
Tameside MBC

Statement of Accounts

2023/24

DRAFT Subject to audit

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***DRAFT Statement of Accounts 2023/24 – These accounts have not yet been subject to audit.
The External Auditor’s report will be inserted here on completion of the audit.***

Narrative Report and Financial Summary

This section identifies and briefly explains each part of the document and includes an overview by the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) on the Council's financial performance during the accounting period.

1) Executive Summary

The following pages present the Council's accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2024. By producing this report, the Council aims to give all stakeholders i.e. – electors, local residents, Council Members, partners, local businesses and others - confidence that the public money that has been received and spent has been properly accounted for and that the financial standing of the Council is secure.

The purpose of this Narrative Report is to provide an overall explanation of the Council's financial position, including major influences affecting the accounts, and to enable readers to understand and interpret the accounting statements. It sets out in the following sections:

- 2) **Corporate Leadership and Strategy;**
- 3) **The Profile of the Borough;**
- 4) **The year in review: Financial Performance in 2023/24;**
- 5) **Financial Strategy: Outlook for 2024/25 and future years;**
- 6) **The Financial Statements: basis of preparation, purpose and summary; and**
- 7) **Significant transactions in 2023/24.**

It should be noted that although the Statement of Accounts is produced annually, the Members and Senior Officers of the Council receive monthly financial reports throughout the year on overall performance against budget for revenue budget and quarterly for capital budgets. These monthly and quarterly reports are considered by Executive Cabinet and are available on the Council's Website. The Medium Term Financial strategy (MTFS), which sets out the financial plan for the next five years, is also updated during the year and reported formally to both Members and Officers, and available on the Council's website. The figures presented in the accounts are consistent with the other reports that have been published during the year.

2) Corporate Leadership and Strategy

The Council's political leadership is responsible for delivering on priorities, and the Executive Cabinet determines where investment and resources will be allocated in line with these priorities. This process culminates in the annual Budget Report through which the Executive Cabinet recommends to the Council the overall budget. The same principles are applied to the formulation of the capital programme.

At the heart of the leadership structure is the Executive Leader, supported by the Executive Cabinet Members. In turn, they are supported by the Executive Team led by the Chief Executive. Plans drawn up for each service area identify the priorities for that area within the context of the Council's overall priorities.

More information on the activities, leadership structure and governance of the Council (including the Constitution, Management structure, meeting agendas and minutes) can be found on the Council's website, located at www.tameside.gov.uk. The Council's Annual Governance Statement, published alongside the Statement of Accounts, provides further information on the governance arrangements in place to ensure proper discharge of its functions.

The Corporate Plan covers a seven year time frame (2019-2026) and has been superseded for the period (2024–2027) at March 2024 Council. The plan sets out the aspirations we have to deliver improved outcomes for our community. The Plan is set out across the life course of our residents and reflects the importance of a vibrant place and economy in delivering our aspirations. The Plan contains eight objectives setting out our objectives for the people of Tameside:

-
- Very Best Start
 - Aspirations & Hope
 - Resilient Families and supporting networks
 - Opportunities for people to fulfil their potential
 - Modern infrastructure and sustainable environment
 - Nurturing our communities
 - Longer and healthier lives with good mental health
 - Independence and activity in older age, and dignity and choice at end of life

The Corporate Plan also sets out a series of reform principles which underpin the delivery of the strategy and will enable our workforce and stakeholders to understand the way in which we will work.

The Corporate Plan is underpinned by the Greater Manchester Public Reform Principles. These principles set out the way in which we will operate now, and in the future, to deliver the plan and improve outcomes for our residents and communities.

- A new relationship between public services and citizens, communities and businesses that enables shared decision making, democratic accountability and voice, genuine co-production and joint delivery of services. Do with, not to.
- An asset based approach that recognises and builds on the strengths of individuals, families and our communities rather than focussing on the deficits.
- Behaviour change in our communities that builds independence and supports residents to be in control.
- A place based approach that redefines services and places individuals, families, communities at the heart.
- A stronger prioritisation of well-being, prevention and early intervention.
- An evidence led understanding of risk and impact to ensure the right intervention at the right time.
- An approach that supports the development of new investment and resourcing models, enabling collaboration with a wide range of organisations.

3) The Profile of the Borough

The profile of the Borough in terms of its population and economy is a key driver of the scope and type of services the Council provides to local people. Set out below are some key facts which provide some context.

POPULATION

Tameside covers an area of 103.5 square kilometres. Tameside's population was estimated to be 232,753 people in mid-2022; equal to approximately 8% of Greater Manchester's population. Of Tameside's population 145,590 (62.6%) were of working age, 16-64; 46,120 were aged between 0-15 years (19.8%); and 41,043 were aged 65 or over (17.6%).

Compared to the population of England overall, Tameside's residents are comparatively young; 18.6% of England's population were 65 years old or older and 18.5% are under the age of 16.

As of the 2021 Census of England and Wales, 49.1% of Tameside's residents are male, 50.9% are female. Less than 0.05% of Tameside's population are non-binary. 94.7% of the population state that their gender identity is the same as their sex assigned at birth.

90.8% of Tameside residents identify as straight or heterosexual; 1.8% identify as gay or lesbian; all other sexual orientations make up 1.4% of the population (5.9% declined to answer).

In terms of ethnicity Tameside is predominantly White, which makes up 90.9% of the population. 6.65% of the population are Asian; 1.4% are Mixed; 0.08% Black; and 0.2% of the population are other ethnicities.

The main language in Tameside is English (94.1%), the next most used languages are Urdu (1%), Polish (0.9%), and Bengali (0.7%).

For males in Tameside Life Expectancy is 76.3 years and Healthy Life Expectancy is 61.6, compared to 80.2 years for Life Expectancy and 58.2 for Healthy Life Expectancy for women.

Nationally these numbers are higher; male Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy are 78.9 and 63.1 respectively. Female Life Expectancy and Healthy Life Expectancy are 82.8 and 63.9 respectively.

70.3% of adults in Tameside are classified as overweight or obese (higher than the 64% national value); 37.8% of children in year 6 are classified as overweight or obese (higher than the 36.6% national number); and 28.2% of adults (16+) are inactive, more than the 22.6% national number.

ECONOMIC

Tameside has an employment rate of 73.2%, lower than the national rate of 76%. The largest employment sectors in Tameside are human health and social work activities (20%), followed by wholesale and retail trades, and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles (19.6%), and manufacturing (14.3%).

20.3% of full-time workers in Tameside earn below the Living Wage Foundation Rate (compared to 12.9% across Greater Manchester). The median annual income in Tameside is £30,909, compared to the national median of £35,100.

59.9% of residents are qualified to RQF level 3 or above.

Tameside is ranked as the 28th most deprived of 317 Local Authority districts in England, and the 5th most deprived in Greater Manchester. 11 of the borough's Lower Layer Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are in the most deprived 5% of LSOAs nationally.

EDUCATION

Tameside has 77 primary schools, 16 secondary schools, 8 special schools, and 4 colleges/sixth forms. 95% of Tameside's primary schools are Good or Outstanding and 63% of Tameside's secondary schools are Good or Outstanding.

According to the latest census data, as their highest qualification; 11.25% of the population has a Level 1 qualification, 15.2% Level 2, 6.9% Apprenticeship, 17.7% Level 3, and 24.4% Level 4 or above, 21.8% have no qualifications, 2.7% have other qualifications.

The borough's percentage of residents with no academic qualifications is higher than the England percentage at 18.1%.

60.9% of children at the Early Years Foundation Stage are achieving a Good level of development compared to the 67.2% national average.

In Tameside, 57% of pupils met the expected standard in reading, writing and maths at Key Stage 2.

HOUSING

The majority of tenure in the borough are owned outright (30.5%), while the remaining are owned with a mortgage (30.3%), social rents (21.2%), private rents (17.5%). Shared ownerships (0.3%), and living rent free (0.1%).

The most common dwelling type in Tameside is semi-detached (38.6%) followed by: Terraced (34.1%), flats or tenement (12.9%), detached (12%), and other (2.4%).

In terms of household amenities, 1.5% of dwellings in Tameside have no central heating. The proportion of households with access to a car or van is also relatively low, in Tameside with 26.1% of people having no access compared to 23.5% in England.

6.47% of households experience bedroom overcrowding.

LIFESTYLE

Tameside has over 60,000 trees; over 30,000 trees have been planted since 2020. There are 26 parks and 37 playgrounds in the borough. 52.6% of waste in the borough is recycled. Tameside has 12 leisure centres, 8 libraries, 1 museums, and 1 art gallery. 48.96km² of the borough is green belt, and approximately 10.53km² is protected green space.

4) The Year in Review: Financial Performance in 2023/24

Pooled Budget Revenue Income and Expenditure Position 2023/24

Section 75	Funding			Expenditure		
	Council £,000	ICB £,000	Total £,000	Council £,000	ICB £,000	Total £,000
Revenue						
Better Care Fund	13,145	7,427	20,572	13,252	7,427	20,679
Improved Better Care Fund	12,585	0	12,585	12,585	0	12,585
Discharge Fund	1,765	1,598	3,363	1,765	1,598	3,363
Capital						
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	2,849	0	2,849	2,849	0	2,849
DFG - Additional	249	0	249	142	0	142
Section 75 Total	30,593	9,025	39,618	30,593	9,025	39,618

The Section 75 Pooled budget incurred spend of £39.618m against Income of £39.618m.

Council Revenue Outturn Position by Directorate 2023/24

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Adults	44.339	48.908	4.569
Children's Services - Social Care	56.491	61.362	4.871
Education	8.786	9.205	0.419
Public Health	14.352	13.753	(0.599)
Place	28.317	30.493	2.176
Chief Executives Office	14.147	13.780	(0.367)
Resources	54.965	44.236	(10.729)
TMBC Budgets	221.397	221.737	0.340

There was a net overspend of £0.340m against the revenue budget approved by the Council of £221.397m.

Within the net overspend, there were several offsetting variances. These include a £2.176m overspend on Place, caused in summary by inflationary pressures and lower returns from the Council's commercial estate. There was a significant variance within adults due to increased demand for residential placements. There was also a similar pressure within Children's services, relating to placements, caused by cost increases and increased demand and the employment of additional social workers supporting casework requirements throughout the year.

The above overspends were mitigated by lower spend on Public Health due to a variety of reasons including additional grant funding, savings from staff vacancies and projects being delayed. There was a significant positive variance within Resources, caused mainly by increased income from higher interest rates and lower use of the contingency budget.

The Statement of Accounts covers the budgets of Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council but also includes other adjustments in accordance with statutory rules. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis Note 1 provides a reconciliation between the deficit of £0.340m on the Revenue Budget for TMBC Expenditure and the net deficit on the provision of services reported on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES). The CIES includes a number of non-cash items which are required under accounting standards but are not costs that can be charged to Council Tax Payers.

COLLECTION FUND

Collection Fund Outturn 2023/24

The table below shows the 2023/24 budget and Outturn for the Collection Fund. The Collection Fund is a separate ring-fenced account for Council Tax and Business Rates. This account holds all Council Tax and Business Rates which have been collected. The account also distributes the Council Tax and Business Rates to Tameside Council's revenue fund and to Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

Collection Fund for the year ended 31 March 2024	BUDGET 31 MARCH 2024			OUTTURN 31 MARCH 2024			VARIANCE £m
	Council Tax £m	NDR £m	Total £m	Council Tax £m	NDR £m	Total £m	
Income							
Income from Council Tax	(137.324)	0.000	(137.324)	(136.547)	0.000	(136.547)	0.776
Transfers from General Fund (S13A relief)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.455)	0.000	(0.455)	(0.455)
Income from NDR	0.000	(55.323)	(55.323)	0.000	(50.840)	(50.840)	4.483
Total Income	(137.324)	(55.323)	(192.647)	(137)	(51)	(187.843)	4.804
Expenditure							
<u>Council Tax</u>							
The Council*	110.234	0.000	110.234	110.234	0.000	110.234	(0.000)
Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	15.457	0.000	15.457	15.457	0.000	15.457	0.000
GM Fire and Rescue Authority	6.858	0.000	6.858	6.858	0.000	6.858	0.000
<u>NDR</u>			0.000			0.000	
The Council	0.000	54.431	54.431	0.000	54.431	54.431	0.000
Central Government	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
GM Fire and Rescue Authority	0.000	0.550	0.550	0.000	0.550	0.550	0.000
Allowance for cost of collection	0.000	0.288	0.288	0.000	0.288	0.288	0.000
Transitional Protection Payments	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	
Increase/(decrease) in:	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(5.305)	(5.305)	(5.305)
Allowance for non-collection	4.806	2.213	7.019	2.907	0.771	3.679	(3.341)
Provision for appeals	0.000	2.794	2.794	0.000	(7.349)	(7.349)	(10.143)
<u>Surplus/deficit (allocated)/paid out in year:</u>				0.000	0.000		
The Council	(0.169)	6.564	6.395	(0.169)	6.564	6.395	0.000
Central Government	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	(0.023)	0.000	(0.023)	(0.023)	0.000	(0.023)	0.000
GM Fire and Rescue Authority	(0.011)	0.066	0.055	(0.011)	0.066	0.055	0.000
Total Expenditure	137.152	66.906	204.058	135.254	50.017	185.271	(18.787)
(Surplus)/deficit for the year	(0.171)	11.583	11.412	(1.749)	(0.823)	(2.572)	(13.983)
Balance brought forward	(1.105)	(8.266)	(9.371)	(1.105)	(8.266)	(9.371)	0.000
(Surplus)/deficit for the year	(0.171)	11.583	11.412	(1.749)	(0.823)	(2.572)	(13.983)
(Surplus)/deficit carried forward	(1.276)	3.317	2.041	(2.854)	(9.089)	(11.943)	(13.983)

The above table shows that at the end of the 2022/23 financial year, there was a surplus on Collection Fund of £9.371m this is shown in the total budget column and within the balance brought forward line. At the end of 2023/24, there was a surplus of £11.943m, as shown in the total outturn column and the row headed (Surplus)/deficit carried forward.

In 2023/24, the actual in year surplus achieved was £2.572m, leading to an increase in the closing surplus at the end of 2023/24.

The detailed variances against the budgeted position, analysed between Business rates and Council Tax, are summarised below:

- 2023/24 income from Business Rates was £4.483m less than budgeted in 2023/24 – as shown in the total variance column.

- The overall Business Rates position includes provisions for the appeals raised by businesses, challenging their overall tax liability, and a provision for uncollected debt. The provision for uncollected debt was approximately £1.5m less than budgeted. The provision for appeals was significantly reduced, while the budget anticipated it would increase– the resulting £10m positive variance against budget can be seen in the table in the movement on the provision for appeals. These movements on provisions, offset the impact of lower actual business rate income.
- Actual Council Tax collected was lower than budgeted by £0.776m, as shown in the variance column. The amount of Council Tax collected depends on the actual number of households in each year and the discounts awarded. For example, single person households receive a 25% discount. There was however a positive variance on the cost of uncollected debt on Council Tax compared to the amounts budgets. The budgeted cost was £4.806m, while the actual cost was £2.907m, a saving of £1.899m.
- Overall the surplus of £2.854m on Council Tax and the £9.089m on Business Rates, means that at 31 March 2024, the Collection Fund has a surplus of £11.943m.

Overall, the Collection Fund has moved from a surplus of £9.371m at 31 March 2023, to a surplus of £11.943m at 31 March 2024.

ADULTS SERVICES

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Adults	44.339	48.908	4.569

The net overspends in 2023/24 on Adult Services of £4.569m was caused by continued high demand and requests for Adults services throughout the year. The increase in demand was for both long-term and short-term placements. These demand increases are driven by demographic change, with an increasing number of elderly residents requiring placements and more complex cases overall. The impact of increasing demand costs was partially offset by additional funding from service users.

Achievements and Successes 2023/24:

- Published Adult Social Care Strategy, Carers strategy & Market position statement and local account.
- Full review of ASC web pages & coproduction of key leaflets and information.
- LAS data cleanse and Controcc implementation.
- Established a workforce development programme and staff awards.
- Developed and implemented a quality assurance framework.
- Developed and launched as ASC community offer tool.
- Developed and implemented an Adult social care monthly round up bulletin.
- Introduced our early support and advice Hub (ESAH)

CHILDREN'S SERVICES – SOCIAL CARE

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Children's Services - Social Care	56.491	61.362	4.871

The outturn position was an overspend of £4.871m. A large proportion of this overspend is driven by the requirement for high cost independent and residential external placements for cared for children. This relates both to the overall number and the increasing cost of each placement with an external residential provider. There were also higher costs in employing additional social workers supporting caseload requirements throughout the financial year.

The medium-term financial strategy assumes that spending reductions can be achieved in Children's Services in the medium term. As shown by the 2023/24 Outturn position, continued cost pressures may put delivery of these spending reductions at risk.

The Directorate is responsible for securing the provision of services which address the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers. The Directorate is responsible for the performance of local authority functions relating to the education and social care of children and young people.

Achievements and successes in 2023/24:

- Visible, stable leadership that has reassured staff at all levels with a clear vision for Team Tameside, with staff reporting feeling more supported and engaged with the improvement journey and being part of a cohesive Children's team
- General improvements in performance and quality of practice resulting in better outcomes for children
- Safely reduced number of Cared for Children during previous 12 months
- Safely reduced the number of children in need plans with careful step-down reviews and reduced social worker caseloads
- Increased the number of care leavers into their own tenancies through partnership agreement with local providers.
- School Leaders report that Social Worker engagement, effectiveness, responsiveness has hugely improved since March 22
- Opened 4 Family Hubs utilising £3.4m DfE Funding as part of the Early Help Transformation Programme and define a new offer for families
- Schools hold 52% of Total EHA's open within the borough, we have also seen an 86% increase in the no. of partners that are completing EHA's over the past 12 month and a 60% increase in the numbers completed by private nurseries.
- 0% of cases heard at Team Around the Setting step up to Children Social Care
- Maximised the number of children managed at early help through the Team Around the school innovation model and Social Workers in schools
- Supported more vulnerable mums to keep their babies through the effective STAR model
- Attracted £0.575m additional resources to run the SHiFT Programme for work with 27 adolescents supported by an additional £0.080m from GMCA to embed an Adolescents Framework across the area.
- Successfully bid for £1mil DfE funding for Delivering Better Value (DBV) programme to reduce pressure on the High Needs Block.
- Continued successful delivery of Holiday Activity & Food programme in 2023-24
- Secured £1.63m DfE match capital funding to build a new state of the art Children's residential home for children with disabilities, with building work to commence Summer 2024

- Attracted £1.4m DfE Funding for staying close to support care leavers moving into independence from children’s residential homes.
- To continue to work with Housing and Resisted Landlords to increase sufficiency of accommodation for care leavers.
- Attracted £0.1m DfE improvement funding to support the personal advisors teams
- To implement accommodation/locality plan to release capital savings from Denton Centre and Clarence Arcade
- Independent Chairs added to Children's improvement Board and SEN Board
- Strengthened DMT, with increased regularity
- Children's scrutiny strengthened with additional focus
- Children's workforce board introduced on a monthly basis to support a strong and stable workforce
- Performance Accountability Board introduced
- Brilliant at the Basics monthly meeting held
- Whole Service Data Book and Whole Service Data Quality Report developed

EDUCATION AND SCHOOLS

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Education	8.786	9.205	0.419

The Education outturn variance is a net overspend position of £0.419m. The main reason for this overspend was additional demand for Special Education Needs transport. This additional demand was partially offset by an increase in recouped income for pupils being transported whose responsibility for funding lies with other local authorities and a reduction in the expected costs due to a number of transport contracts ceasing.

