme. In addition there has been a continuation of re-profiling of the programme that has resulted in £18.7m being reallocated from 2022/23 into the MTFS period.

8.32 Culture, Strategy & Engagement

The initial proposals contain further investment in the Council's IT assts. The move from an analogue telephone system to a digital one by BT (known as the Big Switch Off) will mean the replacement of existing lines in a range of buildings and services. The proposals also allow for continued investment in the IT estate such as the laptop refresh. The cost of the Civic Centre works has increased by £13.5m. However, as this scheme is self-financing the decision to proceed will be subject to the business case supporting the decision to proceed with construction.

8.33 Financing

All capital expenditure must be financed from either external source (government grant or other contributions), the Council's own resources (revenue, reserves, or capital receipts) or debt (borrowing, leasing, Private Finance Initiative). The Council's capital programme has moved to a financing strategy that seeks to ensure that investment via the capital programme is self-financing or funded from external resources wherever possible. The draft capital programme for 2023/24-2027/28 is analysed in the table below and shows that the majority of schemes being proposed (82%) are either self-financing or funded via external resources:

Table 8.3: Financing Strategy

	General Fund Borrowing		External	Total
	Met from General Fund (£'000)	Self Financing met from Savings (£'000)	(£'000)	(£'000)
Children's Services	45,982	6,100	34,655	**86,737**
Adults, Health & Communities	6,832	80,907	15,571	**103,310**
Environment & Resident Experience	55,403	5,729	29,452	**90,584**
Placemaking & Housing	56,616	317,356	249,814	**623,787**
Culture, Strategy & Engagement	17,012	86,754	0	**103,766**
Total	**181,845**	**496,847**	**329,492**	**1,008,184**

8.34 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.

8.35 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 borrowings. This is known as the minimum revenue provision (MRP). The MRP for the period is set out below:

Table 8.4: Estimated MRP

	2022/23 Forecasts (£'000)	2023/24 Forecasts (£'000)	2024/25 Forecasts (£'000)	2025/26 Forecasts (£'000)	2026/27 Forecasts (£'000)	2027/28 Forecast (£'000)
MRP	13,368	19,145	25,586	29,282	33,918	37,948

8.36 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. The increase in MRP in 2022/23 is partially due to the end of the MRP holiday and was addressed in detail in the Treasury Management Strategy considered by Council in February 2021.

Table 8.5: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement

	2022/23 Budget (£'000)	2023/24 Budget (£'000)	2024/25 Budget (£'000)	2025/26 Budget (£'000)	2026/27 Budget (£'000)	2027/28 Budget (£'000)
CFR	1,375,493	1,540,063	1,901,188	2,293,138	2,568,101	2,713,322

Asset Management

8.37 The Asset Management Plan is the subject of a separate report and will be considered at a future Cabinet meeting.

Asset Disposals

8.38 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. 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. This is known as the flexible use of capital receipts and this flexibility is currently due to expire on the 31st March 2025.

8.39 As stated above, capital receipts can be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt. The budget assumption is that capital receipts will not fund capital expenditure or debt repayment. It is anticipated that the capital receipts received in the MTFS period covered by the flexibility (up to 31st March 2025) will be used to deliver cost reductions and/or transformation.

There is a separate policy statement and schedule of proposed initiatives to utilise capital receipts flexibly.

Treasury Management

8.40 The Council has a separate Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) that outlines in detail the Council's treasury management matters. The Capital Strategy document repeats some of the information contained within the TMSS but places the information in the context of the capital programme and Corporate Delivery Plan.

8.41 Treasury management is the management of the Council's investments, cash flows, its banking and capital market transaction and the effective control of the risks associated with those activities. Surplus cash is invested until required in accordance with the guidelines contained on the approved TMSS, while a short term liquidity requirements can be met by borrowing. This is to avoid excess credit balances or overdrafts at the bank. The Council is typically cash rich in the short term as cash revenue income is received before it is spent but cash poor in the long-term as capital expenditure is incurred before it is financed. The revenue cash surpluses are offset against capital cash shortfalls to reduce borrowing.

Borrowing Strategy

8.42 The council's main objectives when borrowing is to achieve a low but certain cost of finance while retaining flexibility should its plans change in the future. These objectives are often in conflict as the Council seeks to strike a balance between cheap short-term loans and long-term fixed loans where the future cost is known, but higher.

8.43 Projected levels of the Council's total outstanding debt (which comprises borrowing, PFI liabilities and leasing) are shown below and compared to the capital financing requirement.

Table 8.6: Prudential Indicator: Gross Debt and the Capital Financing Requirement

	31/3/22 Actual (£'000)	31/3/23 Budget (£'000)	31/3/24 Budget (£'000)	31/3/25 Budget (£'000)	31/3/26 Budget (£'000)	31/3/27 Budget (£'000)	31/3/28 Budget (£'000)
Borrowing Debt	700,415	1,204,505	1,362,827	1,700,076	2,064,552	2,309,280	2,423,369
PFI & Lease Debt	26,701	19,471	17,421	12,690	9,802	8,849	8,849
Total Debt	**727,116**	**1,223,976**	**1,380,247**	**1,712,766**	**2,074,353**	**2,318,129**	**2,432,218**
Capital Financing Requirement	972,537	1,375,493	1,540,063	1,901,188	2,293,138	2,568,101	2,713,322

8.44 Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the capital financing requirement, except in the short-term. As can be seen from the above, the Council expects to comply with this requirement.

Affordable Borrowing Limit

8.45 The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the authorised limit for external debt) each year. In line with statutory guidance, a lower operational boundary is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.

Table 8.7: Prudential Indicator: Authorised limit and operational boundary for external debt

	2022/23 limit (£'000)	2023/24 limit (£'000)	2024/25 limit (£'000)	2025/26 limit (£'000)	2026/27 limit (£'000)	2027/28 limit (£'000)
Authorised limit – borrowing	1,286,022	1,452,642	1,818,497	2,213,336	2,489,252	2,634,473
Authorised limit – PFI & leases	25,702	22,995	16,751	12,938	11,681	11,681
Authorised limit – total external debt	**1,311,724**	**1,475,637**	**1,835,249**	**2,226,274**	**2,500,932**	**2,646,154**
Operational boundary - borrowing	1,236,022	1,402,642	1,768,497	2,163,336	2,439,252	2,584,473
Operational boundary – PFI & leases	23,366	20,905	15,228	11,762	10,619	10,619
Operational boundary – total external debt	**1,259,387**	**1,423,547**	**1,783,726**	**2,175,098**	**2,449,871**	**2,595,092**

8.46 Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue account, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue, offset by any investment income receivable. The net annual charge is known as financing costs. This is compared to the net revenue stream i.e., the amount funded from Council Tax, business rates and general government grants.

8.47 The table below shows the net estimated capital financing costs based on the capital programme and the revised set of assumptions.

Table 8.8: Estimated Capital Financing Costs

	2022/23 Forecast £0's	2023/24 Forecast £0's	2024/25 Forecast £0's	2025/26 Forecast £0's	2026/27 Forecast £0's	2027/28 Forecast £0's
MRP - pre 2008 expenditure	2,283	5,019	5,019	5,019	5,019	5,019
MRP - post 2008 expenditure	11,085	14,126	19,566	24,263	28,899	32,928
Total MRP	**13,368**	**19,145**	**24,586**	**29,282**	**33,918**	**37,948**
Interest Costs (General Fund)	11,274	19,345	25,090	29,492	32,050	33,281
Total Gross Capital Financing Costs (GF)	**24,642**	**38,490**	**49,676**	**58,774**	**65,968**	**71,228**
Offsetting Savings for self-financing schemes	-8,835	-14,713	-21,788	-30,162	-36,196	-37,620
Total Net Capital Financing Costs (GF)	**15,807**	**23,777**	**27,887**	**28,612**	**29,773**	**33,608**
Interest Costs (HRA)	**14,861**	**18,979**	**28,599**	**38,365**	**46,548**	**52,019**

Table 8.9: Proportion of financing costs to net revenue stream

	2022/23 Forecast (£'000)	2023/24 Forecast (£'000)	2024/25 Forecast (£'000)	2025/26 Forecast (£'000)	2026/27 Forecast (£'000)	2026/27 Forecast (£'000)
Financing Costs General Fund	15,807	23,777	27,887	28,612	29,773	33,608
Proportion of net revenue stream	6.01%	8.56%	9.87%	10.03%	10.21%	11.29%
Financing Costs HRA	14,861	18,979	28,599	38,365	46,548	52,019
Proportion of net revenue stream	13.12%	15.73%	21.62%	27.16%	30.95%	32.84%

8.48 It can be seen, that over the MTFS period the General Fund ratio increases. The ratio also increases for the HRA. This level of ratio has been modelled into the current version of the evolving HRA business plan and capital programme.

Governance

8.49 Decisions on treasury management investment and borrowing are made on a daily basis and are delegated to the Director of Finance. There is a further sub-delegation to members of the Director of Finance's staff to facilitate day-to-day operations. Whoever is making the decision(s) will need to act in line with the treasury management strategy as approved by full Council.

9. Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

9.1 The 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 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.

HRA Financial Plan Overview

9.2 The 30-year HRA financial plan contains a long-term assessment of the need for investment in assets, such as new homes development, Major works (Haringey standard) and other cyclical maintenance requirements, as well as forecasts on income streams such as rents, in line with rent standards, and future developments.

9.3 The Plan includes the modelling of the revenue and capital implications of all planned work in the HRA to deliver Corporate Delivery Plan priorities and provided 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 considered the build costs, inflation, exposure to housing market and delivery capacity within the Council.

9.4 The recent increases in energy cost, inflation and interest rates rises presents a level of challenge and difficulty in delivering our capital programmes now and the viability of our HRA in the medium to long term. The Council must agree a HRA Budget and longer-term plan which are prudent and sustainable. This plan factors in our best estimates and assumptions on interest rates and inflation, which are particularly significant for our capital programme.

9.5 The plan recognises that to undertake the proposed extensive development programme, the HRA must be viable now and in the future. It also recognises that there will be ongoing gateway reviews to update and test viability before future programme phases are released. One of the measures of viability of the HRA is the annual revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO), which reduces the need to external borrowing. RCCO is the revenue surplus after expenditure; and it is key in assessing the HRA resilience. The financial plan, as in prior years, assumes 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 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.

The main sources of income to the HRA are Rents and Service Charges.

Housing rents: Existing Tenants

9.6 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%.

9.7 On 17 November 2022, the government announced in the Autumn Statement 2022 that social housing rent increases for 2023/24 would not go up in line with the formula instead will be capped at 7%, to help tenants with the increased cost of living. This report includes a recommendation that council's rent go up by the allowed 7% and the budget figures included in this report assumes that this increase will be adopted.

9.8 Looking to future years, the Government is expected to give a new directive to the Regulator of Social Housing. The Regulator will publish revised guidance for social housing rent setting for 2024/25 onwards.

Rents on New Builds

9.9 The challenges presented by adverse economic changes, including the increased cost of borrowing and inflation mean that the Council has had to consider how best to be able to maintain financial sustainability and continue a strong new build programme.

9.10 Rents on existing homes and those new homes not under the Building Council Homes for Londoners (BCHL) programme will continue to be in accordance with Government rent standards for social rents. The council will therefore continue to let most of its new lettings for its homes at the relevant formula rent and the HRA financial plan is built on that basis. The maximum weekly rent allowed by the government for a tenant granted a new tenancy in a social rent home is formula rent (subject to national rent cap).