The Education Service has following key functions:

- Early Years – to ensure sufficient provision is available and that the quality is either good or outstanding
- School Improvement – to ensure that all education provision is either good or outstanding
- Place Planning & Admissions – to ensure we have sufficient school places and that children all have fair access to our schools
- Special Educational Needs – to ensure that all children’s needs are accurately assessed at the first opportunity and they receive education provision that meets their needs and helps them to achieve their potential
- Alternative Provision– to deliver provision for children who are too ill to attend school and those who have been permanently excluded from school
- Virtual School – to fulfil our corporate parenting responsibility for children in care
- Specialist Services – to manage resources, governor services, school attendance service, elective home education, children missing education, music service

Achievements and successes in 2023/24:

- Continue to outperform national and statistical neighbours for overall absence and persistent absence rates (1st out of 11 on both measures)

- Continue to outperform national rates of meeting parental preference for school places
- Significantly expanded the number of specialist places in the borough (+65%)
- An increase in 4+ and 5+ English and Maths GCSE results for 2022 cohort in comparison to 2019
- Increase of cared for children having SEND identified and EHCPs awarded
- Persistently high level of PEPs completed and returned termly (around 98%) Increased numbers of cared for children attending further and higher education
- Implement the new working together to improve school attendance guidance
- Improving attendance and reducing suspensions and better understand attendance patterns of vulnerable children to ensure targeted intervention
- Moving through final governance to the building stage of new Hawthorns Special School
- Earlier identification of SEND needs and Embed Tameside Thrive into culture of SEND Support
- Reduce the number of referrals for statutory Assessment, as part of a timeless recovery plan
- Providing right support / right time to promote early intervention and improved support for children in early years PVI settings, via EPS
- Continued training with the SEN team and key partner agencies to improve engagement in the EHC Needs assessment process
- Embed QA processes of EHC Plans
- Implement the new Priority Education Investment Area Delivery Plan – Early language and reading; KS4 strong passes in English and maths
- Delivering, with schools, the actions of the Written Statement of Action

Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

The dedicated schools grant is allocated through a nationally determined formula to local authorities in 4 blocks:

- Central School Services Block – funding held by Local Authorities to support carrying out statutory duties on behalf of schools.
- Schools Block - funding pass ported directly to mainstream (non-special) Schools
- High Needs Block – funding for Special Schools or additional support in mainstream schools for Special Educational Needs (SEND) and other SEND support.
- Early Years Block -funding of places for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds in school nurseries and Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Sector setting.

The cumulative surplus or deficit from variances between spend and the funding provided by the dedicated schools grant (DSG) is held in an earmarked reserve. Movements on this earmarked reserve are summarised in the table below:

	2022/23 (Surplus) / Deficit £000	2023/24 (Surplus) / Deficit £000
DSG Reserve Brought Forward	3,243	3,306
Schools Block	(353)	(16)
In year surplus on Central Service Block	0	0
In year deficit on High Needs Block	1,018	5,229
In year surplus on Early Years	(614)	(791)
Estimated Early Years 2021-22 Final Adjustment		
Estimated Early Years 2022-23 Adjustment and Final Adjustment	(4)	(212)
Estimated Early Years 2023-24 Adjustment	16	414
DSG Reserve Closing Balance	3,306	7,930

The table shows that at 31 March 2024, the cumulative deficit on the DSG was £7,930m. This was an increase in the deficit of £4,624 compared to the position at 31 March 2023.

PUBLIC HEALTH

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Public Health	14.352	13.753	(0.599)

The outturn position for 2023/24 was an underspend of £0.599m. This underspend was due to several different factors. This included: savings from staff vacancies; use of the household support fund to fund expenditure, in year efficiencies and savings due to projects being delayed.

The purpose of the Directorate is to improve and protect the health and wellbeing of people living and working in Tameside, working closely with partner organisations to understand and address the wider issues that influence people's health locally:

- Provide public health leadership, information, advice and understanding to enable decisions that are based on people's need and what is effective.
- Commissioning and monitoring key Public Health statutory and non-statutory services and functions.
- Using public health intelligence to survey and assess the population's health and wellbeing.
- Deliver programmes of Health promotion, Health protection, healthcare public health, determinants of health, and health communication.

Achievements and Successes 2023/24:

- Publication of the Joint Health & Wellbeing Strategy and Locality Plan in autumn 2023;
- Joint Strategic Needs Assessment - completion of several in-depth needs assessments (Serious Violence; Inequalities; Work & Skills). JSNA steering group established with system-wide representation and a pipeline of needs assessments in progress (SEND; substance misuse; falls; early years). Updates to JSNA website to improve accessibility.
- Serious Violence – in depth needs assessment undertaken and used to develop a Serious Violence Strategy for Tameside to ensure we meet statutory duties. Published in January 2024. Commissioning plan in development across Community Safety Partnership;
- Substance Misuse - successfully delivered and met targets around substance misuse support under additional grant funding; national recognition of the large increase in numbers being supported by treatment service; continued to run successful drug-related death multi-agency panels with other areas coming to observe the Tameside panel for learning.
- Healthy Places framework signed off by Health & Wellbeing Board and published;
- Smoking at time of delivery rates driven down to lowest recorded levels in Tameside due to targeted stop smoking support, particularly in maternity services;
- Primary Care - increased investment in Primary Care Networks to tackle inequalities in long term conditions and contraception access;
- Defibrillator Policy developed with support fund attached to help community groups install new community defibrillators
- Domestic Abuse and Gender Based Violence – have gained White Ribbon accreditation across the council, approved at Cabinet. Recommissioning of the domestic abuse support service,

with increased provision, particularly around supported accommodation. TRUST survivor lived experience group played an active role in the tender process. Live from April 2024.

- Mental Health - completed a suicide audit with the Coroner’s office to inform upcoming suicide prevention strategy;
- Physical Activity - secured further bridging funding from GM Moving to continue the work on the Local Delivery Pilot to enable more physical activity;
- Health Protection - delivered seasonal vaccination programme (flu & Covid-19). Responded to several outbreaks including scabies, TB, Strep-A – supporting high risk settings. Stood up measles oversight group in response to national outbreak; Health Protection Group ran emergency planning/outbreak response exercise around measles; Public Health took part in GM CCRU COMAH emergency response exercise (Stepan)
- Be Well service has continued to target support at communities at highest risk. Also supported key campaigns such as ‘Stoptober’ around smoking cessation. Focus on targeted delivery of NHS Health Checks and smoking cessation.
- Poverty - Support for the cost of living crisis and ongoing work to tackle poverty including funding crucial roles in Welfare Rights.

PLACE

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Place	28.317	30.493	2.176

Overall, there was an overspend of £2.176m. Reasons for the overspend included ongoing cost pressures in waste services and income shortfalls in parking and bereavement services, these were offset in part by underspends in other areas of the place directorate including Operations and greenspace, cultural & customer services and Engineers and highways.

Looking at Operations and Neighborhoods in detail, Bereavement services income was down by £0.107m as there was less demand for burials and cremations as the death rate for 23/24 showed a marked reduction on the equivalent period in the 12 months prior. This is largely due to the consequence of COVID-19 as the profile of those numbers that would usually be passing away during 2023/24 has reduced as many of those people passed away slightly earlier.

Actual Car parking pay and display income was higher in 2023/24 than in the previous year by over 30%, but is still below the budget set for the year by £0.114m. Many of the Pay and display parking machines have either been replaced or upgraded through the year to improve the payments methods available and the parking tariffs reviewed.

A large part of the overspend is caused by a significant overspend within the strategic property function of £2.081m. The key areas of overspend include the facilities management contract, utilities and reactive maintenance across the corporate estate. These pressures have been partially offset by significant staffing savings of £0.726m due to many vacancies across the service. There have also been some one-off backdated payments to the Council for rent and utilities contributions and increases in income following rent reviews totalling £0.301m.

Whilst Investment, Development and Housing (IDH) as an area broadly balanced, there were significant pressures arising from Homelessness and Temporary Accommodation costs totalling £3.000m which were offset elsewhere in both IDH and the wider Place Directorate.

The overall objective of Place is to improve the local area through larger schemes and small deliverables to ensure each person has a fair and equitable life in Tameside. The services invest in, and develop the citizens 'opportunities, work skills, living space, community, environment and infrastructure to deliver a prosperous and enjoyable living experience across all of Tameside.

Place comprises Operations & Neighbourhoods and Growth – including Investment, Development and Housing, Strategic Property Service and Operations & Greenspace.

Achievements and Successes 2023/24:

PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

- Facilitated the Adoption of PfE for the Borough and constituent authorities.
- Put in place governance arrangements and project plan through an updated Local Development Scheme for the Homes Spaces Places element of the local plan.
- Developed a new GIS data platform hosting the SHELAA and BLR in an interactive format, removing reliance on external hosting contracts.
- Made significant progress on reducing a backlog planning enforcement casework and implementing an improvement programme for the team.
- Overall improvements in relation to speed & quality of decision making.
- Determined 9 out of 10 planning applications within agreed timescales.
- Maintained a high level of appeal success across both planning applications and enforcement notices.
- Progressed Godley Green project and various major development schemes, including Council asset disposals, through planning committee.
- Delivered BNG training programme through and service redesign for GMEU.
- Increased stability and revenue for the Building Control Service while responding to the demands of the Tornado over the Christmas holiday period.
- Developed planning officers in support of planning committee presentations.
- Brought the service together in-person to assist in service integration and productivity.
- Introduced cross directorate liaison meetings with key services to improve working efficiency and understanding of planning issues.

INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

- Resolution to grant planning permission at Godley Green
- Establishment of Ashton Mayoral Development Zone
- Progress on development of Ashton new market square proposals
- Homelessness team transferred to IDH
- Success of In Work Progression project recognised at GM level and GMCA have advised they intend to fund a GM wide IWP offer based on our model
- Business networking has continued to increase with positive feedback, Tameside is recognised by the Business Growth Hub in GM as the best practice area
- Internal NEET support team 'Tameside Futures' established, trialling a different way of working against the usual external provider model
- Approval of Hyde Town centre masterplan and Accelerator Partnership
- Delivery of UKSPF Place and Communities and Employment schemes and initiatives
- Approval of Development Framework for Ashton Moss
- Delivery of Stalybridge Heritage Action Zone
- Development of Droylsden Masterplan

STRATEGIC PROPERTY

- Delivered Capital receipts of £2.019m in 2023/24

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- The Capital Projects Team awarded the construction contract for the new Hawthorn SEND school in 2023, due for completion August 2024
 - Completed lease surrender of Patterson Rothwell building 21 December 2023.
 - Working with Children's services secured £1.6m DfE funding for the delivery of a Children's home for young people with disabilities
 - Delivered PDS1- £2.5m project to decarbonise 14 Council buildings
 - Obtained cabinet approval for batch 4 -16 assets with cumulative value of £1.765m
 - Secured revenue and capital grants for phases I and II of swimming pools fund

OPERATIONS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS

Public Protection

- Establishment of the Enforcement Panel
- Increased Waste enforcement activity 171 FPN's served and 5 successful prosecutions.
- Increased prosecutions in Trading Standards have had x2 prosecutions unrelated to cigarettes and vapes and have seized **7,429** illegal vapes, **38,254** illegal cigarettes and **23.78kg** of illegal tobacco.
- Roll out of new Contactless payment within parking and a review of contract passes and parking rates.
- Establishment of the new Business Compliance team in Greater Manchester – supporting compliance of small and medium businesses.
- Revision of the Licensing and Gambling Policy.
- Health and Safety team reviewed **1,196** reported accidents/incidents, recorded 4 TMBC specific webinars which are now available on demand on Me.Learning and completed **62** School H&S Audits as part of the Service Level Agreement
- The team reviewed **118** event notifications

Bereavement

- Completion of the £2m Cremator Replacement Project
- **3** New cremators including a bariatric cremator.
- Heat Exchangers to use excess energy to heat the chapel.
- **100%** Mercury Abatement to show our commitment to clean air.
- New Mezzanine floor constructed to ensure all new equipment could be accommodated.
- Service continued delivering funeral services throughout the whole project.
- May 2023 – Charter for the Bereaved Audit – Achieved GOLD Standard
- September 2023 - Inspection by The Federation of Burial & Cremation Authorities

Emergency Response

- Safe and successful response to the unprecedented Storm Gerrit Tornado – excellent cross department working with 250 families supported with Forever Manchester grant funding.

Operations & Greenspace

- Successful maximisation of external grants, delivering improvements in: Granada Park, Cedar Park and Hyde Park.
- Supporting the Council's environmental commitments and ambitions by planting 100 standard trees along the highway, 2000 whips across our parks and countryside sites and 50 standard trees in our parks and countryside sites, all grant funded.
- 2,065 Days of Volunteering

Community Safety

- Reshaping Community Safety Partnership with Partners – new community safety action plan delivered in partners.

-
- Knife crime inputs delivered to over **6,000** young people across Tameside with **+300** intervention and diversion sessions delivered.
 - Established a proactive Young Persons Independent Advisory Group
 - Serious Violence Strategic Needs Assessment and Strategy produced in line with the Serious Violence Duty statutory guidance.
 - Refined and improved Domestic Homicide Review process.
 - CCTV – Through the vigilance of Control Room staff key information sent to Police for successful arrests with a GMP commendation for the team.
 - Successful prosecution in court for breach of Ashton Town Centre PSPO

Engineering & Highways

- Roll out of an internal restructure to drive change within the service, improve service delivery by aligning functions, provide scope for mentoring staff & enable development of staff to ensure progression planning is embedded in the new structure.
- Completion of Heritage England funded project on Market Street in Stalybridge to widen footways and improve the public realm.
- Completion of Wellington Road/Harley Street Ashton-under-Lyne Public Realm improvements with the creations of a new public area between Clarendon College and the town centre.
- A new drainage system has recently been installed to support the active travel agenda.
- The scheme to change our streetlights to LEDs is now substantially completed, which has supported the council in saving 50% of our previous energy usage for lighting the highway.

Cultural & Customer Services

- Welfare Rights providing **1,151 case advice, with** Financial Lump sum financial gains: **£0.974m** weekly benefit gains: **£55,000** per week, so nearly **£2.9mil** when totalled up for the year.
- Prevented **78** households from becoming homeless through debt advice and court representation
- Helped residents secure over £4.8 million in additional income through benefit maximisation, advice and appeal representation
- Supported **1,573** residents with access to foodbank vouchers
- Establishment and delivery of advice sessions in the community including Age UK, Family Hubs, Food Pantries, Wellbeing Corner and Ashton Library
- Over **4,000** appointments provided by Customer Services
- Successful launch of Customer Service Navigators in Jan 24 which has seen **60** people supported including families referred by health visitor teams
- Successful Call Centre move to T1, whilst taking over 64,000 calls and issuing 4,500 blue badges.
- Changes to Customer Services with over 3,000 face to face appointments and interactions with over 4,000 customers
- Portland Basin Museum was the 14th most visited free attraction in the North West in 2022 with over **100,000** visitors annually.
- Portland Basin Museum and Astley Cheetham Art Gallery have both achieved Museum Accreditation from Arts Council England, and both have been accredited under Visit England's Quality Assurance Visitor Assessment scheme.
- Over **380,000** visitors accessing Libraries and **2,500** young people accessing the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Story Makers 6 Community Safety Funded Libraries project for pre-school children delivered 130 sessions with over 21,000 attendees.
- Build a Business in Greater Manchester Libraries: Tameside were significant partners in this ERDF funded project.
- A total of **1,500** volunteer hours were given to Local Studies and Archives.

- Significant help offered to our most vulnerable residents through the Helping Hands portal and operation of the Warm Hubs initiative.
- Delivery of borough wide arts initiatives and partnership working through grant awarded projects including Fridays in the Square, Armed Forces Day.
- The National Theatre brought performances of Hamlet to Tameside schools.
- Over **9,000** people engaged in the making and delivery of the Lantern parade.

Markets

- Developed and managed Stalybridge Street Fest transitioning the event into an “in-house” model for 2024
- Supported the delivery of Friday on the Square
- Re-established the Tameside Hospital Market
- Played a key role in the development of several initiatives and projects being funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) the government’s Levelling Up Fund (LUF). These include the redevelopment of Ashton Market Square and the Master Planning for Hyde Town Centre.

Waste & Fleet Services

- Provision of a waste and recycling collection service to over **103,000** households across the Borough
- The amount of residual waste (black bag waste) collected from households, **343kg** per year puts Tameside in the top 25% for performance of Councils across the UK.
- The amount of dry recycling (black and blue bins) collected, **20,777** tonnes puts Tameside in the top **25%** for performance when compared to Authorities with similar levels of deprivation.
- Worked with Willow Wood Hospice in January to collect nearly **500** Christmas trees raising over **£7,000** for the hospice. The trees will be chipped for use in the Council’s parks and green spaces.
- Undertook a successful procurement exercise for transport for adults to day care centres to ensure the Council delivers Best Value for the Services it provides. Procured a contractor to deliver the mandatory CPC training programme for HGV drivers across the Council. This ensures we are compliant with our Operators licence

Chief Executives Office

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Chief Executives Office	14.147	13.780	(0.367)

The underspend position in 2023/24 was due to several underspends across the Chief Executive office directorate, the main areas to note were underspends in the policy and projects budgets and in the central training budget, due to centralisation of several directorates training budgets into one place that was implemented during 23/24. This provided greater oversight of this budget area and more control of the training expenditure.

Achievements and Successes 2023/24

- Delivered support and business management to local and GM Mayoral elections 2024.
- Vacated Plantation Archive store

- Delivered the support for the office moves in Children's
- Delivered the support for the ILAC inspection December 2023
- Continued delivery of support for Children's Improvement journey
- Successful continued accreditation of Customer Service Excellence Standard
- Delivery of the support for the coordination and delivery of the Peer Challenge
- Refreshed STRIVE Leadership for Corporate Delivery Team
- Supported Children's Services with closure of over 45 care orders for young people living with parents.

Resources

Outturn Position 2023/24 £000's	Outturn Position (Net)		
	Budget £000's	Outturn £000's	Variance £000's
Resources	54.965	44.236	(10.729)

There was a large net underspend of 10.729m. The majority of this underspend relates to capital financing in which we have received increased income from our investments due to higher interest rates and also the lower use of the contingency budget throughout the year. The underspend also includes £0.699m of accrued income from the Manchester Airport group. £0.644m was additional interest payments and there was also additional land rental income received.

Finance and Assurance

Financial Management aims to deliver consistently high quality financial support and advice to the strategic commission and our external customers and ensure that the key outcomes of an effective, efficient and economic financial management service are delivered. The service plays a vital part in delivering some of the Council's key Governance outcomes; the annual capital and revenue budgets, the Medium Term Financial Strategy, the production of the annual accounts, regular revenue and capital monitoring and forecasting and treasury management are just a few examples.

The Assurance Team provides the statutory obligations to have an effective internal audit regime for the Council and are a key part of ensuring that the Council assets and processes are adequately safeguarded. It provides an independent, objective assurance and consulting activity designed to add value and improve the Council's operations. It helps the Council accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluating and improving the effectiveness of risk management, control and governance processes. It also provides a counter-fraud function, hosts the National Anti-Fraud Network and provides information governance support to the organisation.

Achievements and Successes in 2023/24:

- Successful Direct Debit take-up campaign to increase take-up and now have 69,485 Direct Debit payers. Further take-up campaigns are planned.
- Undertaken a successful Single Person Discount review resulting in increasing the tax base by £0.700m.
- Reviewed 1,060 empty properties which resulted in 262 properties being identified as no longer empty.
- Collected over £1.000m in overpaid Housing Benefit debt recovery.
- NNDR 2023/2024 collection rate 95.87%; 0.58% increase from 2022/2023
- £1.575m reduction in previous years' NNDR arrears

-
- Supported the organisation to deliver a balanced budget for 2024/25 without requiring reserve drawdowns
 - Implemented new process to MTFs to increase assurance, robustness and deliverability.
 - Audited accounts for 2020/21 signed off and 2021/22 finalised for next Audit Panel with 2022/23 on track for September 2024 bringing the Council's (and Greater Manchester Pension Fund) audited Statements up to date.
 - Delivered £3.7m more than budgeted income in Treasury Management.
 - Implemented a new Risk Management Strategy and approach to Risk
 - Implemented a new Counter Fraud Strategy and approach to proactively dealing with the risk of fraud
 - Added two independent members to the Audit Panel in line with recommended best practice

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

Service areas spent £37.998m within the Capital Programme in 2023/24. This is £2.659m less than the 2023-24 capital budget of £40.657m.