9.11 In the future planning for the HRA, it had been assumed that the Council might utilise shared ownership arrangement for a proportion of its new build programme. Having updated assumptions, it is clear that the long term sustainability of the HRA is better met by the introduction of London Affordable Rent (LAR) for some of its new homes. This is because, as a social housing product, this tenure qualifies for £100k per unit funding from the Building Council Homes for Londoners 2016-23 Grant Funding regime.

9.12 It is therefore recommended that new homes delivered under the GLA's 2016-23 Affordable Homes Programme, 'Building Council Homes for Londoners' will be let at London Affordable Rent (LAR) levels. This is presently estimated to apply to 870 future properties. London Affordable Rent will not be applied to new homes at High Road West or Broadwater Farm as the Council intends to honour the landlord offer that has previously been made to residents there ahead of the Estate ballots. It will also not affect any homes that have either been completed and let or where lettings are in process.

London Affordable Rent

9.13 London Affordable Rent 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.

9.14 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.

9.15 Letting homes at LAR would support a financially viable programme. But it would also be genuinely affordable to tenants. Other than its near-equivalent formula rent, LAR is by some distance the cheapest kind of rent available.

9.16 The table below shows London Affordable Rents for 23/24.

	23/24 rents
Bedsit and 1-bedroom	£187.03
2 bedrooms	£198.01
3 bedrooms	£209.01
4 bedrooms	£220.01
5 bedrooms	£231.01
6 or more bedrooms	£242.00

This represents an uplift on 22/23 LAR Rents by September CPI plus 1% (11.1%).

9.17 LAR is significantly less than the Local Housing Allowance rate. This means that any tenant entitled to Housing Benefit, or the housing element of Universal Credit would have their housing costs covered.

9.18 There is a small number of Haringey households (just over 500) who are currently affected by the benefit cap – including ten who are council tenants and 24 who are housing association tenants. Half the housing association tenants affected by the cap are paying rents considerably higher than LAR.

9.19 A small cohort of households on the Housing Register would be affected by the benefit cap whether they bid for a new home at formula rent cap or LAR. There is likely to be another small cohort of households with three or more children who would be affected by the benefit cap if they moved into a new LAR home where they would remain unaffected if they moved into a home let at formula rent. Those households would need to find all or a part of the difference between LAR and formula rent from their existing benefits. However, since all relets on existing Council homes will be at formula rent levels, it is likely that these households will also be able to move into cheaper Council homes.

Formula rent

9.20 The national formula for setting social rent is intended to enable LAs 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.

9.21 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. 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 2023/24 are as shown below:

Number of bedrooms	2023/24 Rent cap
1 and bedsits	£173.79
2	£184.00
3	£194.22
4	£204.43
5	£214.66
6 or more	£224.87

It should be noted that formula rent for 2023/24 would go up by September CPI plus 1% (11.1%) over the 2022/23 level. The formula rent cap goes up by a further 0.5%.

Rents in Existing Council Homes - General Needs & Sheltered/Supported Housing

9.22 The government, through the Regulator, prescribes the formula for calculating social housing rents. These rents are also called formula rents and exclude service charges. formula rents are allowed to increase annually.

9.23 The current rent for 2022/23, approved by Cabinet on 8 February 2022, was set at the 2021/22 rent uplifted by 4.1%. The rent increase is due to the CPI rate in September 2021 of 3.1% plus 1% allowed by the government. The CPI at September 2022 is 10.1%. Without the proposed rent ceiling, rents in council-owned housing would increase by 11.1% (CPI plus 1%) and the HRA would receive additional rental income of £11.6m in 2023/24. After applying the 7% rent ceiling, the additional income to the HRA from tenant's rents in 2023/24 will reduce by £3.9m to £7.7m. The updated HRA business plan has the reduced level of rent increase.

9.24 On this basis, the proposed average weekly rents for general needs and sheltered/supported housing will increase by £7.73 from £110.49 to £118.22 in 2023/24. There is a range of rents across different sizes of properties. The table below sets out the proposed average weekly rents by property size if the rent increase for 2023/24 is set at 7% with effect from 3 April 2023 (the first Monday in April).

Table 9.1

Number of Bedrooms	Number of Properties	Current average weekly rent 2022/23	Proposed average weekly rent 2023/24	Proposed average rent increase	Proposed percentage increase
Bedsit	130	£89.64	£95.91	£6.27	7.0%
1	5,288	£94.94	£101.59	£6.65	7.0%
2	5,173	£110.65	£118.40	£7.75	7.0%
3	3,706	£126.70	£135.57	£8.87	7.0%
4	608	£144.25	£154.35	£10.10	7.0%
5	110	£168.75	£180.56	£11.81	7.0%
6	15	£175.36	£187.64	£12.28	7.0%
7	2	£165.93	£177.55	£11.62	7.0%
All dwellings	**15,032**	**£110.49**	**£118.22**	**£7.73**	**7.0%**

9.25 The government is expected to continue allowing Local Authorities to charge formula rents when council homes are re-let following a vacancy.

Rents in Temporary Accommodation

9.26 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 HCBS at Local Housing Allowance (LHA) rent levels.

9.27 The HRA financial plan includes these rental incomes for a period of 7 years. From year eight, it recognises incomes from these properties at formula rent, with the normal annual rent increases of CPI, as these properties are assumed will revert to the HRA after 7 years of lease.

9.28 From 3rd April 2023, all other council-owned properties used as temporary accommodation under a Council non-secure tenancy will have proposed rent increase capped at 7%.

Tenants' Service Charges

9.29 In addition to rents, tenants pay charges for services they receive which are not covered by the rent. The Council's policy has been to set tenants' service charges at the start of each financial year to match budgeted expenditure.

9.30 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.