The table below shows the variations between Outturn and Budget. In total, spend was £2.659m lower than budgeted. However, in most cases, this underspend is added back to the following year's budget through reprofiling of budgets. In these cases, the underspend represents a delay and results in a re-profiling of the Capital Programme, rather than a saving. The Capital Programme is spend on items which bring service benefit for more than one year. Where the Capital Programme is on large projects the period of build extends across multiple financial years.

After reprofiling, the table below shows a total overspend of £1.590m, which was funded by service areas. The overspend in Education relates to capital expenditure in schools and was funded by the schools.

	2023/24 Budget	Outturn	Outturn Variation	Slippage	Outturn Variation after slippage
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Place: Property, Development and Planning					
Investment & Development	4,961	5,010	49	47	2
Corporate Landlord	769	474	-295	-164	-131
Estates	103	88	-15	-15	
Vision Tameside	73	32	-41	0	-41
Active Tameside	268	103	-165	-166	1
Place: Operations and Neighbourhoods					
Engineers	4,831	4,477	-354	-354	
Operations and Green Space	852	536	-316	-359	44
Community Safety and Homelessness					
Transport (Fleet)					
Management and Operations	250	77	-173	-173	
Children's					
Education	25,629	23,751	-878	-2,591	1,712
Children	365	241	-124	-124	
Adults					
Adults	3524	3,173	-351	-351	
Chief Executive					
Governance	32	35	3	0	3
Total	40,657	37,998	-2,659	-4,249	1,590

Funding sources for the Capital Programme are regulated by the 2010 Capital Regulations and the CIPFA Prudential Code.

Some funding sources immediately finance the Capital Programme – grants and contributions, revenue, or reserve and receipts from the disposal of property.

The other funding source is Prudential Borrowing, which causes a spending pressure on the revenue budget (the revenue budget is for day-to-day expenditure). This spending pressure called Capital Financing costs comprises: an interest charge on the borrowing; and an amount set aside to repay the borrowing principal in tranches across financial years (called the Minimum Revenue Provision). The table below shows the £37.998m of capital spend was financed as follows: £32.156m from grants; £1.612m from revenue; £4.063m from earmarked reserves and £167,000 from borrowing.

Financing for 2023/24	Grants and Contributions	Revenue Contributions	Prudential Borrowing	Reserves & Receipts	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Place: Property, Development and Planning					
Investment and Development	2,889	2		2,119	5,010
Corporate Landlord	40			434	474
Estates				88	88
Vision Tameside				32	32
Active Tameside		1	31	71	103
Place: Operations and Neighbourhoods					
Engineers	3,542			935	4,477
Operations and Green Space	262			275	536
Management and Operations				77	77
Children's					
Education	22,145	1606			23,751
Children	105		136		241
Adults					
Adults	3,173				3,173
Chief Executive					
Governance		3		32	35
Total	32,156	1,612	167	4,063	37,998

As noted above, the Capital Programme is set for multiple financial years to accommodate the timelines for major capital projects. The Capital Programme from 2024-25, incorporating the slippage discussed above, totals £78.849m. It is financed by £2.415m of prudential borrowing and other funding of £76.34m.

5) Financial Strategy: Outlook for 2024/25 and beyond

Financial performance is reported monthly and up to date financial information is available to Officers throughout the year. Additionally, the Medium-Term Financial strategy (MTFS) is regularly updated and reported to Councillors and Officers. Reports are available to the public via the Council's

website. The MTFS supports the Council's medium-term policy and financial planning processes. Fundamentally the plan is designed to help provide a stable financial base to support savings planning. The MTFS also fits within a wider system of corporate planning.

Overall, the key MTFS challenge is a funding gap of £13.344m in 2025/26, increasing to £67.571m in 2028/29. This was identified as part of the 2024/25 budget planning process. The budget proposals for 2024/25 presented a balanced position, after Council Tax increases and new savings.

The table below shows the 2024/25 budget position and the identified funding gap from 2025/26 to 2028/29.

	2024/25 £000	2025/26 £000	2026/27 £000	2027/28 £000	2028/29 £000
Proposed total budget for the year	226,984	285,239	306,863	327,784	347,659
Total resources	226,984	267,895	271,825	275,916	280,088
Imbalance (surplus)/deficit cumulative	0	17,344	35,038	51,868	67,571

The above table shows that the financial outlook beyond 2024/25 requires further savings to bridge the current funding gap. The financial challenges in Local Government are driven by forecast demographic and other cost pressures, particularly in Adults services, along with continued pressures in Children's Social Care services. Inflation has caused significant contract price increases and the cost of adult and children placements have also increased.

Key areas of risk and financial pressure include:

Adults

Increasing numbers and complexity of Adults clients is resulting in more assessed hours and more expensive packages of care. If this trend continues, further financial pressures may arise as a result. The sector faces increasing difficulties with workforce recruitment, sustainability and retention, and whilst increases in national living wage are beneficial for individuals and workforce retention, these increases disproportionately impact on the social care budgets. Housing and accommodation pressures continue throughout both Children's and Adults social care, making it more difficult to secure care packages.

Children's Social Care

The Council has faced significant increases in the cost and demand for Children's Social Care services over recent years. During 2023/24, numbers of Cared for Children have stabilised, however there was an ambitious programme of budget savings to deliver. Whilst placement numbers have slowly decreased, the complexity of cases has risen with greater use of external residential provision driving costs. The fragile market alongside Covid 19 mental health issues now been recognised in young people in Tameside is adding to the cost pressures.

Key risks for Children's Social care budgets in 24/25 include:

- Placement numbers – whilst numbers have been stable during 2023/24, there remains a significant risk of cost pressure arising from any increase in the number or complexity of placements.
- Placement prices – External providers will be facing inflationary cost pressures and increased staffing costs, which combined with demand for placements could result in additional costs.
- Savings – Delivery of £3m in 2024/25 is an ambitious challenge, which is based on social work practice improvements.

Education

Home to School transport for children with Special Educational Needs continues to be a significant risk and pressure area for Education budgets. The number of pupils being assessed as eligible for

support for home to school transport has almost doubled since 2017, and this has mirrored an increase in pupils supported with an Education Health and Care Plan. Continued increases in demand, combined with rising costs, means that significant budget pressures are arising in the dedicated schools grant and for schools' transport. Cost pressures are also arising in Education Psychology as it becomes harder to recruit and retain these key professionals. In addition, Education budgets are also facing pressures due to forecast income shortfalls, particularly in respect of traded services where demand has dropped as schools convert to Academy status. If this trend continues, income shortfalls are likely to increase further.

Income Generation

While fees and charges were increased in line with CPI inflation in December 2023, several fees did not include parking whose fees are frozen following the increase during 2023/24. The Council must move its charges to full cost recovery, recognising this may be a significant uplift and required to be smoothed over several years.

Maximising income generation is a key plank in its medium-term financial strategy and delivering this will require the council to think differently about how it operates and provides services to residents and businesses where a charge or fee is levied for the service.

Savings Delivery

The council has had to review its savings proposals for 2023/24 as some were delayed in delivery with alternative options provided in mitigation. The original planned saving or recurrent alternatives will need to be delivered in 2024/25, alongside existing plans for additional 2024/25 savings and new savings proposals.

Pay and price inflation

Significant provision is already included with the 2024/25 budget proposals for pay inflation, and cost pressures driven by both general inflation and pay inflation external to the Council. These provisions were made in the context of CPI inflation of 4% in December 2023 and forecasted to remain above the 2% Bank of England target throughout 2024/25, therefore placing further pressures on budgets in the medium term, although it is recognised that CPI at the point of publication has now fallen to 2.3%.

Accommodation and Housing

In recent years, expenditure on temporary accommodation has increased significantly, resulting in increased costs where rent levels are not covered by Housing Benefit. Cost pressures are also evident in Children's and Adults Social Care due to insufficient appropriate accommodation in the borough. If demand continues to increase, then cost pressures associated with housing are likely to increase.

Future Local Government Funding

Government have committed to a review of Local Government funding but the timescales for that review remain unclear. The absence of a multiyear finance settlement and no indication of how the funding model may change, mean it is very difficult to develop financial plans for the medium term. The MTFS, at this stage, assumes that Local Government Funding will be sustained cash flat, there will be no further increases in funding for future years, although this position will need to be reviewed following various Government announcements, including the General Election. The continuing lack of certainty over the timing and outcome of the fair funding review, makes planning beyond 2024/25 extremely difficult.

RESERVES

The Council has been in a strong financial position with regard to reserves which it accumulated over a period of time. However, whilst the Council's current level of reserves remains strong, many of these are to meet known or expected liabilities and for planned investment.

The Council has adopted a reserves strategy, which established categories of reserve and parameters for annual review. This reserves strategy sets out the following classifications for reserves:

Category	Description
Accounting reserves	This will include two sub categories: 1) Unusable reserves - those reserves required by proper accounting practice that are not resource backed. 2) General Accounting Reserves - reserves established as good accounting practice for specific accounting purposes (such as the PFI smoothing reserves and Leasing reserves)
Grants and Contributions	Reserves to hold unspent grants and contributions received from external sources.
Liabilities and Risk	Reserves held to mitigate against known and anticipated liabilities and risks. This will include for example self-insurance reserves.
Capital Reserves	Capital Receipts, Capital Grants and Reserves earmarked for capital purposes. These reserves are used to finance the capital programme.
Schools Reserves	Reserves for Schools and Education expenditure, including the ring fenced schools balances.
Budget Resilience Reserves	Reserves held for planned revenue investment in services, for example reserves set aside for planned investment in Children's Services, and to provide resilience for specific services not covered by general fund balances such as the waste levy reserve.
Strategic Priorities Reserves	Reserves held for planned or intended investment in Strategic Priorities. This will include reserves such as the Care Together Reserve.

As at 31 March 2024, the Council has earmarked reserves of £88.481m (£96.710m at 31 March 2023). This reduction over the 12 month period includes the utilisation of service improvement reserve to fund one off service improvements, utilisation of unspent revenue grants brought forward to fund expenditure during 2023/24 and the utilisation of the medium term financial strategy reserve to support the delivery of the Medium term financial strategy.

Further information on earmarked reserves can be found in note 10.

6) The Financial Statements: basis of preparation, purpose and summary

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The accounts that follow have been prepared to be:

- **Relevant:** The accounts provide information about the Council's financial performance and position that is useful for assessing the stewardship of public funds and for making economic decisions.

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- **Reliable:** The financial information: Has it been prepared so as to reflect the reality or substance of the transaction and activities underlying them; is it free from deliberate or systematic bias; is it free from material error; is it complete within the bounds of materiality.
 - **Comparable:** The CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24
 - ('The Code') establishes proper practice to be followed with regard to consistent financial reporting in Local Government. The financial statements have been prepared to be compliant with the code, and therefore aid comparability with other local authorities.
 - **Understandable:** These accounts are based on accounting concepts, treatments and terminology that require reasonable knowledge of accounting and Local Government. However, every effort has been made to use plain language and where technical terms are unavoidable they have been explained in the glossary of terms.

UNDERLYING ASSUMPTIONS

The financial statements adopt the following underlying assumptions:

Accruals Basis

- The financial statements, other than the cash flow, are prepared on an accruals basis. Income and expenditure is recognised in the accounts in the period in which it is earned or incurred not as the cash is received or paid.

Going Concern

- The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis, on the on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

Materiality

- Throughout the financial statements consideration has been given to the materiality (significance) of an item. Information is considered to be material if omitting it or misstating it could influence decisions that users make on the basis of the financial information.

PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

The accounting statements have been prepared to comply with the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The main statements are shown later, and further detailed information is presented in the accompanying notes.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This statement sets out the Council's day to day revenue income and expenditure. It shows the cost of providing services in the year in accordance with IFRS, rather than the amount funded from Council Tax, and the cost of other activities of the Council.

The statement shows that the Council's gross expenditure on services in 2023/24 was £608.109m, but after income is included the Net Cost of Services was £236.916m. Once other items of Operating Expenditure such as Precepts and Levies, as well as Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure and Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income are taken into account, the Council's deficit on the Provision of Services was £35.765m.

The deficit on the provision of Services arises because the accounts must contain a number of non-cash items in order to comply with proper accounting practice that do not need to be included in the Council's budget plans. The accounts include significant charges arising from revaluations and impairments of non-current assets charged to services and changes in measurement of the pension

liability. The service lines within the Cost of Services section of the CIES represent the full cost of providing that service and include the non-cash items. Therefore, it should be noted that a large movement between years does not necessarily represent an increase or reduction in the level of spending in that area.

Note 1 to the CIES, the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA), demonstrates to council tax payers how the funding available to the authority (i.e. government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's directorates, and provides a reconciliation between the net expenditure reported to officers and management (£221.740m) and the Net Cost of Services in the CIES (£236.915m).

Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)

This statement sets out the movements in the main reserves and balances of the Council. It distinguishes between unusable reserves (which are necessary under proper accounting practice, but which cannot be spent) and usable reserves (which are cash backed and can be spent). Usable reserves are further divided into General Fund Balances, Schools Balances, Earmarked Reserves (earmarked to specific objectives), Capital Grants Unapplied, and Capital Receipts Unapplied. It is a requirement placed on all councils that the level of reserves is regularly reviewed by the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and due consideration is given to all local financial risks and liabilities when doing so (this is also reported in the Budget Report presented to Full Council each year).

At the 31 March 2024, the MiRS shows that the Council retained General Fund Balances of £27.537m. In the context of the increasing pressures and risks facing the Council and Local Government in general, an analysis of financial risks is undertaken as part of the budget setting process to establish the required minimum level of general fund balances that should be established each year.

Also shown within usable reserves are £9.528m of Schools Balances. These amounts accrue from unspent school budgets, and are allocated to be spent in future years. The use of schools balances is determined by schools' governing bodies. This is a net balance and includes some deficit balances.

Finally, £88.481m of Earmarked Reserves are also included. These earmarked amounts are allocated to specific purposes or liabilities. There has been a reduction over the 12 month period due to the utilisation of service improvement reserve to fund one off service improvements, utilisation of unspent revenue grants brought forward to fund expenditure during 2023/24, and utilisation of the medium term financial strategy reserve to support the delivery of the medium term financial strategy. Significant amounts within the earmarked reserves include reserves required legally (such as the unspent element of the Public Health Grant) as well as amounts set aside for future liabilities. This includes the Capital Investment Reserve (set aside to contribute to the capital programme), Insurance Reserves, the Medium-Term Financial Strategy Reserve set aside to fund future pressures and risks, Unspent Revenue Grants and Contributions, and the Care Together Reserve. A large number of the Earmarked Reserves relate to specific liabilities that individual services have identified. The full detail of these is set out in Note 10.

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet summarises the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2024 and shows the net worth of the Council's assets and liabilities of £522.685m. It includes balances and reserves, and all assets and liabilities employed in the Council's operations. It shows that the Council has non-current assets (mainly Property, Plant and Equipment) with carrying values in the accounts of £708.227m, a reduction of £13.698m from 31 March 2023.

Current Assets have decreased in year, mostly due to a decrease in short term investments, but with an increase in cash and cash equivalents held by the authority.

Current Liabilities have slightly decreased, mainly due to the small increase in short term creditors which in the main represents government grants due back to government departments which has been offset by a reduction in the authority's short term borrowing.

The notes to the accounts provide more detailed analysis of items within the Balance Sheet. Section 7 below provides further detail on significant transactions and balances.

Cash Flow Statement

This summarises the total movement on Cash and Cash Equivalents during the year for revenue and capital purposes. Notes 29 to 31 provide further detail on the cash movements during the year.

Collection Fund

The Collection Fund is a fund administered by the Council that shows the transactions of the billing authority (the Council), in relation to the collection from taxpayers of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) and how the income from these sources has been distributed to precepting authorities, Central Government and the Council's General Fund Balances. The Collection Fund is maintained separately, as a statutory requirement.

The Collection Fund shows that the balances to carry forward as of 31 March 2023 were a £2.853m surplus relating to Council Tax (£1.105m surplus in 2022/23) and a £9.089m surplus on NDR (£8.266m surplus in 2022/23).

Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF)

The accounts of the GMPF are included in the Statement of Accounts of the Council because the Council administers the GMPF. The Fund is administered separately from the Council and has independent governance arrangements.

Accompanying Statements Included in the Statement of Accounts

The purpose of the various accompanying statements included in the accounts is set out below:

- The **Statement of Responsibilities** sets out the respective responsibilities of the Council and the Chief Financial Officer for the accounts.
- The **Annual Governance Statement** gives a public assurance that the Council has proper arrangements in place to manage all of its affairs. It summarises the Council's responsibilities in the conduct of its business, the purpose and key elements of the system of internal control and the processes applied in maintaining, reviewing and developing the effectiveness of those control systems.

7) Significant transactions and balances

Academy conversions

During the 2023/24 financial year several schools – Holden Clough, Aldwyn, Lyndhurst and St George's Mossley - converted to academy status. At 1 April 2023, the schools had a balance sheet value of £17.225m. On conversion, the Council derecognises the assets relating to this school as they transfer to the Academy for nil consideration. This £17.225m reduction in value is reflected in the 2023/24 statement of accounts.

Capital Expenditure

As set out above, the Council has incurred Capital Expenditure in excess of £37m during 2023/24. Capital Expenditure on Council owned assets is reflected as additions in note 11 to the Balance Sheet. Additions in 2023/24 included:

- Highways - £2.972m
- Godley Garden Village - £0.490m
- Schools - £23.751m
- Levelling Up Fund (Ashton) - £1.855m
- Mandatory adaptations / Disabled Facilities Grant - £2.241m

Revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment

Property assets are revalued on a rolling programme, as a minimum every five years but in many cases more frequently, to ensure that the assets are reflected at current value on the Balance Sheet. Further information on the frequency and approach to the revaluation of assets is set out in the Accounting Policies and in Note 11 to the Balance Sheet. A significant proportion of the Council's property assets were revalued at 31 March 2024, resulting in gains and losses on the values held in the Balance Sheet, particularly where assets had not been revalued in the last 12 months.

Reserves

As at 31 March 2024, the Council has earmarked reserves of £88.481m. This was a £8.229m reduction in reserves compared to a balance of £96.710m at 31 March 2023. The reasons for the £8.229m reduction in reserves during 2023-24 is shown below:

- A £6.960m additional income in the Collection Fund Reserve from the 100% retention pilot, council tax surplus and contingency for collection fund deficits.
- A £3.476m reduction in revenue grant reserves as the Council incurred expenditure in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grants.
- A £1.871m reduction in the Children's social care staffing investment reserve as the council provided additional capacity in children's social care.
- A £2.091m reduction in the service improvement reserve which was used to support one off service improvements.
- A £3.674m reduction in the Medium term financial strategy reserve to support the delivery of the medium term financial strategy.

Further information on earmarked reserves can be found in note 10.

Borrowing and Other Long Term Liabilities

At 31 March 2024 the Council held borrowing with the PWLB and market lenders with a carrying value of £136.269m (£139.471m at 31 March 2023). The Council paid £5.643m in interest on its borrowings during 2023/24. Further information on borrowing can be found in notes 18 and 19.

Other long-term liabilities relate mainly to the Pensions Liability (covered below) and the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) liability. PFI arrangements are a form of finance lease where responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment passes to a PFI contractor. The Council has three PFI contracts in relation to various schools across the borough. The Council recognises the schools as assets on the balance sheet (on the same basis as other non-current assets) and a long term liability is recognised to reflect the capital cost of the asset which is repaid to the contractor over the life of the contract. Further information on the PFI schemes can be found in note 26.

Manchester Airport Group (MAG)

The Council holds a 3.22% shareholding in Manchester Airport Holdings Ltd (part of the Manchester Airport Group). These shares are not traded and an external valuation is obtained on behalf of all Greater Manchester Authorities. This valuation uses an earnings based method, which takes into account the profitability of the company, assessing its historic earnings and arriving at a view of 'maintainable' or 'prospective' earnings. The valuers have advised of an increase in the fair value of the Council's shareholding during the accounting period from £20.1m at 31 March 2023 to £50.7m at 31 March 2024. Prior to the COVID pandemic the Council usually received dividend income from this investment (£6.4m in 2019/20) - this is a key item of income in the Council's MTFs, with the investment considered to have strategic importance, and as such the Council is highly unlikely to dispose of its shareholding.

In recent years, further additional investment in Manchester Airport has been approved by Executive Cabinet:

- A capital investment of £11.3m in Manchester Airport was approved by Executive Cabinet in February 2018. The investment takes the form of a shareholder loan which was funded from reserves. Interest is paid at a rate of 10% per annum, which generates a revenue stream for the Council of approximately £1m (after allowing for the loss of interest earned on cash used to fund the investment) which will support the revenue budget.
- In February 2019, Executive Cabinet approved an equity investment of £5.6m in Manchester Airport funded by prudential borrowing. The investment is expected to generate revenue income through returns of around 3.25% (after taking account of borrowing costs and debt repayment). It was originally envisaged that this income would begin to be received from 2021/21 onwards, although no amounts are yet assumed in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The economic impact of COVID-19 is likely to mean that income from this investment will not be generated for a number of years and will be dependent on the speed and scale of recovery in the Aviation Sector
- In April 2020, Executive Cabinet approved a further investment of £9.7m in Manchester Airport in the form of an equity loan, which has been funded by prudential borrowing. The loan was to support the liquidity position of MAG in light of the pandemic and allow it to complete its residual capital commitments as part of its revised business plan. Had the capital expenditure programme not taken place, it is our view that MAG would not have required the shareholder loans and being in a sufficiently liquid position to withstand the pandemic without relying on a shareholder loan cash injection. The investment completed in June 2020 and will generate revenue income through interest earned of 10% per annum

The three recent investments into Manchester Airport have all be intended to support the significant capital investment programme into key strategic infrastructure. It is therefore our view that these investments fall within the spirit of the rules as determined by the definition of capital expenditure as defined by section 16 and section 25 (b) of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) Regulations 2003.

Pensions Liability/Asset and Advance Payment of Contributions

The actuarial valuation of the Council's share of the Local Government Pension Scheme has resulted in a swing from a deficit position to a surplus asset position. At 31 March 2023, the Council had a surplus of £158.105m. At 31 March 2024, the Council had a surplus of £227.038m which has subsequently been reduced to a deficit of £45.929m due to the asset ceiling adjustment. This significant swing from a surplus to a deficit has impacted on the Council's balance sheet.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is a separate fund which invests contributions from employees and employers and invest these in different asset categories. This fund is then used to pay for pension entitlements.

The valuation compares the value of assets held within the pension fund against the promised pension entitlements. This comparison looks forward, both to the date when the pension entitlements are paid and to changes in the value of pension assets. The comparison includes assumptions and judgements about future rates for the consumer price index, mortality rates and investment yields compared to changes in the value of money.

The results of the actuarial valuation vary each year as the assumptions and judgements change according to the economy and other circumstances. However, the methodology used by the actuary is determined by accounting rules. A different methodology is used when valuing the Pension Fund for the purposes of setting employer contribution rates. The results of the actuarial valuation do not therefore impact on employment costs. Rather, as noted above, they impact on the Council's balance sheet position and can change significantly between years.

Greater Manchester 100% Business Rates Retention Pilot

Greater Manchester is one of the regions piloting the full retention of Business Rates from 1 April 2017. The purpose of this Pilot is to develop and trial approaches to manage risk and reward, and to finance from additional Business Rates income new responsibilities and/or existing funding streams including those that support economic growth.

Being part of the Greater Manchester Pilot provides the Council and the Greater Manchester region with potential financial benefits with the guarantee that Authorities will not be worse off as a result of the Pilot. The 'No Detriment' agreement will guarantee that the resources available to the Council under the 100% Pilot will be the same as the 50% retention scheme that exists for non-pilot authorities.

As a result of the pilot the Council has not received the Revenue Support Grant or Public Health Grant from Government since 2020/21. Instead the Council retains 99% of its Non Domestic (Business) Rates income with 1% distributed to GMFRA. Further information on amounts credited to the CIES are set out in Note 4.

Events after the Balance Sheet Date

On 1 April 2024, Cromwell High school and 1st May 2024 St Stephens RC School both converted to Academies. Cromwell High school has a value of £5.99m on the balance sheet and St Stephens RC School has a value of £33k on the balance sheet in the 2023/24 statement of accounts. As a result of the academies conversion, these values will be written off for nil within the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts.

Acknowledgements

The production of the Statement of Accounts would not have been possible without the hard work of Members and Officers across the Council. I would like to express my gratitude to all colleagues who have assisted in the preparation of this document, and for their support during the financial year.

Further Information

Further information about these accounts is available from the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer). If you require further clarification or information about any of the items included in the accounts, please contact me at the address below.

Signed:



31st May 2024

Ashley Hughes
Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council
Tameside One
Market Place
Ashton-under-Lyne
Tameside
OL6 6BH

Statement of Responsibilities

This is a signed statement by the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) certifying that the accounts comply with requirements and 'present a true and fair view' of the Council's financial position as at 31 March 2024.

Statement of Responsibilities

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to ensure that one of its Officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that Officer is the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer);
- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets;
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) Responsibilities

The Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts and those of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24*.

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) has:

- Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- Complied with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

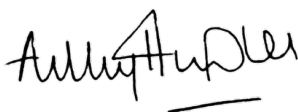
The Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) has also:

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

Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council and Greater Manchester Pension Fund at 31 March 2024 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2024.

Signed:



Date: 31/05/2024

Ashley Hughes

Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Financial Statements

Financial Statements are applicable to all local authorities and comprise:

1. Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)
2. Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)
3. Balance Sheet (Statement of Financial Position)
4. Cash Flow Statement

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

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

	Note	2023/24			2022/23		
		Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000	Gross Expenditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Expenditure £000
Children's Social Care		81,359	(17,949)	63,410	74,375	(14,420)	59,955
Education		195,916	(168,628)	27,288	187,218	(162,365)	24,853
Adults' Social Care		128,946	(75,812)	53,134	118,986	(62,129)	56,857
Public Health		19,325	(2,375)	16,950	18,439	(1,491)	16,948
Place		84,752	(38,098)	46,654	72,166	(37,743)	34,424
Resources		82,055	(67,001)	15,053	82,422	(70,740)	11,682
Chief Executive's Office		15,756	(1,329)	14,427	11,365	(1,697)	9,668
Cost Of Services	1	608,109	(371,193)	236,916	564,972	(350,585)	214,387
Other Operating Income and Expenditure	2	48,803	(2,120)	46,683	40,692	(458)	40,234
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	3	21,436	(17,274)	4,162	31,441	(14,174)	17,267
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	4	0	(251,996)	(251,996)	0	(235,060)	(235,060)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services		678,348	(642,583)	35,765	637,105	(600,277)	36,828
<u>Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure</u>							
Revaluation Gains	9			(40,822)			(18,458)
Remeasurement of Net Defined Benefit Liability	9			(225,764)			(458,629)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	9			(26,285)			(1,000)
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	9			324,153			106,919
Total Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				31,282			(371,168)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				67,046			(334,341)

Movement in Reserves Statement as at 31 March 2024

This statement shows the movement on the different reserves held by the Council.

	General Fund Balances £000	Schools Balances £000	Earmarked Reserves £000	Total General Fund Balance £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Reserve £000	Total Usable Reserves £000	Unusable Reserves £000	Total Reserves £000
Note	8a	8a	10	7	8b	8c	8a	9	
Balance at 1 April 2022	(27,437)	(9,294)	(124,213)	(160,944)	(3)	(29,777)	(190,721)	(64,668)	(255,391)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services **	36,828	0	0	36,828	0	0	36,828	0	36,828
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure **	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(371,168)	(371,168)
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	36,828	0	0	36,828	0	0	36,828	(371,168)	(334,341)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations ***	(8,436)	0	0	(8,436)	0	(8,985)	(17,421)	17,421	0
Net (increase)/decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	28,391	0	0	28,391	0	(8,985)	19,406	(353,747)	(334,341)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves and Schools Balances ****	(27,048)	(454)	27,501	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Increase)/decrease in year	1,344	(454)	27,501	28,391	0	(8,985)	19,406	(353,747)	(334,341)
Balance at 31 March 2023 *	(26,094)	(9,747)	(96,711)	(132,552)	(3)	(38,762)	(171,315)	(418,416)	(589,731)
Balance at 1 April 2023	(26,094)	(9,747)	(96,711)	(132,552)	(3)	(38,762)	(171,315)	(418,416)	(589,731)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services **	35,765	0	0	35,765	0	0	35,765	0	35,765
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure **	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31,282	31,282
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	35,765	0	0	35,765	0	0	35,765	31,282	67,046
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations ***	(28,760)	0	0	(28,760)	1	9,651	(19,108)	19,108	0
Net (increase)/decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	7,005	0	0	7,005	1	9,651	16,657	50,390	67,046
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves and Schools Balances ****	(8,448)	219	8,229	0	0	0	0	0	0
(Increase)/decrease in year	(1,443)	219	8,229	7,005	1	9,651	16,657	50,390	67,046
Balance at 31 March 2024 *	(27,537)	(9,528)	(88,482)	(125,548)	(2)	(29,111)	(154,658)	(368,026)	(522,685)

* Net worth of the Council at that date. Reconciles to Net Assets/ (Liabilities) and Total Reserves shown in the Balance Sheet.

** Taken directly from the CIES.

*** Adjustments needed to convert the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services to the movement on General Fund Balances as defined by statutory provisions. See Note 7 for a full breakdown of the adjustments required to comply with proper accounting practice.

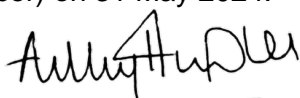
**** A further breakdown of the Council's Earmarked Reserves can be seen in Note 10.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2024

The Balance Sheet shows the value of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council.

	Note	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Property, Plant and Equipment	11	542,443	537,712
Heritage Assets	12	22,592	17,020
Investment Properties	13	39,370	38,130
Intangible Assets	14	780	857
Long Term Debtors	17	43,261	43,520
Long Term Investments	18	59,781	33,500
Net Pension Asset	28	0	51,186
Non-current Assets		708,227	721,925
Cash and Cash Equivalents	21	102,111	26,533
Short Term Investments	18	0	101,904
Inventories		582	813
Short Term Debtors	20	65,527	61,699
Assets Held for Sale (<1yr)	11d	3,209	0
Current Assets		171,429	190,949
Bank Overdraft	23	(163)	(118)
Short Term Borrowing	18	(4,523)	(7,935)
Short Term Creditors	22	(69,407)	(68,393)
Short Term Provisions	24	(599)	(599)
Other Short Term Liabilities	23	(4,693)	(4,127)
Current Liabilities		(79,385)	(81,172)
Long Term Borrowing	18	(136,670)	(136,689)
Long Term Provisions	24	(10,562)	(16,169)
Pensions Liability	23/28	(45,929)	0
PFI	23	(81,811)	(86,496)
Other Long Term Liabilities	23	(2,614)	(2,617)
Non-current Liabilities		(277,586)	(241,971)
Net Assets / (Liabilities)		522,685	589,731
Usable Reserves	8	(154,660)	(171,316)
Unusable Reserves	9	(368,025)	(418,415)
Total Reserves		(522,685)	(589,731)

The notes to the financial statements on pages 45 - 139 form part of this account. The financial statements on pages 40-44 were authorised for issue by the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) on 31 May 2024.



Ashley Hughes
31 May 2024
Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer)

Cash Flow Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities.

	Note	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services		35,765	36,828
Adjustment to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services for Non-cash Movements	29a	(47,089)	(44,838)
Adjust for Items Included in the Net Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services that are Investing and Financing Activities	29b	(131,773)	25,722
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities		(143,097)	17,711
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	30	58,998	(1,356)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	31	8,566	6,651
Net (Increase) or Decrease in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(75,533)	23,006
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Reporting Period	21	26,415	49,421
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Reporting Period	21	101,948	26,415

Notes to the Financial Statements

The Notes to the Financial Statements are shown together, as required by International Financial Reporting Standards, after the Financial Statements.

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COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT (CIES) NOTES

1. Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The objective of the Expenditure and Funding Analysis is to demonstrate to council tax payers how the funding available to the Council (i.e. government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's departments. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

	As reported for financial mangement	Adjustment to arrive at the net amount chargeable to the General Fund (Note 1a)	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis (Note 1a)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
2023/24	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Social Care	61,362	2,208	63,570	(160)	63,410
Education	9,206	3,455	12,661	14,628	27,289
Adults' Social Care	48,908	1,275	50,183	2,951	53,134
Public Health	13,753	(506)	13,247	3,703	16,950
Quality & Safeguarding	0	0	0	0	0
Place	30,493	(8,490)	22,003	24,652	46,655
Resources	44,238	(30,202)	14,036	1,016	15,052
Chief Executive's Office	13,780	712	14,492	(65)	14,427
Net costs of services	221,740	(31,548)	190,192	46,724	236,916
Other income and expenditure	(221,397)	38,212	(183,185)	(17,965)	(201,150)
(Surplus) or deficit	343	6,664	7,007	28,759	35,766

Opening General Fund	(27,437)
Deficit on General Fund Balance in Year	7,007
Transfers from Earmarked Reserves to top up General Fund	(6,664)
Contribution to General Fund	(343)
Closing General Fund Balance at 31 March 2024	(27,437)

	As reported for financial mangement	Adjustment to arrive at the net amount chargeable to the General Fund (Note 1a)	Net Expenditure chargeable to the General Fund	Adjustments between Funding and Accounting Basis (Note 1a)	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
2022/23	£000	£000		£000	£000
Children's Social Care	57,033	133	57,166	2,754	59,920
Education	7,782	(559)	7,223	17,632	24,855
Adults' Social Care	48,682	5,088	53,770	3,087	56,857
Public Health	12,868	431	13,299	3,649	16,948
Quality & Safeguarding Place	106	(95)	11	24	35
Resources	30,184	(11,053)	19,131	15,291	34,422
Chief Executive's Office	44,875	(41,677)	3,198	8,484	11,682
	7,760	447	8,207	1,461	9,668
Net costs of services	209,290	(47,285)	162,005	52,382	214,387
Other income and expenditure	(208,609)	74,996	(133,613)	(43,945)	(177,558)
(Surplus) or deficit	681	27,711	28,392	8,436	36,829
Opening General Fund			(27,437)		
Deficit on General Fund Balance in Year			28,392		
Transfers from Earmarked Reserves to top up General Fund			(27,711)		
Contribution to General Fund			(681)		
Closing General Fund Balance at 31 March 2023			(27,437)		

1a. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

	Transfers (to)/from reserves at Directorate level	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund balances	Adjustments for Other Operating Income and Expenditure	Adjustments for Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	Adjustments for Taxation and Non- Specific Grant Income	Total to arrive at amount charge to general fund	Adjustment for Capital Purposes	Net change for the Pensions Adjustment	Other Differences	Total Adjustment Between funding and Accounting Basis
2023/24	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Social Care	2,208	0	0	0	0	2,208	0	(165)	5	(160)
Education	5,059	(1,606)	0	2	0	3,455	15,197	(599)	30	14,628
Adults' Social Care	1,275	0	0	0	0	1,275	3,122	(176)	5	2,951
Public Health	(506)	0	0	0	0	(506)	3,712	(10)	0	3,703
Quality & Safeguarding	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Place	2,101	(1,176)	213	(9,628)	0	(8,490)	24,806	(159)	5	24,652
Resources	6,332	118	(30,818)	(5,732)	(102)	(30,202)	1,047	(33)	2	1,016
Chief Executive's Office	747	(3)	(32)	0	0	712	0	(67)	2	(65)
Net costs of services	17,216	(2,667)	(30,637)	(15,358)	(102)	(31,548)	47,885	(1,210)	49	46,724
Other income and expenditure	(10,552)	2,667	30,637	15,358	102	38,212	(20,258)	(32)	2,325	(17,965)
Total	6,664	0	0	0	0	6,664	27,627	(1,242)	2,374	28,759

	Transfers (to)/from reserves at Directorate level	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund balances	Adjustments for Other Operating Income and Expenditure	Adjustments for Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	Adjustments for Taxation and Non- Specific Grant Income	Total to arrive at amount charge to general fund	Adjustment for Capital Purposes	Net change for the Pensions Adjustment	Other Differences	Total Adjustment Between funding and Accounting Basis
2022/23	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Social Care	133	0	0	0	0	133	0	2,737	18	2,754
Education	289	(849)	0	1	0	(559)	6,590	11,179	(137)	17,632
Adults' Social Care	5,088	0	0	0	0	5,088	0	3,065	22	3,087
Public Health	431	0	0	0	0	431	3,478	169	1	3,649
Quality & Safeguarding Place	(95)	0	0	0	0	(95)	0	24	0	24
Place	(818)	(1,478)	125	(8,882)	0	(11,053)	12,235	3,033	23	15,291
Resources	8,275	(2,274)	(29,888)	(16,384)	(1,406)	(41,677)	340	8,140	4	8,484
Chief Executive's Office	447	0	0	0	0	447	0	1,450	11	1,461
Net costs of services	13,750	(4,601)	(29,763)	(25,265)	(1,406)	(47,285)	22,643	29,796	(57)	52,382
Other income and expenditure	13,961	4,601	29,763	25,265	1,406	74,996	(27,364)	0	(16,581)	(43,945)
Total	27,711	0	0	0	0	27,711	(4,721)	29,796	(16,639)	8,436

1b. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Expenditure		
Employee benefits expenses	219,044	238,613
Other service expenses	354,972	326,879
Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	18,283	23,667
Net revaluation (gain)/loss	23,396	(7,557)
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	15,271	9,830
Interest payments	15,971	15,268
Precepts and levies	31,413	30,404
	678,348	637,105
Income		
Customer and Client Receipts	(54,417)	(50,384)
Income from Council tax and Business Rates	(206,003)	(188,724)
Government Grant Income	(319,135)	(300,513)
Other Grants Reimbursements and Contributions	(22,821)	(25,488)
Interest Income	(11,006)	(6,706)
Other Income	(29,200)	(28,462)
	(642,584)	(600,277)
(Surplus)/Deficit on provision of services	35,765	36,828

2. Other Operating Income and Expenditure

	31 March 2024			31 March 2023		
	Gross Exp- enditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Exp- enditure £000	Gross Exp- enditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Exp- enditure £000
Parish Council Precepts	32	0	32	32	0	32
Levies	31,381	0	31,381	30,372	0	30,372
(Gains)/losses on derecognition/ disposal of non-current assets	17,391	(2,120)	15,271	10,288	(458)	9,830
	48,803	(2,120)	46,684	40,692	(458)	40,235

3. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	31 March 2024			31 March 2023		
	Gross Exp- enditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Exp- enditure £000	Gross Exp- enditure £000	Gross Income £000	Net Exp- enditure £000
Interest Payable and Similar Charges	15,971	0	15,971	15,266	0	15,266
Net Interest on the Net Defined Benefit Liability (Asset)	(32)	0	(32)	7,370	0	7,370
Interest receivable and similar income	0	(702)	(702)	0	(643)	(643)
Other investment income	0	(10,304)	(10,304)	0	(6,063)	(6,063)
Income and expenditure in relation to Investment Properties and changes in their fair value	4,341	(6,268)	(1,927)	7,931	(7,468)	463
Charge for expected credit loss	1,156	0	1,156	873	0	873
	21,436	(17,274)	4,162	31,441	(14,174)	17,267

4. Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

Council Tax and Business Rates income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement includes the Council's share of accrued income recognised by billing authorities in the production of the Collection Fund Statements.