9.31 Tenants currently pay for the following services, if applicable.

- Concierge
- Grounds maintenance
- Caretaking
- Street sweeping (Waste collection)
- Light and power (Communal lighting)
- Heating
- Estates road maintenance
- Door entry system maintenance
- Sheltered housing cleaning service
- Good neighbour cleaning service
- Converted properties cleaning
- Window cleaning service.
- TV aerial maintenance

Tenants living in sheltered and supported housing also pay the following additional support charges:

- Sheltered Housing Charge
- Good Neighbour Charge
- Additional Good Neighbour Charge

9.32 The applicable charges for 2023/24 is as shown in Table 9.2 below:

Proposed Tenants' Service Charges with effect from 3 April 2023 (2023/24)

Tenants' service charges	Current Weekly Charge 2022/23	Proposed Weekly Charge 2023/24	Increase/ (decrease)	
Concierge	£18.44	£20.28	£1.84	10.0%
Grounds Maintenance	£3.26	£3.40	£0.14	4.3%
Caretaking	£4.72	£5.19	£0.47	10.0%
Street Sweeping	£5.44	£5.98	£0.54	9.9%
Estates Road maintenance	£0.62	£0.68	£0.06	9.7%
Communal Lighting (Light & Power)*	£2.35	£2.35	£0.00	0.0%
Sheltered Housing Blocks Heating*	£10.52	£10.52	£0.00	0.0%
Garton House / Lowry House Heating*	£10.07	£10.07	£0.00	0.0%
Ferry Lane Estate / Runcorn Heating*	£11.52	£11.52	£0.00	0.0%
William Atkinson House Heating*	£8.25	£8.25	£0.00	0.0%
Broadwater Farm DEN Heating*	£11.29	£11.29	£0.00	0.0%
Rosa Luxemburg - District Heating 8*	£8.17	£8.17	£0.00	0.0%
TV aerial maintenance	£0.34	£0.38	£0.03	10.0%
Door entry system maintenance	£0.94	£1.03	£0.09	10.0%
Sheltered housing cleaning service	£1.94	£2.13	£0.19	9.8%
Good neighbour cleaning service	£1.37	£1.51	£0.14	10.0%
Window cleaning	£0.57	£0.63	£0.06	10.0%
Converted properties cleaning	£1.86	£2.05	£0.19	10.0%
Sheltered Housing Charge	£29.44	£32.38	£2.94	10.0%
Good Neighbour Charge	£13.15	£14.47	£1.32	10.0%
Good Neighbour Charge (Stokley Court)	£16.02	£17.62	£1.60	10.0%

(Please note that this table replaces the version previously included)

***Heating & Lighting charges**

The costs of providing heat to council tenants in properties served by our district heating schemes has been subject to substantial increases, as might be expected given the impact of world events on energy costs to domestic households and businesses. The council is currently considering its approach to the setting of next year's heating and lighting charges to tenants in light of these increases, recognising the cost-of-living crisis that is impacting on everyone in some shape or form. It is therefore proposed that these charges remain unchanged, until a further Cabinet report addresses this matter.

The HRA Budget and MTFS put forward here for members adoption assume a level of increased income from heating and lighting charges (* in the table above), but this estimate is now expected to be in excess of that produced by the charge levels to be set for next year. This will be addressed in the subsequent Cabinet report on these charges and the implications to the HRA arising from any new charge levels in 2023/24 will be met from the HRA Reserve, which is currently £20.8m.

Rent Consultation

9.33 There is no requirement for tenant consultation because Haringey Council's rents are set in accordance with government rent standard and no new charges are being introduced for the tenants' service charges. However, tenants must be given at least four weeks' notice before the new rents for 2023/24 start on 3 April 2023.

HRA Expenditure

9.34 Significant items of expenditure in the HRA include the management cost, repairs cost, capital financing charge and depreciation. These four items constitute about 76% of the total HRA expenditure. The capital financing charge is the interest on HRA loans and internal funding and is budgeted at £4m above the 2022/23 level due to higher interest rate forecast for next year's potential borrowings. Depreciation is a cash charge to the HRA to reflect the need to finance the placement 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.

9.35 The proposed HRA capital programme supports the delivery of over £2bn investment in our existing stock over the next 30 years, and the delivery of over 3000 new council homes by March 2031.

9.36 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/MTFS. The budget/MTFS forecasts revenue contribution to capital outlay (RCCO) above the set minimum of £8m throughout the MTFS period.

HRA 5 Years MTFS (2023/24-2027/28)

9.37 This report sets out the proposed HRA 5 years Budget/MTFS in the Table 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 HRA budget for 2023/24 is a balanced budget with a revenue contribution to capital (RCCO) of £8.23m.

Table 9.3 - HRA 5-Year Revenue Budget (2023/24 – 2027/28)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	**Total**
Income & Expenditure	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**5 Years**
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	**£'000**
Income						
Dwellings Rent Income	(98,570)	(108,477)	(116,572)	(124,725)	(131,822)	**(580,166)**
Void Loss	1,892	1,085	1,166	1,247	1,318	**6,708**
Hostel Rent Income	(1,792)	(1,855)	(1,920)	(1,986)	(2,055)	**(9,608)**
Service Charge Income	(14,849)	(15,617)	(16,438)	(17,297)	(18,098)	**(82,299)**
Leaseholder Income	(7,881)	(8,106)	(8,337)	(8,574)	(8,816)	**(41,714)**
Other Income (Garages /Aerials/Interest)	(2,230)	(2,271)	(2,312)	(2,355)	(2,398)	**(11,566)**
Total Income	**(123,430)**	**(135,241)**	**(144,413)**	**(153,690)**	**(161,871)**	**(718,645)**
Expenditure						
Repairs	24,343	25,522	25,851	26,671	27,905	**130,292**
Housing Management	26,927	24,326	24,318	23,813	23,216	**122,600**
Housing Demand	2,012	2,052	2,093	2,135	2,178	**10,470**
Housing Management & Repairs	**53,282**	**51,900**	**52,262**	**52,619**	**53,299**	**263,362**
Estates Costs (Managed)	13,291	13,370	13,637	14,355	15,105	**69,758**
Provision for Bad Debts (Tenants)	3,000	3,352	3,055	1,526	1,589	**12,522**
Provision for Bad Debts (Leaseholders)	189	199	204	206	212	**1,010**
Total Managed Expenditure	**16,480**	**16,921**	**16,896**	**16,087**	**16,906**	**83,290**
Other Costs (GF Services)	3,362	4,429	3,498	3,568	3,639	**18,496**
Other Costs (Property/Insurance)	2,026	3,067	2,108	2,150	2,193	**11,544**
Capital Financing Costs	18,585	27,389	36,804	44,894	50,272	**177,944**
Contribution to Major Repairs (Depreciation)	21,457	22,444	23,632	24,865	26,020	**118,418**
Revenue Contributions to Capital	**8,238**	**9,091**	**9,213**	**9,507**	**9,542**	**45,591**
Total Expenditure	**123,430**	**135,241**	**144,413**	**153,690**	**161,871**	**718,645**