The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Reserve is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Council recognises capital grants and contributions as being related to capital assets and uses them to fund capital expenditure on those assets. Grants, contributions and donations are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received.

Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor. Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor. This is in line with the Accruals Concept.

Once the recognition criteria above have been satisfied, capital grants are recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

In order to not impact on the level of Council Tax, the Council removes the credit from the General Reserves through the Movement in Reserves Statement, and makes a credit to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve.

Once expenditure has been incurred on the related asset, the credit is removed from the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

The Council credited the following to the Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income line in the CIES:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Council Tax Income	(110,880)	(105,638)
Retained Business Rates	(62,648)	(50,611)
Business Rates Top Up	(32,476)	(32,476)
New Homes Bonus Grant	(261)	(791)
Section 31 - Business Rates Grants	(23,226)	(20,289)
Capital Grants and Contributions		
Schools Basic Need	0	(6,784)
Highways Maintenance Grant	(2,696)	(3,569)
Other Schools capital grant	(11,293)	(6,235)
Disabled Facilities Grant	(3,098)	(2,849)
Ashton Levelling Up Fund	(1,855)	(1,007)
Stalybridge Levelling Up Fund	(725)	0
Decarbonisation grant	(0)	(2,104)
Other Capital Grants and Contributions	(2,839)	(2,708)
	(251,996)	(235,060)

5. Grants

Grants are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlements and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received. Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor (receipt in advance). Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor.

Revenue grants will either be received to be used only for a specific purpose, or can be used for general purpose. Those for a specific purpose are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services. Those which are for general purpose are shown within Taxation and non-specific grant income in the Comprehensive Expenditure and Income Statement.

The Council credited the following to Cost of Services in the CIES:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Dedicated Schools Grant	(151,797)	(140,397)
Housing Benefit Subsidy Grant	(51,868)	(53,883)
Housing and Council Tax Benefit Administration Grant	(808)	(830)
Housing Benefit Discretionary Housing Payments Grant	(382)	(367)
Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Grant	(14,196)	(14,196)
Improved Better Care Fund	(12,585)	(12,585)
Social Care Grant	(13,069)	(12,589)
Market Sustainability and Fair Cost Of Care Fund	(2,702)	(878)
Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund	(1,755)	0
Independent Living Fund	0	(726)
Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	(1,764)	(962)
Pupil Premium Grant	(8,150)	(7,779)
Physical Education & Sport Grant	(838)	(899)
Universal Infant Free School Meals	(1,457)	(1,377)
Teachers Pay Grant	(1,248)	(41)
Teachers Pension Employer Contribution Grant	0	(115)
Adult Education Funding	0	(262)
Troubled Families Grant	(1,370)	(1,195)
Rough Sleepers Initiative Grant	(613)	(434)
Asylum Seeker Children grant	(1,141)	(892)
Homes for Ukraine	(557)	(1,461)
Supplementary Grant (Mainstream)	(3,118)	(2,652)
Services Grant	(2,277)	(3,881)
Substance Misuse Treatment and Recovery Grant	(729)	(539)
Household Support Fund	(4,449)	(4,444)
Covid Grants 2023/24	(1,866)	(3,512)
Early Years Supplementary Grant	(989)	0
Holiday Activity Fund	(1,198)	(1,261)
Highways Maintenance Grant	(1,263)	0
Homelessness Prevention Funding	(925)	(762)
Other Grants	(12,848)	(10,750)
	(295,965)	(279,666)

6. Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG)

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the Dedicated Schools Grants (DSG). DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the schools budget, as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2020. The schools budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual schools budgets (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school. Details of the deployment of DSG receivable are as follows:

2023/24			
	Central Expenditure £000	Individual Schools Budget £000	Total £000
Final DSG for 2023/24 before academy and high needs recoupment	0	0	257,267
Academy and high needs figure recouped for 2023/24	0	0	112,404
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment for 2023/24			144,863
Plus: Brought forward from 2021/22	0	0	0
Less: Carry forward to 2024/25 agreed in advance	0	0	(2,845)
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2023/24	31,356	116,352	147,708
In year adjustments	0	(136)	(136)
Final budget distribution for 2023/24	31,356	116,216	147,572
Actual central expenditure	33,687	0	33,687
Actual ISB deployed to schools	0	115,664	115,664
In Year Carry-forward to 2024/25	(2,331)	552	(1,780)
Plus: Carry-forward to 2024/25 agreed in advance			(2,845)
Carry-forward to 2024/25			0
DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2022/23			(3,306)
Addition to DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2023/24			(4,624)
Total of DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2023/24			(7,930)
Net DSG position at the end of 2023/24			(7,930)

2022/23			
	Central Expenditure £000	Individual Schools Budget £000	Total £000
Final DSG for 2022/23 before academy and high needs recoupment	0	0	242,071
Academy and high needs figure recouped for 2022/23	0	0	101,468
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment for 2022/23			140,603
Plus: Brought forward from 2021/22	0	0	0
Less: Carry forward to 2023/24 agreed in advance	0	0	(3,573)
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2022/23	30,084	114,092	144,176
In year adjustments	(12)	(38)	(51)
Final budget distribution for 2022/23	30,072	114,054	144,125
Actual central expenditure	27,152	0	27,152
Actual ISB deployed to schools	0	113,464	113,464
In Year Carry-forward to 2023/24	2,920	590	3,510
Plus: Carry-forward to 2023/24 agreed in advance			(3,573)
Carry-forward to 2023/24			0
DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2021/22			(3,243)
Addition to DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2022/23			(63)
Total of DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2022/23			(3,306)
Net DSG position at the end of 2022/23			(3,306)

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT (MiRS) NOTES

7. Adjustments Required to Comply with Proper Accounting Practice

The Council holds usable revenue reserves for the purpose of funding future expenditure. The General Fund Balance represents the balance of reserves to meet short term, unforeseeable expenditure and to enable significant changes in resources or expenditure to be properly managed over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Earmarked Reserves represent balances where approval has been received to use the reserve for a specific purpose.

Unusable revenue reserves represent timing differences such as those associated with the recognition of retirement benefits and financial instruments.

Movement in reserves are accounted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Revenue expenditure funded from Capital under Statute

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute represents expenditure which may be properly capitalised, but which does not result in the creation of any non-current asset to the Council. In line with the guidance contained in 'the Code', this expenditure is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year the expenditure is incurred, because the Council does not control the economic benefits arising from this expenditure.

Redemption of Debt (Minimum Revenue Provision)

Where capital expenditure has been financed by borrowing there is a provision for the repayment of debt to be made in accordance with the Minimum Revenue Provision requirements of the Local Authorities ('MRP' - as set out in Capital Financing and Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2009).

Since 1 April 2018 the Council has adopted the following policy in relation to calculating the Minimum Revenue Provision:

Borrowing taken up prior to 1 April 2015 will be provided for using a straight-line method of calculating MRP. £185.215m will be provided for in equal instalments over 50 years, which will result in an annual charge of £3.704m. The debt will be extinguished in full by 31 March 2065. If the Council elects to make additional voluntary MRP then the annual charge will be adjusted accordingly.

For borrowing taken up on or after 1 April 2015, MRP is to be provided for based upon the average expected useful life of the assets funded by borrowing in the previous year. The debt will be repaid on a straight-line basis over the average useful life calculated, meaning the debt will be fully extinguished at the end of period. If the Council elects to make additional voluntary MRP then the annual charge will be adjusted accordingly.

For certain investment projects it may be deemed more prudent to use the asset life annuity method in order to calculate MRP. In this case the Council will use the annuity method, with the MRP based on the prevailing PWLB interest rate for a loan with a term equal to the estimated life of the project. If the Council uses capital receipts to repay borrowing for the year then the value of MRP which would have otherwise been set aside to repay borrowing will be reduced by this amount. The level of capital receipts to be applied to redeem borrowing will be determined annually by Section 151 Officer, taking into account forecasts for future expenditure and the generation of further receipts.

For any finance leases and any on-balance sheet Public Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes, the MRP charge will be equal to the principal repayment during the year, calculated in accordance with proper practices.

There will be no MRP charge for any cash backed Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) that the Council operates. As for this type of scheme, any future debt liability would be met from the capital receipt arising from the deposit maturing after a five year period. Any repossession losses for this type of scheme would be charged to a LAMS reserve.

The Council has considered the Statutory Guidance, which recommends a 25 year repayment charge for loans to third parties, and concluded that this provision is not necessary where there is a realistic expectation that the loan will be repaid. The Council considers an MRP charge is not necessary in respect of any loans made to third parties as the debt liability is covered by the existence of a debtor; typically long term depending on the life of the loan. The only expenditure consequence of a loan for an authority is the interest on its cash shortfall whilst the loan is outstanding, so provision for the principal amount would be over-prudent until such time as the assumption has to be made that loan will not be repaid.

Following consultation, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) has published amended regulations and revised statutory guidance on Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Changes will take effect from the 2025/26 financial year, except in respect of expected credit losses which take effect from the 2024/25 year. The Council will review the MRP policy to ensure continued compliance with the regulations going forwards.

	Usable Reserves			
	General Fund Balances £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Reserve £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
2023/24				
Adjustments to Capital Adjustment Account:				
<u>Reversal of items debited or credited to the CIES:</u>				
Charges for depreciation of non-current assets	(18,105)	0	0	18,105
Revaluation losses on Property Plant and Equipment (PPE)	(26,984)	0	0	26,984
Revaluation gains on PPE (used to reverse previous revaluation losses)	3,588	0	0	(3,588)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	1,151	0	0	(1,151)
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(177)	0	0	177
Capital grant and contributions received in year	22,505	0	(10,825)	(11,680)
Revenue expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	(6,228)	0	0	6,228
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gains/loss on disposal to the CIES	(17,391)	0	0	17,391
<u>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES:</u>				
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment:	0	0	0	0
- Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for capital financing	9,185	0	0	(9,185)
- GM and Lancashire debt repayment	0	0	0	0
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund Balances	2,709	0	0	(2,709)
Capital grant and contributions received in previous years - applied	0	0	20,476	(20,476)
Use of the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account to finance capital expenditure	0	2,099	0	(2,099)
Adjustment to Asset Register Opening Balances	0		0	0
Adjustments to Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Transfer of sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	2,119	(2,119)	0	0
Disposal cost allowance	(21)	21	0	0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government Capital Receipts Pool	0	0	0	0
Adjustments to Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Transfer to Capital Receipts Unapplied Account upon receipt of cash	0	0	0	0
Adjustments to Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:				
Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	19	0	0	(19)
Adjustments to Pensions Reserve:				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	(23,175)	0	0	23,175
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	24,449	0	0	(24,449)
Adjustments to Collection Fund Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which Council Tax and NDR income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and NDR income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	2,269	0	0	(2,269)
Adjustment to Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(49)	0	0	49
Adjustment involving the Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account:				
Transfer of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit to the DSG Adjustment Account	(4,624)	0	0	4,624
Total Adjustments	(28,760)	1	9,651	19,108

	General Fund Balances £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Reserve £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
2022/23				
Adjustments to Capital Adjustment Account:				
<u>Reversal of items debited or credited to the CIES:</u>				
Charges for depreciation of non-current assets	(23,483)	0	0	23,483
Revaluation losses on Property Plant and Equipment (PPE)	(14,378)	0	0	14,378
Revaluation gains on PPE (used to reverse previous revaluation losses)	21,935	0	0	(21,935)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	(1,105)	0	0	1,105
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	(184)	0	0	184
Capital grant and contributions received in year	25,256	0	(14,200)	(11,056)
Revenue expenditure funded from Capital under Statute	(6,532)	0	0	6,532
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gains/loss on disposal to the CIES	(10,288)	0	0	10,288
<u>Insertion of items not debited or credited to the CIES:</u>	0	0	0	0
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment:	0	0	0	0
- Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) for capital financing	8,442	0	0	(8,442)
- GM and Lancashire debt repayment	0	0	0	0
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund Balances	4,601	0	0	(4,601)
Capital grant and contributions received in previous years - applied	0	0	5,215	(5,215)
Use of the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account to finance capital expenditure	0	458	0	(458)
Adjustment to Asset Register Opening Balances	0	0	0	0
Adjustments to Capital Receipts Unapplied Account:				
Transfer of sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	458	(458)	0	0
4% disposal cost allowance	0	0	0	0
Contribution from the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account to finance the payments to the Government Capital Receipts Pool	0	0	0	0
Adjustments to Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve:				
Transfer to Capital Receipts Unapplied Account upon receipt of cash	0	0	0	0
Adjustments to Financial Instruments Adjustment Account:				
Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	18	0	0	(18)
Adjustments to Pensions Reserve:				
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the CIES	(52,918)	0	0	52,918
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	23,121	0	0	(23,121)
Adjustments to Collection Fund Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which Council Tax and NDR income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax and NDR income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	16,626	0	0	(16,626)
Adjustment to Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account:				
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	57	0	0	(57)
Adjustment involving the Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account:				
Transfer of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) deficit to the DSG Adjustment Account	(63)	0	0	63
Total Adjustments	(8,436)	0	(8,985)	17,421

8a Usable Reserves

Usable Reserves are those reserves that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation. Further details can be found in the MiRS and below.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
General Fund Balances	(27,537)	(26,094)
Schools Balances	(9,529)	(9,748)
Earmarked Reserves (Note 10)	(88,481)	(96,710)
Capital Receipts Unapplied Account (Note 8b)	(2)	(3)
Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Reserve (Note 8c)	(29,111)	(38,761)
Total	(154,660)	(171,316)

8b Capital Receipts Unapplied Account

Capital receipts (in excess of £10,000) arising from the sale of non-current assets are credited to the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account.

Usable capital receipts are shown separately in the Balance Sheet and can be used either to finance new capital investment, to repay grant received in relation to the asset disposed of, to finance the premium sum arising from the rescheduling of debt, or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(3)	(3)
Transfer of sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	(2,119)	(458)
Use of the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account to finance new capital	2,099	458
Transfer from the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	0	0
Disposal cost allowance	21	0
Balance at 31 March	(2)	(3)

8c Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Reserve

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(38,762)	(29,777)
Grants and contributions received in previous years - applied	20,476	5,215
Grants and contributions received in year - not applied	(10,825)	(14,200)
Balance at 31 March	(29,111)	(38,762)

9. Unusable Reserves

Unusable Reserves are those reserves that are held for accounting purposes and that the Council is not able to utilise to provide services.

Further information on accounting for Financial Instruments can be found in Notes 18 and 19, and in the accounting policies in note 39.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Revaluation Reserve	(169,151)	(136,303)
Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve	(41,598)	(15,313)
Capital Adjustment Account	(205,708)	(215,731)
Pensions Reserve	45,929	(51,186)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(9,594)	(7,325)
Short Term Accumulating Compensated Absences Account	3,529	3,480
Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	645	664
Deferred Capital Receipts	(7)	(7)
Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account	7,930	3,306
Total	(368,025)	(418,415)

9a Revaluation Reserve

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

- *Revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost;*
- *Used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation; or*
- *Disposed of and the gains are realised.*

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(136,304)	(121,937)
Upward revaluation of assets	(50,016)	(53,348)
Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	9,194	34,890
Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets posted to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(40,822)	(18,458)
Difference between fair value and historical cost depreciation	2,902	2,483
Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	5,073	1,608
Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	7,974	4,091
Balance at 31 March	(169,151)	(136,304)

9b Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve

The Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the authority arising from increases in the value of its investments that are measured at fair value through other comprehensive income. The balance is reduced when investments with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(15,313)	(14,313)
Revaluation of investment in Manchester Airport Group (MAG)	(26,300)	(1,000)
Revaluation of investment in Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 1 & 2) Ltd	15	0
Surplus on revaluation of Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve	(26,285)	(1,000)
Balance at 31 March	(41,598)	(15,313)

9c Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement element of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the CIES (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council to finance the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(215,730)	(215,902)
<i>Reversal of items debited or credited to the CIES:</i>		
Charges for depreciation of non-current assets	18,105	23,483
Revaluation losses on Property, Plant and Equipment	26,984	14,378
Revaluation gains on Property, Plant and Equipment (used to reverse previous revaluation losses)	(3,588)	(21,935)
Amortisation of Intangible Assets	177	184
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	6,228	6,532
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the CIES	17,391	10,288
	65,297	32,930
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(7,974)	(4,091)
Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year	57,323	28,840
<i>Capital financing applied in the year:</i>		
Use of the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account to finance new capital expenditure	(2,098)	(458)
Capital grants and contributions credited to the CIES that have been applied to capital financing	(11,680)	(11,056)
Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants and Other Contributions Unapplied Account	(20,476)	(5,215)
Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund	(9,185)	(8,442)
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and Reserves	(2,709)	(4,601)
	(46,148)	(29,772)
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the CIES	(1,151)	1,104
Balance at 31 March	(205,708)	(215,730)

9d Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(51,186)	270,727
Remeasurement of net defined benefit liability	(225,764)	(458,629)
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES	23,175	52,918
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(24,449)	(23,121)
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	324,153	106,919
Balance at 31 March	45,929	(51,186)

9e Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax income and NDR income in the CIES as it falls due from Council Tax payers and NDR payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to General Fund Balances from the Collection Fund.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(7,325)	9,301
Amount by which Council Tax income and NDR income credited to the CIES is different from Council Tax income and NDR income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(2,269)	(16,626)
Balance at 31 March	(9,594)	(7,325)

9f Short Term Accumulating Compensated Absences Account

The Short Term Accumulating Compensated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on General Fund Balances from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on General Fund Balances is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	3,480	3,537
Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(3,480)	(3,537)
Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	3,529	3,480
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the CIES on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	49	(57)
Balance at 31 March	3,529	3,480

9g Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains per statutory provisions. The Account is used to manage premiums paid on the early redemption of loans.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	665	683
Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	(19)	(18)
Balance at 31 March	645	665

9h Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve

The Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve holds the gains recognised on the disposal of non-current assets but for which cash settlement has yet to take place. Under statutory arrangements, the Council does not treat these gains as usable for financing new capital expenditure until they are backed by cash receipts. When the deferred cash settlement eventually takes place, amounts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	(7)	(7)
Transfer to the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account on receipt of cash	0	0
Balance at 31 March	(7)	(7)

9i Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account

The Dedicated Schools Adjustment Account was created following the regulations put in place from the School and Early Years Finance (England) Regulations 2020, (the 2020 Regulations) applicable to local authority accounting periods beginning on 1 April 2020. This set out that a schools budget deficit must be carried forward to be funded from future Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) income. The Council must charge the amount of the deficit, to an account established, charged and used solely for the purpose of recognising deficits in respect of its schools budget: the Code has established this as the 'Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account', an unusable reserve.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	3,306	3,243
Dedicated Schools Grant deficit	4,624	63
Balance at 31 March	7,930	3,306

10. Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves are the net amounts set aside from General Fund Balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans, and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in the accounting period.

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £000	Net Movement 2023/24 £000	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000	Balance at 1 April 2022 £000	Net Movement 2022/23 £000	Balance at 31 March 2023 £000	Purpose of the Earmarked Reserve
Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Affordability Reserve	(10,316)	(516)	(10,832)	(10,311)	(5)	(10,316)	For further information please see Note 28.
Capital Investment Reserve	(22)	22	0	(1,526)	1,504	(22)	To be used to finance the Council's Capital Investment Programme.
Earmarked Reserves with a balance at 31 March 2023 under £0.500m	(4,422)	(446)	(4,868)	(4,710)	289	(4,422)	Various
Hard Facilities Management Service Contract Reserve	(526)	13	(512)	(553)	28	(526)	To fund the affordability gap within the Facilities Management service.
Hattersley Reserve	(3,328)	(92)	(3,420)	(1,812)	(1,516)	(3,328)	To finance highway improvements and regeneration initiatives in Hattersley.
Health Equalities Reserve	(1,551)	109	(1,442)	(1,748)	196	(1,551)	Ringfenced Public Health reserve per section 10 of the Department of Health Grant determination.
Health Integration Reserve	(815)	815	0	(905)	90	(815)	To support the development and implementation of the Care Together Programme.
Insurance Reserves	(6,278)	2,809	(3,469)	(6,507)	229	(6,278)	An estimate of claims incurred but not reported. Includes element to cover any expenditure for insurance claims.
Medium Term Financial Strategy Reserve	(5,885)	3,674	(2,211)	(10,046)	4,162	(5,885)	To support the delivery of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
Children's Social Care Staffing Investment	(853)	853	0	(936)	83	(853)	This reserve holds funding for additional capacity in Children's Social Care to support the improvements in line with Ofsted Inspection
Godley Green Reserve	(907)	421	(486)	(2,398)	1,491	(907)	Investment to support expenditure pertaining to the Godley Green Garden Village planning application.
Growth and Investment Reserve	(825)	69	(756)	(995)	169	(825)	Investment to support Town Centre master planning and Strategic Site developments across the borough.
Stalybridge HAZ Reserve	(582)	582	0	(1,131)	549	(582)	Match funding investment to support the Stalybridge Heritage Action Zone Programme. The programme is also financed by Historic England grant funding.
PFI Reserve	(3,117)	707	(2,410)	(3,347)	229	(3,117)	For further information please see Note 28.
School Funding Reserve	(268)	(35)	(303)	(234)	(34)	(268)	Balance of Education grants to be utilised on Education and School related services.
Transport Replacement Fleet Reserve	(2,755)	264	(2,491)	(2,880)	125	(2,755)	To fund future maintenance of vehicles procured via Prudential Borrowing.
Unspent Revenue Grant and Contribution Reserve	(9,208)	3,476	(5,732)	(12,393)	3,185	(9,208)	Unspent revenue grant, with no conditions attached. IFRS require these grants to be classed as reserves.
Waste PFI Reserve	(1,345)	0	(1,345)	(1,345)	0	(1,345)	To smooth the impact of future years levy increases and associated managed collection costs.
IT Investment Fund	(2,282)	(661)	(2,943)	(1,529)	(753)	(2,282)	The IT Investment reserve has been established to smooth the revenue cost of IT investments.
Collection Fund Reserve	(15,792)	(6,960)	(22,752)	(32,725)	16,933	(15,792)	Additional business rates income from the 100% retention pilot, Council Tax Surplus and contingency for Collection Fund Deficits

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £000	Net Movement 2023/24 £000	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000	Balance at 1 April 2022 £000	Net Movement 2022/23 £000	Balance at 31 March 2023 £000	Purpose of the Earmarked Reserve
Care Together	(15,000)	0	(15,000)	(15,000)	0	(15,000)	To assist any funding risks of the implementation of the Care Together
Service Improvement	(7,748)	3,110	(4,638)	(8,165)	417	(7,748)	To support one off service improvements in future to allow services to balance budgets.
Greater Manchester Bus Reform Reserve	(1,450)	0	(1,450)	(1,450)	0	(1,450)	To fund Tameside's contribution towards the Greater Manchester Bus Reform
COVID 19 Grants Reserve	(1,436)	15	(1,421)	(1,568)	131	(1,436)	COVID 19 grants held in reserve to be utilised.
	(96,710)	8,229	(88,481)	(124,211)	27,501	(96,710)	

BALANCE SHEET NOTES

NON-CURRENT ASSETS (INCLUDING FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS)

11. Property, Plant and Equipment

Recognition

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis. Expenditure on the acquisition of an asset, or expenditure which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing asset, should be capitalised, provided that it yields benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Capital expenditure includes:

- *The acquisition, reclamation, enhancement or laying out of land;*
- *Acquisition, construction, preparation, enhancement or replacement of roads, buildings and other structures; and*
- *Acquisition, installation or replacement of movable or immovable plant, machinery, apparatus, vehicles and vessels.*

In this context, enhancement means works which are intended to:

- *Lengthen substantially the useful life of the asset, or*
- *Increase substantially the market value of the asset, or*
- *Increase substantially the extent to which the asset can or will be used for the purposes of or in conjunction with the functions of the Council.*

Under this definition, improvement works and structural repairs should be capitalised, whereas expenditure to ensure that the non-current asset maintains its previously assessed standard of performance should be recognised in the revenue account as it is incurred.

A de-minimis level of £10,000 has been adopted by the Council in relation to capital expenditure.

Measurement

Initially the assets are measured at cost, comprising the purchase price, plus any costs associated with bringing the asset into use. The measurement of an operational asset acquired other than through purchase is deemed to be its current value. The Code requires that non-operational property, plant and equipment classified as surplus assets are measured at fair value.

In accordance with 'the Code', Property, Plant and Equipment is further classified as:

- *Other Land and Buildings **
- *Infrastructure assets*
- *Vehicles, Plant and Equipment*
- *Community Assets*
- *Assets under Construction*

- **Surplus Assets**

Each of these asset classifications are valued on the basis required by proper accounting practice as outlined in the Code and in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation Principles and Guidance Notes issued by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), as follows:

- *Infrastructure – depreciated historic cost (DHC)*
- *Community Assets and Assets Under Construction – historic cost (HC)*
- *Other assets (excluding non-operational property) – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (EUV)*
- *Surplus assets (non-operational property, plant and equipment) – fair value*

Where there is no market based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value. Where non-property assets (such as Vehicles, Plant and Equipment) have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

**These asset categories are revalued on a minimum five year rolling cycle by an external valuer. The programme of revaluations is continuing on this cyclical basis although values of those assets falling between scheduled valuation dates are reviewed annually to ensure that any material changes to asset valuations is adjusted in the interim period, as they occur. Assets where expenditure of £750,000 or above has been incurred, these are added to the preceding year's revaluation list*

Disposals

Receipts from the disposal of non-current assets are accounted for on an accruals basis. When an asset is disposed of, the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written out to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as is the disposal receipt. These amounts are not a charge or receipt to council tax as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. The asset value written out is appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account, the capital receipt is appropriated to the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account, via the Movement in Reserve Statement. Any revaluation gains that have accumulated in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Usable Capital Receipts have been used to finance capital expenditure based on the policy of the Council.

Academy Schools are written out of the Council's Balance Sheet at the time that they legally transfer to Academy status. The net book value of the school at the time of the transfer is charged to Other Operating Income and Expenditure within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as a loss on disposal/de-recognition.

Depreciation / Amortisation

Depreciation is provided for on all non-current assets with a finite useful life (this can be determined at the time of acquisition or revaluation) according to the following policy:

All buildings (but not their land) are depreciated over their remaining useful lives. A land and building split has been determined by the Council's external valuers. Estimates of the useful life are determined for each property and where material for components of those properties as part of the valuation process. These estimates of economic life may vary considerably from property to property.

Investment Properties are not depreciated, rather an annual review is undertaken of the fair carrying value. Any changes to these values are charged to the Provision of Services within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the period that they occur.

Infrastructure is depreciated over periods of up to 40 years.

Vehicles, Plant, and Equipment is depreciated over 10 years or less depending on the nature of the asset.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis. Depreciation is not charged in the year of asset acquisition. Depreciation is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement but does not impact on council tax and is written out to the Capital Adjustment Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where non-current assets have been re-valued the current value depreciation will be higher than the historic cost depreciation, this increased depreciation charge is written out against the Revaluation Reserve with an offsetting entry to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment of Non-current Assets

Assets have been reviewed for any impairment loss in respect of the consumption of economic benefit (e.g. physical damage). Where an impairment loss occurs this would be charged to the service revenue account, with a corresponding entry made to reduce the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet.

To remove the impact of the impairment loss on the budget, a credit entry is made in the Movement in Reserves Statement as a charge to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairments reflecting a general fall in prices would be recognised in the Revaluation Reserve, up to the value of revaluation for the individual asset, and any further impairment would be treated as a consumption of economic benefit and charged to the service revenue account.

Revaluations

Revaluation of property is undertaken on at least a five year "rolling programme" to ensure all property is measured at current value or fair value as appropriate. A desk top valuation exercise can take place more frequently, however, if the valuer believes that market changes within the year are more significant, an interim valuation will be undertaken. Investment Properties are revalued annually to determine any material change in the carrying value.

A Revaluation Reserve for non-current assets (other than Investment Properties) is held in the Balance Sheet made up of unrealised revaluation gains relating to individual non-current assets, with movements in valuations being managed at an individual non-current asset level.

Movement in the valuation of Investment Properties are charged or credited to the Comprehensive Income Expenditure Statement. Gains arising from the revaluation of Investment Properties are not held within a revaluation reserve.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of the reserves formal implementation. Gains arising before that date were subsequently consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account. Movements in the valuations of non-current assets do not impact on General Fund Balances and are not a charge or credit to council tax levies.

Charges to revenue for non-current assets

The Cost of Services includes the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non-current assets throughout the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- Impairment losses attributable to non-current assets used by the service in excess of the balances held in the Revaluation Reserve
- Amortisation of Intangible Assets attributable to the service

The Council does not raise council tax to cover depreciation, impairment loss or amortisations. The Council does, however, make an annual provision from revenue to reduce its borrowing requirement, (see note 8). Depreciation, impairment losses, amortisation and gains or losses on the disposal of

non-current assets are therefore written out in the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction within the Capital Adjustment Account.

Infrastructure Assets

Highways infrastructure assets include carriageways, footways and cycle tracks, structures (e.g. bridges), street lighting, street furniture (e.g. illuminated traffic signals, bollards) and land which together form a single integrated network. Non-highways assets include digital infrastructure such as high-speed fibre networks.

Recognition

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

Measurement

Infrastructure assets are generally measured at depreciated historical cost. However, this is a modified form of historical cost – opening balances for infrastructure assets were originally recorded in balance sheets at amounts of capital undischarged for sums borrowed as at 1 April 1994, which was deemed at that time to be historical cost.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by the carrying amount of the asset being written down to the recoverable amount.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on the parts of the highways network infrastructure assets that are subject to deterioration or depletion and by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis.

Non-highways infrastructure assets are depreciated over periods of up to 40 years.

Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year.

Useful lives of the various parts of the highways network are assessed by the Head of Engineering Services using industry standards where applicable as follows:

Part of the Highways Network	Useful life
Carriageways (inc. gullies & highways drainage)	25 years
Carriageways – New	35 years
Footways and cycle tracks	25 years
Structures (bridges, tunnels, underpasses & large culverts)	110 years
Small culverts - diameter less than 1.2m	40 years
Street lighting	25 years
Street furniture	40 years
Non-Highways Assets	Useful life
High Speed Fibre Network	40 years

Disposals and derecognition

When a component of the network is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the component in the Balance Sheet is written off to the 'Other operating expenditure' line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (ie netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal).

The written-off amounts of disposals are not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are transferred to the capital adjustment account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

11a. Details of movements in Property, Plant and Equipment in 2023/24:

	Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation							
Balance at 1 April 2023	351,104	28,000	18,966	20,034	4,178	422,283	115,366
Additions	5,573	1,448	486	0	17,142	24,648	945
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	34,383	0	0	866	0	35,249	6,739
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(23,434)	0	0	39	0	(23,396)	507
Accumulated Depreciation Written Out	(9,343)	0	0	(23)	0	(9,366)	(2,716)
Derecognition/disposal of non-current assets	(17,730)	(335)	0	0	0	(18,065)	0
Assets reclassified in year	(1,404)	0	0	(1,805)	0	(3,209)	0
At 31 March 2024	339,149	29,113	19,452	19,111	21,320	428,145	120,841
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
Balance at 1 April 2023	(1,255)	(13,327)	(3,590)	(25)	0	(18,198)	0
Depreciation charge	(9,705)	(1,986)	0	0	0	(11,692)	(2,716)
Accumulated Depreciation Written Out	9,343	0	0	23	0	9,365	2,716
Assets reclassified in year	0	0	0	0	0	(1)	0
Derecognition/disposal of non-current assets	505	169	0	0	0	673	0
At 31 March 2024	(1,112)	(15,144)	(3,590)	(2)	0	(19,853)	0
Net Book Value							
At 31 March 2024	338,036	13,970	15,862	19,109	21,320	408,292	120,841
At 31 March 2023	349,849	14,673	15,376	20,010	4,178	404,085	115,366
Nature of asset owned at 31 March 2024							
Owned	217,195	13,970	15,862	19,109	21,320	408,292	0
Finance Lease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PFI	120,841	0	0	0	0	0	120,841
	338,036	13,970	15,862	19,109	21,320	408,292	120,841

11b. Details of the prior year movements in Property, Plant and Equipment:

	Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation							
Balance at 1 April 2022	346,953	27,519	18,855	13,330	2,644	409,302	106,660
Additions	5,233	788	111	0	1,534	7,666	835
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	16,318	0	0	2,140	0	18,458	9,889
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	8,113	0	0	(556)	0	7,557	777
Accumulated Depreciation Written Out	(10,507)	0	0	0	0	(10,507)	(2,796)
Derecognition/disposal of non-current assets	(10,349)	(308)	0	(68)	0	(10,725)	0
Assets reclassified in year	(4,658)	0	0	5,187	0	529	0
At 31 March 2023	351,104	28,000	18,966	20,034	4,178	422,280	115,365
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
Balance at 1 April 2022	(1,768)	(11,613)	(3,590)	(25)	0	(16,996)	0
Depreciation charge	(10,248)	(1,947)	0	0	0	(12,194)	(2,796)
Accumulated Depreciation Written Out	10,507	0	0	0	0	10,507	2,796
Assets reclassified in year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Derecognition/disposal of non-current assets	254	233	0	0	0	487	0
At 31 March 2023	(1,255)	(13,327)	(3,590)	(25)	0	(18,196)	0
Net Book Value							
At 31 March 2023	349,849	14,673	15,376	20,009	4,178	404,084	115,365
At 31 March 2021	345,185	15,906	15,265	13,306	2,644	392,306	106,660
Nature of asset owned at 31 March 2023							
Owned	234,483	14,673	15,376	20,009	4,178	404,084	0
Finance Lease	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PFI	115,365	0	0	0	0	0	115,365
	349,849	14,673	15,376	20,009	4,178	404,084	115,365

11c. The effective date of revaluation for non-current assets is 31 March each year. Valuations as at 31 March 2024 have been undertaken by Align Property Partners, First Floor, Morgan House, Mount View, Standard Way, Northallerton, DL6 2YD. An analysis of the Council's rolling programme of revaluations is set out below:

	Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	Infrastructure £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total £000
Historical Cost							
Fair Value at year end:							
Valued at Historic Cost	0	29,111	194,233	19,452	0	21,320	264,116
31 March 2021	2,079	0	0	0	0	0	2,079
31 March 2022	9,315	0	0	0	0	0	9,315
31 March 2023	4,789	0	0	0	0	0	4,789
31 March 2024	322,962	0	0	0	19,111	0	342,073
Total Cost or Valuation	339,145	29,111	194,233	19,452	19,111	21,320	622,372

Community Assets are held at historic cost in accordance with the Code of Practice for Local Authority Accounting, and are not subject to revaluation or depreciation. These assets are held for the benefit of the residents and communities of Tameside, and consist of open spaces including: parks, playgrounds, gardens, country parks, allotments, cemeteries, and playing fields.

Valuation of Surplus Assets

Where surplus assets do not meet the criteria for a held for sale asset or an investment property, they fall to be valued at fair value (at highest and best use). The fair value of surplus assets is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value categorise the valuation inputs into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The valuation of surplus assets is based primarily on level 2 inputs, using observable and comparable land and building sale transaction information for similar sites and locations. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used for surplus properties during the year.

11d. Infrastructure Assets

In accordance with the temporary relief offered by the Update to the Code on infrastructure assets this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements.

The authority has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to infrastructure assets.

The authority has determined in accordance with Regulation 30M of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England/Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for infrastructure assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Net book value at start of year	133,628	137,895
Adjustment for prior year depreciation	0	(5,122)
Additions	6,934	7,022
Derecognition	0	0
Depreciation	(6,411)	(6,167)
Assets Reclassified in year	0	0
Balance at end of year	134,151	133,628

Reconciliation to the Balance Sheet:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Infrastructure assets	134,151	133,628
Other PPE	408,292	404,084
Total PPE	542,443	537,712

11e. Assets Held for Sale

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at start of the year	0	50
Assets newly classified as held for sale	3,209	0
Disposals in year	0	(50)
Balance at end of the year	3,209	0

12. Heritage Assets

Heritage Assets are held for their cultural, environmental or historical associations. With the exception of "Statues and Other Monuments", which by their nature are located across the Borough, they are mainly held in the Council's art galleries and museums.

This collection of Heritage Assets has been secured over many years from a variety of sources, being mainly bequeaths, donations and long term loans. Assets acquired from these sources may have restrictions attached which govern how the assets may be managed in the future.

Statues and Other monuments are held at cost and not subject to revaluation or amortisation. Civic Regalia, Art Collections and Militaria are held based on an insurance valuation provided by an external valuer, which is updated with sufficient frequency to ensure the value remains current. An insurance valuation was undertaken in year and the table below includes updated values for assets with an opening value of £12.6m

	Civic Regalia £000	Art Collection £000	Militaria £000	Statues and Other Monuments £000	Total Heritage Assets £000
Cost or Valuation					
At 31 March 2023	640	13,457	2,012	911	17,020
At 31 March 2024	707	18,963	2,012	911	22,592

13. Investment Properties

Investment Property is held solely to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. Investment Property is initially recognised at cost, but is subject to valuation at fair value at the end of each accounting period. Losses or gains are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Rental income from investment property	(3,378)	(2,494)
Direct operating expenses arising from investment property	2,602	1,853
Gains in fair value of investment property	(2,890)	(4,974)
Losses in the fair value of investment property	1,739	6,078
Net position	(1,927)	463

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at start of the year	38,130	39,763
Additions	88	1
Movements in the fair value of investment property	1,151	(1,104)
Derecognition/disposal of non-current assets	0	0
Assets reclassified in year	0	(529)
Balance at end of the year	39,369	38,130

Valuation of Investment Property

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As a non-financial asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. In estimating the fair value of the authority's investment properties, the highest and best use of the properties is their current use. Valuation techniques used to measure fair value categorise the valuation inputs into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 Inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date.

- Level 2 Inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

The valuation of investment properties is based primarily on level 2 inputs, using observable and comparable information. Valuation inputs for investment properties includes market rents, recent land and building sale transaction information (for similar sites and locations), current rental income, occupancy levels, maintenance costs and other cash flow information. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used for investment properties during the year

14. Intangible Assets

Intangible Assets represent non-current assets that do not have physical substance, but are identifiable and are controlled by the Council through custodial or legal rights. All purchased Intangible Assets are capitalised at historical cost in line with ‘the Code’. The Council’s Intangible Assets consist of computer software and licences.