9.38 While the RCCO across the 5-year planning period is in excess of our locally set minimum of £8m, it is clear that our HRA position remains tight and will require close monitoring of our ongoing income and expenditure positions.

HRA 5 Years Capital Programme (2023/24 – 2027/28)

9.39 This represents the capital implications of the new draft HRA financial plan where there is a strong emphasis on meeting the needs of homeless households while ensuring that the needs of the existing stock are met. It also focuses on the delivery of new homes, renewal of BWF estate, carbon reduction in existing stock, and fire safety of the entire stock.

9.40 The HRA MTFS 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 MTFS capital programme funding assumes a mix of grant funding, S106 monies, revenue contribution and prudential borrowing. The total capital investment in 2023/24 is £263m, fully funded from revenue contribution, grants, RTB retained receipt, Major Repairs Reserve and borrowing.

Table 9.4 - HRA 5 Year Capital Programme (2023/24 – 2027/28)

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Investment & Financing	**2023-24**	**2024-25**	**2025-26**	**2026-27**	**2027-28**	**5 Years**
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	**£'000**
Capital Investment						
Major Works (Haringey Standard)	41,443	40,922	41,941	62,742	64,075	**251,123**
Carbon Reduction Works (Affordable Energy)	7,283	6,367	6,495	6,624	6,757	**33,526**
Fire Safety Works	5,470	7,573	7,577	7,729	6,757	**35,106**
Broadwater Farm Works	21,209	16,115	16,437	16,767	17,102	**87,630**
Total Existing Stock Investment	**75,405**	**70,977**	**72,450**	**93,862**	**94,691**	**407,385**
New Homes Build Programme	162,803	175,370	195,917	173,111	82,237	**789,438**
New Homes Acquisitions	3,306	21,093	31,428	15,926	45,620	**117,373**
TA Acquisitions	21,448	21,662	22,312	22,981	23,670	**112,073**
Total Capital Investment	**262,962**	**289,102**	**322,107**	**305,880**	**246,218**	**1,426,269**
Capital Investment Financing						
Grants (GLA)	62,411	27,807	40,869	40,818	38,964	**210,869**
Major Repairs Reserve	21,457	22,444	23,631	24,865	26,021	**118,418**
Revenue Contributions	8,238	9,091	9,213	9,507	9,542	**45,591**
RTB Capital Receipts	9,556	9,651	9,921	10,259	10,608	**49,995**
Leaseholder Contributions to Major Works	7,979	7,941	6,373	6,176	6,020	**34,489**
S.106 Contributions	3,500	0	0	0	0	**3,500**
Market Sales Receipts	0	2,964	4,714	72,129	44,118	**123,925**
Borrowing	149,821	209,204	227,386	142,126	110,945	**839,482**
Total Capital Financing	**262,962**	**289,102**	**322,107**	**305,880**	**246,218**	**1,426,269**

9.41 The Council continues to project an expensive HRA capital programme both in terms of investing in its existing stock and new build. The financial sustainability of this is addressed in our revenue modelling reported above.

Major Works – Haringey Standard

9.42 The major works investment standard has been designed to ensure that the Council maintains its statutory and legal duties and keeps homes safe and warm. It comprises internal, external and works to communal areas, including all items affecting decency. Despite the challenging economic circumstances, the Council is maintaining the expenditure of its Major Works Programmes at its current level.

9.43 The Asset Management Strategy sets out the Council's target to achieve 100% decent homes, and how this will be achieved.

9.44 The Council has agreed to work with partners to deliver these works for the long term, through a Partnering Contract. This Partnering Contract will run for ten years and is divided into four separate contracts over four geographical areas. Works under the Partnering Contract are expected to start in late 2023. The Partnering Contract has been designed to deliver value for money; ensure that the Council's objectives to meet decent homes, as well as the other workstreams listed below, are met; contribute to wider corporate priorities in particular to bring good quality jobs and training opportunities to Haringey residents; and finally to ensure that those who are awarded large contracts by the Council are committed to Haringey and the success of the borough for the longer-term. The costs in this proposed capital programme budget recognises the estimated cost of the partnering contract.

Carbon Reduction Works

9.45 The budget provision would support extensive measures contained in the Council energy action plan. Despite the challenging economic circumstances, the Council is maintaining the expenditure on carbon reduction works at its current level.

9.46 The Council is finalising its Energy Action Plan which will set out how it will deliver the objectives of both the Climate Change Action Plan and the Affordable Energy Strategy. These are to reduce carbon emissions from the Council's housing stock so that the whole stock reaches an average EPC of Band B by 2035 and Band A by 2041, where technically feasible. In turn this will contribute to the objective to minimise energy costs for Council tenants and reduce fuel poverty, in particular in a time of rising costs.

9.47 The proposed approach is to firstly improve the fabric of the property. This means upgrading, where necessary, walls, roofs, windows, floors, and doors so as the reduce the need to expend energy to heat homes. The next stage is to incorporate low and zero-carbon heat and power. The worst performing homes will be targeted first. Works will be incorporated with the major works programme to minimise cost to the HRA and disruption to residents. The proposed HRA capital budget supports these works, but external funding is also sought whenever applicable.