In line with other non-current assets, their useful economic life is determined based on the length of time that the benefit will accrue to the Council. Based on the best estimate of the useful economic life, the Intangible Asset is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement over this period.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Gross carrying amount	2,801	2,658
Accumulated amortisation	(1,944)	(1,760)
Balance at start of the year	857	897
In year amortisation	(177)	(184)
Additions	100	144
Balance at end of the year	780	857

15. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

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

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute represents expenditure which may be properly capitalised, but which does not result in the creation of any non-current asset to the Council. In line with the guidance contained in ‘the Code’, this expenditure is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year the expenditure is incurred, because the Council does not control the economic benefits arising from this expenditure

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Opening CFR plus PFI added in Year	280,744	289,151
<u>Capital Investment</u>		
Property, Plant and Equipment (incl. Infrastructure)	31,583	14,688
Investment Properties	88	1
Intangible Assets	100	144
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	6,228	6,532
<u>Sources of Finance</u>		
Capital Receipts	(2,098)	(458)
Government Grants and Other Contributions	(32,156)	(16,271)
Capital expenditure charged against General Fund Balances	(2,709)	(4,601)
Minimum Revenue Provision	(9,185)	(8,442)
Closing CFR	272,594	280,744

Explanation of movements in year:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Change in Underlying Need to Borrow	(4,023)	(4,960)
Principal Element of Finance Lease Repayments	(7)	(6)
Principal Element of PFI Lease Repayments	(4,120)	(3,441)
Increase / (decrease) in CFR	(8,150)	(8,407)

16. Capital Commitments

At the Balance Sheet date, the Council has one scheme which includes contractual commitments for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment in future years.

	2023/24 £000
Hawthorns School	3,498
Total	3,498

17. Long Term Debtors

Long Term Debtors comprise amounts owed to the Council that are not investments and that are not expected to be realised within 12 months of the Balance Sheet date.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd	1,561	1,611
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd	2,820	3,023
Manchester Airport Loans	29,632	29,632
Manchester Airport Accrued Income	9,137	9,154
Active Tameside	(0)	129
Other Long Term Debtors	111	101
Credit Loss Allowance	0	(129)
Total	43,261	43,520

Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd and Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd – Loan stock held by the Council.

Manchester Airport – The Council’s share of loan debt relating to the construction of Terminal 2 and the Council’s share of debt owing to the Greater Manchester Metropolitan Debt Administration Fund by the Airport. The Airport pays annual fixed interest of 12% on both and will repay the loans by 2055. In 2018/19 the Council advanced two further loans to Manchester Airport Group (MAG) at a total value of £11.278m at an interest rate of 10%. These loans mature in 2056 and 2057. In 2020/21 a further £9.677m was advanced to MAG also at an interest rate of 10%, repayable in 2058.

Active Tameside – Loans to finance the purchase of equipment and the refurbishment of three leisure centres.

18. Financial Instruments

A Financial Instrument is defined as “any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another”. Although this covers a wide range of items, the main implications are in terms of investments and borrowings.

As reflected in ‘the Code’, accounting standards on Financial Instruments IFRS9, IAS 32 and IFRS7 cover the concepts of recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure. The adoption of IFRS9 in 2018/19 resulted in some changes to the treatment of financial assets that are classed as financial instruments.

A financial asset or liability should be recognised in the Balance Sheet when, and only when, the holder becomes a party to the contractual provision of the instrument.

Financial liabilities and assets are initially measured at fair value less transaction costs and carried at their amortised cost. Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled between knowledgeable and willing parties in an arm’s length transaction. Annual charges to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable and receivable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For the borrowings and investments of the Council, this means that the amount included in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest to the end of the financial year. Interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the

effective amount payable for the year in the loan agreement (which is not necessarily the cash amount payable).

When long term borrowing is reviewed for rescheduling opportunities, the early repayment results in gains and losses (discounts and premiums) which are credited or debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. If the Council decides to write off these gains or losses on early repurchase/settlement then this can be done over ten years or over the life of the new loan or over a shorter more prudent time scale. The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is charged with one year related costs with the rest being taken to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Balance Sheet via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The accounting policy is to charge gains and losses to Net Operating Expenditure in the year of repurchase/settlement.

- **Financial Instrument Balances**

The borrowings and investments disclosed in the Balance Sheet are made up of the following categories of financial instruments:

Financial Assets

	31 March 2024		31 March 2023	
	Long Term £000	Current £000	Long Term £000	Current £000
Investments Principal Amount	0	99,025	0	124,616
Adjustment for amortised cost	0	1,490	0	1,277
Amounts treated as Cash Equivalents	0	(100,515)	0	(23,989)
Debtors	43,261	33,628	43,520	32,331
Financial Assets at amortised cost	43,261	33,628	43,520	134,235
Other Investments	0	0	2	0
Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income (Designated)				
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd	3,476	0	3,182	0
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd	5,606	0	5,917	0
Manchester Airport Group (MAG)	46,300	0	20,100	0
Manchester Airport Group (MAG) Additional Shareholding	4,400	0	4,300	0
Total Investments and Debtors	103,043	33,628	77,021	134,235
Investments treated as Cash Equivalents	0	100,515	0	23,989
Other Cash	0	1,491	0	2,428
Total Financial Assets	103,043	135,634	77,021	160,651

Financial Liabilities

	31 March 2024		31 March 2023	
	Long Term £000	Current £000	Long Term £000	Current £000
Financial Liabilities Principal Amount	136,025	3,431	136,025	6,835
Adjustment for Amortised Cost	645	1,092	664	1,100
Financial Liabilities at amortised cost	136,670	4,523	136,689	7,935
Total Borrowing	136,670	4,523	136,689	7,935
Creditors	0	69,415	0	68,401
PFI, leases & transferred debt	84,396	4,684	89,081	4,119
Total Financial Liabilities	221,066	78,622	225,770	80,456

There are material changes to the Fair Values disclosed in these notes, some based on the category of their initial valuation:

- Level 1 Inputs – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the authority can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 Inputs – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 Inputs – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

Some of the authority's financial assets are measured in the balance sheet at fair value on a recurring basis and are described in the following table, including the valuation techniques used to measure them. There have been no transfers between valuation levels, additions, disposals or recognised gains or losses.

Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value

Recurring fair value measurements	Input level	Valuation Technique	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income (Designated)				
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd	Level 3	Discounted cash flow (see below)	3,476	3,182
Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd	Level 3	Discounted cash flow (see below)	5,606	5,917
Manchester Airport Group (MAG)	Level 2	Market Value	46,300	20,100
Manchester Airport Group (MAG) Additional Shareholding	Level 2	Market Value	4,400	4,300
Total			59,782	33,499

With the adoption of IFRS9 from 1 April 2018 investments in equity are classified as Fair Value through Profit and Loss (FVPL) unless there is an irrevocable election to designate the asset as fair value through other comprehensive income.

Assets classed as FVPL are assets where the amounts received are not principal and interest. The Council's equity investments would fall within this category as income received would be in the form of dividends. The Council currently holds three equity investments; Inspiredspaces Tameside

(Holding Company 1) and Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holding Company 2), both PFI holding companies, and Manchester Airport Group.

Where these equity investments are not held to trade but are held for strategic reasons the Council can choose to designate these investments as Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI) rather than FVPL. The Council has taken the option to designate all three equity investments as strategic, on the grounds that these holdings are not held to trade but for strategic service or economic reasons. As a result of this any changes will have no impact on the revenue budget and any gains or losses in the value of the shareholding will be transferred to the Financial Instrument Revaluation Reserve.

Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings1) Ltd and Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings2) Ltd – The Fair values of both Inspiredspaces Tameside (Holdings1) Ltd and Inspiredspaces(Holding 2) Ltd are assessed annually using a discounted cash flow model to determine the estimated fair value of the equity holding based on future cash flows. These equity holdings are not openly traded and relate to Special Purpose Vehicles for PFI schools which do not have comparable markets. The discounted cash flow model includes assumptions about future cash flows which are unobservable and therefore these holdings are categorised as Level 3 investments. The valuation is sensitive to assumptions about future cash flows – any percentage change in the forecast future cash flows would result in an equivalent percentage change in the value of the equity holding.

There has been no change to the valuation technique used during the year to estimate the value of Inspiredspaces equity holdings. The following table provides the reconciliation of fair value measurements for financial assets carried at fair value categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy for financial assets:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance at 1 April	9,099	9,099
<u>Total gains or (losses) for the period:</u>		
Included in Surplus or Deficit in the Provision of Services	0	0
Included in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(15)	0
Balance at 31 March	9,084	9,099

MAG – The Council's shareholding in Manchester Airport Group (MAG) remains at 3.22%. These shares are not traded and an external valuation is obtained on behalf of all Greater Manchester Authorities. This valuation uses an earnings based method, which takes into account the profitability of the company, assessing its historic earnings and arriving at a view of 'maintainable' or 'prospective' earnings. The valuers have advised of an increase of £26.200m in the fair value of the Council's ordinary shareholding during the accounting period. Ordinarily, the Council would receive dividend income from the investment, which is included in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure. In 2023/24 a one off dividend of £0.322m was received by the Council due to the improved performance of the group. The Council remains highly unlikely to dispose of its shareholding.

MAG Additional Shareholding - additional C shares relating to the Manchester Airport car park investment have been increased in value by £0.100m to £4.400m, giving a net increase in value of £1.000m in the overall MAG shareholding.

	31 March 2024		31 March 2023	
	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
PWLB Debt	96,025	77,647	99,227	80,256
Non PWLB Debt	40,000	42,982	43,634	47,248
Total	136,025	120,629	142,860	127,504

The fair value is lower than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is lower than the rates available for similar loans in the market at the Balance Sheet date.

Loans borrowed by the Council have been valued by discounting the contractual cash flows over the whole life of the instrument at the appropriate market rate for local authority loans.

Discount rates for "Lender's Option Borrower's Option" (LOBO) loans have been reduced to reflect the value of the embedded options. The size of the reduction has been calculated using proprietary software.

The fair values of other long-term loans and investments have been discounted at the market rates for similar instruments with similar remaining terms to maturity on 31st March.

The Council's financial assets are as follows:

	31 March 2024		31 March 2023	
	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
<u>Investments</u>				
Less Than 1 Year	100,515	100,515	125,893	125,455
Greater Than 1 Year	0	0	0	0
Long Term Debtors	43,261	43,261	43,520	43,520
Total Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	143,776	143,776	169,413	168,975

• Mark to Model Valuation for Financial Instruments

As at 31st March the Council held £143.782m financial assets and £141.193m financial liabilities for which Level 2 valuations will apply. All the financial assets are with Money Market Funds, Local Authorities and Banks and are held at amortised cost. The financial liabilities are held with PWLB and Market lenders. All of these investments and borrowings were not quoted on an active market and a Level 1 valuation is not available. To provide a fair value which provides a comparison to the carrying amount, we have used a financial model valuation provided by Arlingclose. This valuation applies the Net Present Value approach, which provides an estimate of the value of payments in the future in today's terms as at the balance sheet date using market rates. This is a widely accepted valuation technique commonly used by the private sector. Our accounting policy uses early repayment rates to discount the future cash flows.

Items of income, expense, gains or losses

The gains and losses recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in relation to financial instruments are made up as follows;

	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Gains or Losses on:		
Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	26,283	1,000
Interest Income		
Financial Assets at Amortised Cost	(6,198)	(2,578)
Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income	(4,808)	(4,129)
Total Interest Income	(11,006)	(6,706)
Interest Expense	15,971	15,266

19. Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

Key Risks

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, the key risks are:

- Credit risk – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due;
- Liquidity risk – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments;
- Re-financing risk – the possibility that the Council might be required to renew a financial instrument on maturity at disadvantageous interest rates or terms;
- Market risk – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rate movements.

Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The Council's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and are structured to implement suitable controls to minimise these risks. The procedures for risk management are set out through a legal framework in the Local Government Act 2003 and the associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code, the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice and Investment Guidance issued through the Act. Overall these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

- By formally adopting the requirements of the Code of Practice;
- By the adoption of a Treasury Policy Statement and treasury management clauses within its constitution;
- By approving annually in advance prudential indicators for the following three years limiting:
 - The Council's overall borrowing;
 - Its maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates;
 - Its maximum and minimum exposures to the maturity structure of its debt; and
 - Its maximum annual exposures to investments maturing beyond a year.
- By approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year setting out its criteria for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with the Government Guidance.

These are required to be reported and approved at or before the Council's annual budget setting meeting. These items are reported with the annual Treasury Management Strategy which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Council's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported to Members.

The 2023/24 Budget Report, which incorporates the prudential indicators, was approved by Council in February 2023 and is available on the Council's website. The key indicators were:

Indicator	Limit	Outturn
Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream	4.5%	4.5%
Capital financing requirement	£194,637,000.00	£191,862,000.00
Capital expenditure in year	£118,794,000.00	£37,998,415.52
Incremental impact on capital investment decisions	£0.27	£0.06
Authorised limit for external debt	£226,110,000.00	£136,269,377.00
Operational boundary for external debt	£206,110,000.00	£136,269,377.00
Upper limit for fixed interest rate exposure	£194,637,000.00	£106,019,012.00
Upper limit for variable interest rate exposure (negative figure represents investments in excess of borrowing)	£64,879,000.00	(£68,780,623.00)
Upper limit for total principal sums invested for over 364 days	£30,000,000.00	£0.00

These policies are implemented by the Treasury Management team. The Council maintains written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, and the investment of surplus cash through Treasury Management practices. These Treasury Management practices are a requirement of the Code and are reviewed periodically.

Credit Risk

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

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor Ratings Services. The Annual Investment Strategy also imposes a maximum amount and time limits in respect of each financial institution. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria outlined above. Additional selection criteria are also applied after this initial criteria is applied.

The key areas of the Investment Strategy are that the minimum criteria for investment counterparties include:

- Credit ratings of Short Term F1, Long Term A- or greater. There may be occasions when the counterparty ratings from one rating agency are marginally lower than these ratings but may still be used. In these instances consideration will be given to the whole range of ratings available, or other topical market information, to support their use.
- Domiciled in a country which has a minimum sovereign rating AA;
- UK Institutions provided with support from the UK Government.

The full Investment Strategy for 2023/24 was approved by Full Council in February 2023 and is available on the Council's website.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks and financial institutions cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of recoverability applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at the Balance Sheet date that this was likely to crystallise.

Expected Credit Loss

Calculation of expected credit loss is a way of assessing the credit risk of investments and other financial assets and is a requirement under IFRS9. Credit losses are recognised on either a 12 month or lifetime basis, with the 12 month method being used for assets where the risk of default remains low and is not expected to increase and the lifetime method used when the risk of default is high or expected to increase significantly.

Where the counterparty is central government or another local authority, no loss allowance is required.

The Council has assessed its assets as follows:

Asset Type	Risk Assessment	Expected Credit Loss Model	Assessment Criteria
Treasury Investments	Low	12 month	Historical default tables provided by credit rating agencies
Loans to Third Parties	Low/High	12 month/lifetime	Assets to be assessed on an individual basis using external ratings, economic conditions, and internal assessment of risk level of counterparty

Following an assessment of the Council's investments it has been determined that there is no material expected credit loss and therefore no allowance has been made.

A summary of the credit quality of the Council's financial assets is below.

Treasury Deposits	Amount at 31 March 2024 £000	Credit Rating	12 Month Expected Credit Loss £000
Banks and Financial Institutions			
Invesco	15,000	AAA	0
Insight	15,000	AAA	0
SSGA	15,000	AAA	0
Federated	12,275	AAA	0
DB Advisors	9,350	AAA	0
AAM	2,400	AAA	0
Total	99,025		-
Other Local Authorities	-	0	0
Total	99,025		

No breaches of the Council's counterparty criteria occurred during the year and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits.

The Council does not generally allow credit for its trade debtors. Debt is impaired in line with IFRS9 based on knowledge and experience of past debts and current conditions. At the Balance Sheet date a balance of £20.435m net of impairment was outstanding and is analysed by age below:

	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Less than three months	9,450	10,857
Three to four months	596	385
More than four months	10,390	8,186
Total	20,435	19,428

Liquidity Risk

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above, as well as through a comprehensive cash flow management system, as required by the Code. This seeks to ensure that cash is available when it is needed.

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the Money Markets to cover any day to day cash flow need, and the PWLB and Money Markets for access to longer term funds. The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The maturity analysis of financial assets (principal amount) is as follows:

	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Less than one year	99,025	124,616
Greater than one year	0	0
Total	99,025	124,616

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains a significant debt and investment portfolio. Whilst the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer term risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to both the maturing of longer term financial liabilities and longer term financial assets.

The approved prudential indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments of greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk.

The Council's approved Treasury Management and Investment Strategies address the main risks and the Treasury Management team address the operational risks within the approved parameters. These include:

- Monitoring the maturity profile of financial liabilities and amending the profile through either new borrowing or the rescheduling of the existing debt; and
- Monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day to day cash flow needs, and the spread of longer term investments provide stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer term cash flow needs.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities (principal amount) is as follows, with the maximum and minimum limits for fixed interest rates maturing in each period:

	Approved maximum limits %	Approved minimum limits %	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Less than one year	15	0	244	3,634
Between one and two years	15	0	0	0
Between two and five years	30	0	3,550	3,550
Between five and ten years	40	0	3,000	3,000
More than ten years	100	50	129,475	129,475
Total			136,269	139,659

Market Risk

Interest rate risk - The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council, depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument periods. For instance, a rise in variable and fixed interest rates would have the following effects:

- Borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the CIES will rise;
- Borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the borrowing liability will fall (no impact on revenue balances);
- Investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the CIES will rise;
- Investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall (no impact on revenue balances).

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the Balance Sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the CIES. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the CIES and affect General Fund Balances, subject to influences from Government grants. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments that have a quoted market price will be reflected in the CIES.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The Annual Treasury Management Strategy draws together the Council's prudential indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. From this Strategy a prudential indicator is set which provides maximum and minimum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The Treasury Management team will monitor the market and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposures appropriately. For instance during periods of falling interest rates, and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long term returns, similarly the drawing of longer term fixed rate borrowing would be postponed.

If all interest rates had been 1% higher (with all other variables held constant) the financial effect would be:

	31 March 2024 £000	31 March 2023 £000
Decrease in the fair value of fixed rate borrowings liabilities (no impact on CIES)	16,749	17,043

The approximate impact of a 1% fall in interest rates would be an increase in fair value of £21.5m. These assumptions are based on the same methodology as used in Note 19 – Fair value of Financial Assets and Liabilities Carried at Amortised Cost.

Price Risk - The Council, excluding the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, does not generally invest in equity shares but does in common with all Greater Manchester Districts have a 3.22% shareholding in Manchester Airports Group (except Manchester City Council which holds 35.5%). The shares are shown in the Balance Sheet at an estimated fair value of £46.3m with an additional £4.4m of C shares relating to the Airport car park investment. Whilst this holding is generally illiquid, the Council is exposed to losses arising from movements in the price of the shares.

As the shareholding has arisen from the acquisition of a specific interest, the Council is not in a position to limit its exposure to price movements by diversifying its portfolio. Instead the Council monitors factors that might cause a fall in the value of its shareholding.

Foreign Exchange Risk - The Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. It therefore has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

CURRENT ASSETS

20. Short Term Debtors

Short Term Debtors comprise amounts due to the Council that are not investments and that have not been received at the Balance Sheet date.