Fire Safety Works

9.48 The proposed budget is to ensure that all housing stock continues to meet changing statutory requirements. The budget has been refreshed 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.

Broadwater Farm Works

9.49 The council is setting aside significant capital expenditure for the regeneration of the Broadwater Farm estate and has reprofiled expenditure in line with our latest estimates. In 2018 the council identified structural faults with a number of buildings that has led to the development of comprehensive programme of improvement. This programme includes:

- The construction of 294 new homes, all at council rent, with 30% family sized units with three beds or more (contained in the new homes budget, below)
- The refurbishment of 800 homes, covering sustainability, fire safety and mechanical and electrical
- Improvements to the public realm and green spaces, tackling the legacies of the streets in the sky design from the 60s

New Homes Build and Acquisition

9.50 This Financial plan continues to provide for financial resources to meet the Council's commitment to the delivery of high-quality Council homes for social housing. This is an integral part of the Council's core HRA business, with a delivery programme that is viable in the long term. The total estimated cost of new build homes and acquisition in the financial plan is £907m over the period of the MTFS.

9.51 Over the past four years, the Council has established a housing delivery programme that is committed to delivering 3,000 new council homes for council rent by 2031. These are the first new council homes in Haringey for forty years.

9.52 The current Housing Delivery Programme comprises 3,600 homes on 87 sites that have either been completed, or started on site, or are under active development. 3,000 of those homes are currently planned as homes for letting at social/affordable rent.

9.53 Construction works for over 1,500 council homes have now started on site. 184 council homes have been completed and let at council rent.

9.54 The need for genuinely affordable homes in Haringey – as across the country – is urgent. More than 11,000 households are currently waiting for social housing on the Council's housing register. Just over 2,000 of these households are significantly overcrowded, and more than 2,500 are homeless and living in Temporary Accommodation.

9.55 Cabinet has so far included 80 sites of Council land with potential for development in the programme. Most are held in the HRA; others are in the General Fund and will need to be appropriated at cost into the HRA.

9.56 Sites in the HRA are underused land, generally on housing estates, typically garages, car parking spaces, or land between existing blocks. General Fund land ranges from the conversion of former shops into homes to large sites such as the former waste management depot at Ashley Road.

9.57 As an integral part of the programme, the Council also actively seeks opportunities to acquire homes to let as Council homes.

9.58 Climate change, carbon management, and sustainability are integral to the design of our new generation of Council homes. The Council targets zero-carbon for each of our developments.

9.59 More than 10% of new homes are fully wheelchair accessible, with a target of 20%. As part of the programme, through the Bespoke Homes programme we are actively identifying households on the housing register with specific accessibility needs in order to design new homes for their individual needs.

Existing Homes Acquisitions – Temporary Accommodation (TA)

9.60 The Council's TA acquisition programme is based on the purchase of homes and subsequent leasing to the Haringey Community Benefit Society ('the CBS') 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 Financial plan has a reduced allocation over the MTFS period for this scheme compared to prior years. This is because of the restriction the new guidance on use of RTB retained receipts has placed on the Council's ability to use these receipts for the purpose of acquiring existing homes. The new guidance means that the Council has a capped number of acquisitions in any year. The RTB retained receipts is now being applied to new build homes to match the acquisitions.

10. Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB)

10.1 The Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) is 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.

10.2 The financial position reported at Quarter 2 2022-23 set out the forecast year end position. This highlighted the budget pressures in the High Needs Block which is estimated to add an additional £3.8m to the existing deficit of £21.6m.

2023/24 Budget Allocation

10.3 The Final DSG allocation for Haringey's 2023-24 DSG Budget has seen increases in the Schools and High Needs Block and a reduction in the Central block allocation when comparing to 2022-23. Table A below sets out Haringey's DSG allocations for 2022-23 and the indicative National Funding Formula for 2023-24.

Table A: Dedicated Schools Grant Year on Year Allocations (including Academies)

DSG - Funding breakdown	FY22-23 £'000	FY23-24 £'000
Schools block	212,522	219,240
CSSB	2,785	2,710
High needs block	50,335	55,162
Early years block	19,217	21,051
Total allocation	**284,859**	**298,163**

10.4 The Haringey Schools Block funding increased by 3.27% funding per pupil. However, falling rolls have impacted on overall funding leading to pressures in some individual schools.

10.5 The Central School Services Block has a 2.5% reduction in the per pupil rate and an overall reduction of £65k or 2.69%.

10.6 The Haringey High Needs Block allocation has increased by £6.7m before academy deductions. This equates to an increase of 9.6% from last year and reflects lagged funding for Special School Places and increased SEN pupil numbers. Children with Education and Healthcare Plans are expected to increase by an average of 7% per annum, allowing for mitigations being put in place to address increases. An ongoing service review is still to determine the final allocations.

10.7 The Early Years' Block has also seen an increase of £1.8m to £21.051m in the 2023/24 allocations. Actual allocations to Early Years' settings are based on actual attendance. The Children & Young people service is continuing to work with Early Years providers and the DfE to minimise the impact on sustainability of provision in the borough.

10.8 The pressure on the DSG budget is acknowledged by government as a national issue. Factoring assumptions on demand growth, mitigation of demand growth, inflation estimates and grant income projections the DSG is forecasting a cumulative deficit of over £80m by 2027/28 if no mitigating actions are taken. This deficit is forecasted solely within the High Needs Block.

10.9 The Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), requires DSG deficits to be held in a separate reserve in local authorities' accounts, with regulations in force to allow this treatment up to 2025/26.

The forecasted DSG deficit needs to be addressed as once the regulations to show the deficits separately are removed, this will impact the Council's General Fund, resulting in a profound impact on statutory services in other areas.

10.10 Haringey has been invited to join the DfE Safety Valve programme, which targets local authorities with the highest DSG deficits. The programme requires local authorities to agree to substantial plans for reform to their high needs budget and escalating demands on SEND services, with an expectation to deliver an in-year balanced budget over the next 5 years. When a local authority can demonstrate sustainability, the DfE will enter into an agreement to provide financial support with funds to address the cumulative deficit, subject to Ministerial approval.

10.11 Final proposals to address the pressures in the HNB were submitted to the DfE on 6th October 2022. Subject to DfE approval to the proposals submitted, Haringey would then enter the Safety Valve Programme. Haringey has also been successful in securing £7m DfE capital funding to invest in key proposals of the Haringey Safety Valve programme to deliver revenue savings to the DSG.

10.12 In the Autumn Statement November 2022 £2.3bn grant was announced for schools nationally. Haringey has £2.3m additional funding included in the High Needs Block DSG grant which has been reflected in the DSG allocations in this report. A further indicative £7.1m Maintained Schools Additional Grant (MSAG) will be payable to schools. The DfE will announce school level allocations in the Spring 2023 and pay the MSAG to the council in May 2023. This will be passported to schools.

11. Consultation & Scrutiny

11.1 The Council, as part of the process by which it sets its budget, seeks the views and opinions of residents and service users which is used to inform the final decision of the Council when setting the budget.

Public Consultation

11.2 As such a formal consultation has taken place based on the consultation plan included in the December Budget/MTFS report which included Businesses and residents. A detailed summary of the process and the responses received can be found in Appendix 8. Cabinet has considered the responses and, after due consideration, considers that the issues raised are addressed in the budget strategy and it is therefore not proposing any consequential changes.

Overview and Scrutiny

11.3 As part of the Council's governance arrangements for scrutiny of the Budget and Medium-Term Financial Strategy, the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Panels met during late December 2022 and early January 2023 and have scrutinised all the proposals presented in the 6th December 2022 report to Cabinet. Senior officers, relevant Members and heads of finance were in attendance at each meeting to present proposals and respond to questions from the Panel/Committee members. For some proposals, additional information was requested, which was provided.

11.4 All recommendations put forward by the Panels and the main Committee were considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 19th January 2023 and a schedule of final recommendations were agreed and referred to Cabinet. These recommendations, along with the Cabinet responses, are provided in Appendix 9.

Equalities Impact Assessment

11.5 The proposals in the 2023-24 Budget and 2023-2028 Medium Term Financial Strategy have been subject to equalities analyses, both individually, and collectively as a combined set of actions. The report attached as Appendix 10 summarises this analysis.

12. Statutory Officer Comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

Finance

12.1 This financial strategy ensures that the Council's finances are aligned to the delivery of the Council's priorities and the administration's manifesto commitments in the medium term. 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.

12.2 Ensuring the robustness of the Council's 2023/24 budget and its MTFS 2023/24 – 2027/28 is a key function for the Council's Section 151 Officer. 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 essentially contained throughout the report.

12.3 The fact that this final balanced Budget has been achieved with also allowing a reduced contribution from the Strategic Budget Planning reserve is positive however, there continues to be significant economic volatility as well as service demand. Best efforts have been employed to derive realistic budgets for 2023/24 however the Council must continue to focus on delivering its agreed programme of savings which is vital in ensuring the ongoing financial sustainability of the authority in the longer term.

12.4 The policy of reviewing all agreed savings as part of the annual budget setting process is one measure employed to de-risk budgets as are the adjustments made since the draft Budget was presented to revise budgets particularly sensitive to the wider economic conditions such as treasury and borrowing. This Budget continues to provide for a corporate contingency of c.£7.4m across the whole MTFS period.

12.5 The formal Section 151 Officer assessment of the robustness of the council's budget, including sufficiency of contingency and reserves to provide against future risks will be made as part of the final budget report to Council in March.

Procurement

12.6 Strategic Procurement notes the contents of this report and will continue to work with services to enable cost reductions.

Head of Legal & Governance

12.7 The Head of Legal & Governance has been consulted in the preparation of this report and makes the following comments.

12.8 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. 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.

12.9 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 report proposes new savings proposals for the financial year 2023/24, which the council will be required to consult upon and ensure that it complies with the public sector equality duty.

12.11 The report sets out the relevant considerations for Members to consider during their deliberations and Members are reminded of the need to disregard irrelevant considerations. Members have a duty to seek to ensure that the council acts lawfully. They are under an obligation to produce a balanced budget and must not knowingly budget for a deficit and Members must also bear in mind their fiduciary duty to the council taxpayers of Haringey. Members must not come to a decision which no reasonable authority could come to; balancing the nature, quality, and level of services which they consider should be provided against the costs of providing such services.

12.12 In view of the conclusion reached by the Director of Finance at paragraphs 12.1 to 12.4 above on the ability to set a balanced budget for 2023/24 and the Equalities comments below, there is no reason why Cabinet cannot adopt the Recommendations in this report.

Equality

12.13 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.

12.14 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 apply 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.

12.15 Haringey Council also has specific duties to publish information to demonstrate compliance with the Equality Duty, at least annually; and to set and publish equality objectives, at least every four years. This includes publishing information relating to people who are affected by our policies and practices who share protected characteristics.

12.16 The proposals in the 2023-24 Budget and 2023-2028 Medium Term Financial Strategy have been subject to equalities analyses, both individually, and collectively as a combined set of actions.

12.17 The collective set of proposals have been developed against a background of considerable economic uncertainty, recognising the impact of a generationally severe cost of living crisis which has been preceded not only by the Covid-19 pandemic, but also a decade of significant retrenchment in public spending and withdrawal of central government funding. These long-term circumstances have been found to have compounded and exacerbated pre-existing inequalities of outcomes across income groups, age, ethnicity, disability, and sex. In addition, these outcomes have themselves caused an increase in both the overall volume and also the complexity of demand in particular service areas.

12.18 Responding to these circumstances within the context of ongoing constraints on local government financing and increasing costs of service provision has required an approach which seeks to prioritise equality within a sustainable budget envelope. A focus on tackling inequality underpins the Council's priorities and this is embedded in the adopted Corporate Delivery Plan. The proposals aim to deliver this priority by continuing to meet service demand, while at the same time investing in key transformation projects. These aim to maximise efficiencies in service delivery while not sacrificing quality of provision, particularly across Children’s Services, and Adults, Health and Communities. The proposals are summarised below:

People (Adults)

The growth proposals in adult social care respond to increasing and more complex demand and to inflationary pressures affecting workforce costs and service delivery. There are a range of service improvement and transformation proposals which are intended to achieve savings. These include proposals to: improve service delivery, develop our early intervention and prevention offer; strengthen local pathways; provide more local accommodation; and reduce the reliance on out of borough care.

People (Children)

Proposals will support continuity and expansion of service provision in challenging financial circumstances. By responding to inflationary pressures across the board, the service will continue to be able to meet the needs of children in social care placements through incentivising foster carers with better pay and meeting increased costs of SEND transportation and other ancillary services. The proposals will extend service provision to vulnerable young people beyond simple growth in demand due to demographic change, through the expanded free school meals provision, social workers in school, and the Rising Green Youth Hub. To offset the expansion of provision in certain areas, there are a number of administrative changes and improvements to allow for greater efficiencies with no change to service quality for children and young people.

Place

Proposed investment will improve Haringey's public realm and deliver a number of climate-related priorities, from improvements to traffic and route management, through to delivery of affordable bike hire for the Borough. Improvements to pedestrian and cycle infrastructure, alongside interventions to create clean air in the Borough should benefit the health of multiple groups with protected characteristics. Investments in asset management in parks, with an equalities focus, including street lighting, should help create a more welcoming and inclusive public realm. Careful management of the impact of changes to transport infrastructure should help to mitigate any negative impacts as the Borough responds to the need to shift from car-dominated mobility.

Housing

Proposals focus on optimising the use of the Council's assets to meet housing need. By creating a larger amount of temporary accommodation, those at risk of homelessness will be able to be housed in more secure accommodation. Similarly, targeted proposals aim at moving on those who have been in temporary accommodation for the longest time to move on to more secure accommodation.

Economy

Proposals focus on capital expenditure on a number of key sites across the Borough in order to deliver significant economic and social benefits to Haringey residents and businesses. Across a number of different key regeneration sites the Council is advancing mixed-use redevelopment schemes to increase housing numbers, provide new workspace and employment opportunities, and improve public realm in the Borough.

Culture, Strategy & Engagement

Growth proposals include investment in software which supports the targeting of income maximisation and other support, to low-income residents; service redesign in libraries; and electoral registration costs. Savings proposals relate to service improvement and transformation; revenue raising activity; and service efficiencies. Where new service models are being designed, EQIAs of these are planned.

12.19 The budget proposals for 2023/2024 have been subject to a formal public consultation. This consultation included a specific question on about how residents and other stakeholders felt that we could narrow the gaps in life chances and opportunities available to different groups of residents in the Borough. Responses to this question are detailed in the budget consultation report (Appendix 8). In summary, key themes included:

- Public services: some respondents to the consultation were frustrated by the degree to which the council has had to cut some services, including some adults social care support and services for children with SEND, and wished to see reinvestment in these. Others felt that more could be done to target council services at those groups who need them most. Early years services, support for elderly and/or disabled residents; and, children with SEND were mentioned here.
- Housing: some respondents to the consultation wanted to see more support to those in temporary accommodation and private rented sector.
- Barriers to service access and opportunity: consultation respondents sometime felt that that the council could do more to remove barriers faced by residents, which in accessing services or opportunities. This included digital and language barriers.
- Tackling pollution, accessible public realm, promoting active travel and reducing carbon emissions: a number of respondents felt that actions to reduce air pollution, promote active travel and ensure accessible highways for all, were important in furthering equality, particularly for those parts of the borough worst affected by pollution. Accessible highways were felt to be important for elderly and disabled people.
- Workforce equality: one respondent felt that the council should pay all its employees the London Living wage (which it does) and publish pay equality data.
- Cost of living support: one respondent felt the council should invest more in cost-of-living support.

12.20 Appendix 10 to this report contains the detailed equalities analyses of each individual budget item, for reference. Of these, 9 have been subject to a full Equalities Impact Assessment, and 58 were deemed to not require a full Equalities Impact Assessment at this stage. As plans are developed further, service areas will assess their proposal's equality impacts and potential mitigating actions in more detail. Final Equalities Impact Assessments will be published alongside decisions on specific proposals as details are worked up.

12.21 The findings of the overall assessment describe positive changes for groups with protected characteristics across most of the budget items. Where negative impacts have been found, these have assessed as being minimal and details of the approaches to mitigation can be found against each item in Appendix 10. Where negative impacts have been identified, and been unable to be mitigated, full Equalities Impact Assessment have assessed these as being proportionate means of achieving legitimate aims.

13. Use of Appendices

Appendix 1	Summary of Draft Revenue 2023/24 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/2028
Appendix 2	Summary of new Revenue budget growth proposals
Appendix 3	Summary of total agreed Revenue budget reduction proposals 2023/2028
Appendix 4	Draft General Fund Capital Programme 2023/2028
Appendix 5	Summary of new proposed capital investment
Appendix 6	Flexible Use of Capital Receipts Strategy
Appendix 7	DSB 2023/24
Appendix 8	Budget Consultation Summary of Responses
Appendix 9	Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendations and Cabinet responses
Appendix 10	Equalities Impact Assessment
Appendix 11	Council Tax base Report 2023/24

14. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

2022/23 Qtr 1 and Qtr 2 Budget Reports
2022/23 Budget & MTFS 2022-2027
2023/24 Draft Budget & MTFS 2023/2028