Debt is impaired in line with IFRS9 based on knowledge and experience of past debts and current conditions. Assessment is made based on the risk of the debtors' ability to pay future cash flows due under the contractual terms. This risk is estimated based on historical loss experience, credit rating for a debtor and other impacting factors. The impairment is charged against the Financing and Investment line in the CIES.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Central Government Bodies	9,705	4,952
NHS Bodies	336	602
Other Local Authorities	1,188	2,937
Other Entities and Individuals	73,152	74,661
Allowance for Expected Credit Loss	(21,999)	(25,891)
	62,383	57,262
Capital Debtors	672	1,140
Payments In Advance	2,440	3,265
Transferred Services	32	32
Total	65,527	61,699

21. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. The Council has deemed that deposits held within money market funds are categorised as cash equivalents.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Cash held by the Council	3	6
Short Term Investments	100,620	23,988
Bank Current Accounts	1,488	2,540
	102,111	26,533
Bank Overdraft	(163)	(118)
Total	101,948	26,415

CURRENT LIABILITIES

22. Short Term Creditors

Short Term Creditors comprise amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered, for which payment has not been received at the Balance Sheet date.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Central Government Bodies	(6,577)	(14,934)
NHS Bodies	354	(147)
Other Local Authorities	(829)	(2,239)
Other Entities and Individuals	(47,463)	(37,655)
Public Corporations and Trading Funds	0	0
Total	(54,515)	(54,974)
Capital Creditors	(1,094)	(1,083)
Deposits and Receipts in Advance	(10,269)	(8,856)
Short Term Accumulating Compensated Absences	(3,529)	(3,480)
Total	(69,407)	(68,393)

23. Other Long Term and Short Term Liabilities

Other Long Term and Short Term Liabilities comprise amounts due to individuals or organisations which will have to be paid at some time in the future. Long term liabilities are usually payable more than one year from the Balance Sheet date.

	Note	Long Term £000	Short Term £000	Total £000
2023/24				
Pension Liability	28	(45,929)	0	(45,929)
PFI	26	(81,811)	(4,686)	(86,497)
Finance Leases	25	(2,585)	(7)	(2,592)
Rent Deposit on Leased Buildings		(29)	0	(29)
Total		(130,354)	(4,693)	(135,046)
2022/23				
Pension Liability	28	0	0	0
PFI	26	(86,496)	(4,121)	(90,617)
Finance Leases	25	(2,585)	(7)	(2,592)
Rent Deposit on Leased Buildings		(32)	0	(32)
Total		(89,113)	(4,127)	(93,240)

24. Provisions

Provision has been made in the Balance Sheet for liabilities that have been incurred by the Council, but where the amounts or dates on which they will arise are uncertain.

Provisions are required to be recognised when the Council has a present obligation, as a result of a past event, where it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. When expenditure is incurred to which the provision relates, it is charged directly against the provision in the Balance Sheet and not against the CIES.

	Business Rate Appeals £000	Insurance Fund £000	Other Provisions £000	Total £000
Balance at 1 April 2023	(12,870)	(3,299)	(599)	(16,768)
Additional provisions made in the period	0	(2,469)	0	(2,469)
Provision - written back	2,586	0	0	2,586
Amounts used	4,689	801	0	5,491
Provision Balance at 31 March 2024	(5,595)	(4,967)	(599)	(11,161)
Long Term Provision	(5,595)	(4,967)	0	(10,562)
Short term Provision	0	0	(599)	(599)
Total	(5,595)	(4,967)	(599)	(11,161)

The provision for Business Rate Appeals is required for forecast losses on business rates as a result of appeals.

The Insurance fund mainly covers the third party and employer's liability claims that are settled for amounts less than the excess on the policy for that year. External insurers continue to cover claims for amounts above the excess. The level of insurance provision and reserve is based on an assessment undertaken by an independent external insurance actuary.

25. Leases

The Council recognises a lease to be any agreement which transfers the right to use an asset for an agreed period in exchange for payment, or a series of payments. This includes; leases, hire purchase, rental, contracts of service, service level agreements and any other arrangement where the ability to use an asset is conveyed.

Finance Leases

A finance lease is where substantially all of the risks and rewards relating to ownership transfer to the lessee. Tests to give an indication of the transfer of risk and reward are:

- If the lessee will gain ownership of the asset at the end of the lease term (e.g. hire purchase)*
- If the lessee has an option to purchase the asset at a sufficiently favourable price that it is reasonably certain, at the inception of the lease, that it will be exercised*
- If the lease term is for the major part of the economic life of the asset even if the title is not transferred. Measures to identify this are:*
 - The economic life of the asset is deemed to be that which is consistent with the class of asset in the depreciation policy.*

- *The Council recognises 'major part' to be 75% of the life of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.*
- *At the inception of the lease, the present value of the minimum lease payments amounts to at least substantially all of the fair value of the leased asset. Measures to identify this are:*
 - *Fair value of the leased asset is assessed by a RICS qualified valuer.*
 - *The present value of the minimum lease payments is calculated by discounting at the rate inherent in the lease.*
 - *If this rate cannot be determined the incremental borrowing rate applicable for that year is used.*
 - *The Council recognises 'substantially all' to be 75% of the value of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.*
- *The leased assets are of such a specialised nature that only the lessee can use them without major modifications.*
- *If the lessee cancels the lease, the losses of the lessor, associated with the cancellation are borne by the lessee.*
- *Gains or losses from the fluctuation in the fair value of the residual accrue to the lessee (e.g. in the form of a rent rebate equalling most of the sales proceeds at the end of the lease).*
- *The lessee has the ability to continue the lease for a secondary period at a rent that is substantially lower than market rent.*

A suitably experienced accountant, with assistance from qualified valuers, will make a judgement based on the level of risk and reward held by the Council as to whether an asset is operating or finance.

Lessor Accounting for a Finance Lease

Where the Council is the lessor for a finance lease, the asset is not recognised in the asset register; however a long term debtor at the present value of minimum lease payments is recognised. Income received is split between capital – credited against the debtor, and finance income – credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as interest receivable.

Lessee Accounting for a Finance Lease

Where the Council is tenant in a property, or is, by definition of IFRIC 4, leasing an asset which is deemed under IAS 17 to be a finance lease the Council will recognise that asset within the asset register, and account for that asset as though it were an owned asset.

The initial recognition of the asset is at the fair value of the property, or if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. A liability is also recognised at this value, which is reduced as lease payments are made.

The Council had two assets under finance leases in the year. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet and currently have carrying value of nil.

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

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Finance lease liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments):		
- current	(7)	(6)
- non-current	(2,585)	(2,592)
Finance costs payable in future years	(19,008)	(19,279)
Minimum lease payments	(21,600)	(21,878)

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

	Minimum Lease Payments 2023/24 £000	Minimum Lease Liabilities 2023/24 £000	Minimum Lease Payments 2022/23 £000	Minimum Lease Liabilities 2022/23 £000
Not later than one year	(278)	(7)	(278)	(6)
Later than one year and not later than five years	(1,373)	(41)	(1,110)	(35)
Later than five years	(20,213)	(2,544)	(20,490)	(2,557)
	(21,864)	(2,592)	(21,878)	(2,598)

Operating Leases

The Council recognises an operating lease to be a lease which is not a finance lease. Where the Council is the lessor for an operating lease, normally the asset is classified as an Investment Property. Any rental income is credited to the relevant service income.

The Council had five assets under operating leases in the year, with typical lives of 1-5 years. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Not later than one year	84	148
Later than one year and not later than five years	320	310
Later than five years	11,827	11,904
	12,231	12,362

The expenditure charged to Cost of Services in the CIES during the year in relation to these leases was:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Minimum lease payments	208	235

Council as Lessor

During the year the Council continued to lease land and buildings by means of operating leases. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Not later than one year	2,032	1,442
Later than one year and not later than five years	7,470	5,158
Later than five years	97,351	80,786
	106,853	87,386

26. Service Concession Agreements (Private Finance Initiatives (PFI) and Similar Contracts)

PFI and similar schemes are accounted for in a manner that is consistent with the adaptation of IFRIC 12 Service Concession Arrangements. They are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor. PFI and similar contracts are assessed to determine whether the risks and rewards incidental to ownership lie with the Council or the contractor.

Those which lie with the contractor – payments made during the life of the contract are chargeable to revenue as incurred.

Those which lie with the Council – are recognised as an asset in the Balance Sheet for the construction costs of the asset. Once recognised this asset is treated in line with all non-current assets. A corresponding long term liability is also recognised at the construction value. Payments made during the life of the contract are split into finance costs, capital costs and service costs. Determining the split of payments is calculated at the inception of the contract and is based on the inherent interest rate within the original agreement. Finance costs are chargeable to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) as interest payable. Capital costs reduce the level of liability in the Balance Sheet. Service costs are chargeable Cost of Services within the CIES. Pre-payments reduce the level of liability at the start of the contract.

PFI credits are treated as revenue grants and included in Cost of Services within the CIES.

General

The Council has entered into three PFI contracts to construct, finance, maintain and operate various schools across the Borough. These contracts are:

- Hattersley Schools PFI Project (Pyramid Schools);
- Inspiredspaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd;
- Inspiredspaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd.

Hattersley Schools PFI Project (Pyramid Schools)

The Council entered into a 30 year PFI contract on 19 June 2002 to deliver new schools and facilities management services for Arundale Primary and Nursery School, Pinfold Primary School and Alder Community High School. Services commenced at the primary schools on 9 September 2002 and at the high school in April 2003.

The Council pays an annual unitary charge for the provision of accommodation and facilities management at the schools of £2.548m in 1 April 2001 prices. 44% of the unitary charge is subject to inflation at RPI which mirrors the proportion of cost base that is variable, i.e. operational costs, versus the proportion that is fixed, i.e. relating to funding / capital costs.

The Council has set up an interest bearing equalisation reserve effective for the period of the contract, to ensure that future estimated unitary charge payments are provided for over the remaining

term of the contract. The affordability of future unitary charge payments will be assessed on an annual basis.

The Council does not hold an equity share.

Inspiredspaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd – Mossley Hollins & St Damians PFI Contract

The Council entered into a 25 year Building Schools for the Future (BSF) PFI agreement to deliver new schools and facilities management services for Mossley Hollins and St Damians High Schools on 4 February 2009. Services commenced at Mossley Hollins in February 2011 and St Damians in April 2011.

The Council pays an annual unitary charge for the provision of accommodation and facilities management at the schools of £5.405m in 1 April 2008 prices. 40% of the unitary charge is subject to inflation at RPIx which mirrors the proportion of cost base that is variable, i.e. operational costs, versus the proportion that is fixed, i.e. relating to funding / capital costs.

The Council has a 46% equity share in this company.

Inspiredspaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd – Five School PFI Contract

A second 25 year BSF PFI contract was signed in April 2010, to deliver new facilities and services for Hyde Community College, Thomas Ashton School, Denton Community College, White Bridge College and Elmbridge School. The first school, White Bridge College, was completed and services commenced in September 2011, with the remaining four being completed with services commencing in January 2012.

The Council pays an annual unitary charge for the provision of accommodation and facilities management at the schools of £9.409m in 1 April 2010 prices. 27% of the unitary charge is subject to inflation at RPIx which mirrors the proportion of cost base that is variable, i.e. operational costs, versus the proportion that is fixed, i.e. relating to funding / capital costs.

The Council has a 46% equity share in this company.

Affordability

The affordability of the PFI contracts was tested on the basis of predetermined, sensitivities of projected budgets, inflation and interest rates as determined by HM Treasury, prior to the contracts being agreed by the Government.

The cost of the unitary charge is met by pre-agreed payments as follows:

- An annual PFI grant from the Government;
- Pre agreed capital contributions;
- Annual contributions from the schools from the Dedicated Schools Grant;
- Contributions from individual school budgets;
- Accumulation of interest, equity returns and directors fees.

However, there have been significant changes in the way that the Department for Education allocate revenue funding to schools in recent years, meaning that more and more funding is allocated to schools through a formula and there is less opportunity to provide support for individual schools. Inflation and interest rates have also been significantly different from that projected.

Details of movements in PFI assets in the accounting period are below:

	Pyramid Schools (Tameside) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co1) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co2) Limited £000	Total £000
<u>Cost or Valuation</u>				
At 1 April 2023	23,043	29,377	62,945	115,366
Additions	0	51	894	944
Revaluation gains/(losses)	884	4,646	(1,000)	4,530
At 31 March 2024	23,927	34,074	62,839	120,840
<u>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment</u>				
At 1 April 2023	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge	(605)	(675)	(1,435)	(2,716)
Accumulated depreciation written out	605	675	1,435	2,715
At 31 March 2024	(0)	0	(0)	(1)
<u>Net Book Value</u>				
At 31 March 2024	23,927	34,074	62,839	120,839
At 31 March 2023	23,043	29,377	62,945	115,366

Details of the comparative movements in PFI assets are below:

	Pyramid Schools (Tameside) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co1) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co2) Limited £000	Total £000
<u>Cost or Valuation</u>				
1 April 2022	22,125	28,338	56,198	106,661
Additions	153	18	663	835
Revaluation gains/(losses)	765	1,021	6,084	7,870
At 31 March 2023	23,043	29,377	62,945	115,366
<u>Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment</u>				
1 April 2022	0	0	0	0
Depreciation charge	(700)	(708)	(1,388)	(2,796)
Accumulated depreciation written out	700	708	1,388	2,796
At 31 March 2023	0	(1)	1	0
<u>Net Book Value</u>				
At 31 March 2023	23,043	29,377	62,945	115,366
At 31 March 2022	22,125	28,338	56,198	106,661

Details of movements in PFI liabilities in the accounting period are below:

	Pyramid Schools (Tameside) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co1) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co2) Limited £000	Total £000
Liability outstanding at 1 April 2023	(10,504)	(29,161)	(50,952)	(90,617)
Payments made During the year	591	1,438	2,092	4,120
Liability outstanding at 31 March 2024	(9,914)	(27,723)	(48,860)	(86,497)
Short term finance Lease liability	(775)	(1,380)	(2,530)	(4,685)
Long term finance lease liability	(9,139)	(26,343)	(46,330)	(81,812)
	(9,914)	(27,723)	(48,860)	(86,497)

Details of comparative movements in PFI liabilities are below:

	Pyramid Schools (Tameside) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co1) Limited £000	Inspiredspaces Tameside (Hold Co2) Limited £000	Total £000
Liability outstanding at 1 April 2022	(11,006)	(30,451)	(52,601)	(94,059)
Payments made During the year	502	1,290	1,649	3,441
Liability outstanding at 31 March 2023	(10,504)	(29,161)	(50,952)	(90,617)
Short term finance Lease liability	(591)	(1,438)	(2,092)	(4,120)
Long term finance lease liability	(9,914)	(27,723)	(48,860)	(86,497)
	(10,504)	(29,161)	(50,952)	(90,617)

The fair value of the Council's PFI liabilities can be calculated based on the prevailing PWLB new loan rates, making this a level 2 fair value calculation. The following table shows the fair value of these liabilities:

	31 March 2024		31 March 2023	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
PFI Liabilities	86,497	114,992	90,617	119,532
Total PFI Liabilities	86,497	114,992	90,617	119,532

The table below summarises the estimated basic contract payment values for each PFI contract:

	Payments					Indexation	Contract Expiry
	Liability	Finance Costs	Contingent	Service	Total		
Pyramid Schools (Tameside) Limited							
Payments within 1 year	775	1,063	942	1,546	4,326	RPI	2033
Payments within 2 to 5 years	3,878	3,352	4,148	6,860	18,238		
Payments within 6 to 10 years	5,261	1,472	4,567	7,739	19,040		
Payments within 11 to 15 years	0	0	0	0	0		
	9,914	5,886	9,658	16,145	41,604		
Inspiredspaces Tameside							
Payments within 1 year	1,380	2,502	1,280	2,959	8,121	RPIX	2036
Payments within 2 to 5 years	6,886	8,651	5,850	12,717	34,105		
Payments within 6 to 10 years	10,993	7,015	8,438	21,174	47,620		
Payments within 11 to 15 years	8,464	1,033	5,247	9,527	24,270		
Payments within 16 to 20 years	0	0	0	0	0		
	27,723	19,200	20,816	46,377	114,116		
Inspiredspaces Tameside (ProjectCo2) Limited							
Payments within 1 year	2,530	4,853	1,425	3,457	12,265	RPIX	2038
Payments within 2 to 5 years	10,150	16,941	6,029	19,182	52,301		
Payments within 6 to 10 years	17,619	14,770	9,107	29,762	71,257		
Payments within 11 to 15 years	18,561	4,181	7,791	21,205	51,739		
Payments within 16 to 20 years	0	0	0	0	0		
	48,860	40,744	24,352	73,606	187,562		

27. Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers' Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). The assets and liabilities of the Teachers' Pension Scheme are not attributable to the Council, therefore the Council accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This means that the Children and Education Services line in the CIES will include the Council's contributions payable to the scheme.

NHS Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme administered by EA Finance NHS Pensions. The assets and liabilities of the NHS Pension Scheme are not attributable to the Council, therefore the Council accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This means that the Public Health Services line in the CIES will include the Council's contributions payable to the scheme.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

In 2023/24 the Council paid £10.275m to the Teachers' Pension Agency in respect of the employers' contribution rate for teacher's pensions (£10.199m in 2022/23). These contributions are based on a national rate of 23.68%, which is unchanged from the previous year.

In addition, the Council is responsible for all pension payments relating to added years that it has awarded (plus annual related increases). The Council is also responsible for apportioned pension costs for supported early retirements (teachers taking early retirement between the ages of 50 to 60), together with the related increases. In 2023/24 these costs amounted to £1.523m (£1.512m in 2022/23). All the above figures exclude teachers' pay and pension contributions for the academies that have retained responsibility for their own payrolls.

The Council is responsible for any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and detailed in Note 28.

NHS Staff Pension Scheme

In 2023/24 the Council paid £0.062m (£0.074m in 2022/23) to the NHS Pension Scheme in respect of former NHS staff retirement benefits. These contributions are based on a national rate of 14.38% throughout the financial year.

The Council is responsible for the costs awarded upon early retirement outside the terms of the NHS scheme; however no such additional benefits have been awarded in 2023/24.

28. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Greater Manchester Local Government Pension Scheme is administered by the Council and is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme. The liabilities of the scheme attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, and projections of future earnings for current employees.

Pension liabilities are measured using the projected unit method, discounted using the rate on high quality corporate bonds of equivalent term to the liabilities. The discount rate is the weighted average of "spot yields" on AA rated corporate bonds.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

Service cost comprising:

Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the CIES to the services for which the employees worked.

Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years will be debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the CIES.

Net interest on the net defined benefit liability i.e. net interest expense for the Council - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability that arises from the passage of time is charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the CIES. This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability at the beginning of the period, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

Re-measurement comprising:

The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. Adjustments are therefore made in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Early Retirement, Discretionary Payments

The Council has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff

(including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies which are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its Officers, the Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments and this needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

All employees (except those mentioned in Note 27) are, unless they have opted out, members of The Greater Manchester Pension Fund which is administered by the Council and operates in accordance with the rules of the Local Government Pension Scheme. This is a funded scheme, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension liabilities with investment assets.

In 2023/24 the Council paid an employer's contribution of £24.449m (£20.343m in 2022/23) into the Fund representing 19.3% (19.9% in 2022/23) of pensionable pay. Contributions payable in 2024/25 are estimated to be £25.671m based on a contribution rate of 19.3%. The Council also paid £1.298m in 2023/24 (£1.302m in 2022/23) for pension payments relating to added years that it has awarded.

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The cost of retirement benefits is recognised in the reported Cost of Services when they are earned by the employees rather than when they are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge made against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of General Fund Balances through the MiRS.

In 2023/2024, the figures used in the financial statements were taken from the Actuary's report in April 2024. The opening balances used by the Actuary for 2023/24 reflect the previous year's actuary report.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Service Cost		
- Current service costs	20,991	44,968
- Past service costs (including curtailments)	2,353	2,978
- Effect of settlements	(137)	(2,398)
Total Service Cost	23,207	45,548
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		
- Interest income on scheme assets	(56,376)	(32,026)
- Interest cost on defined benefit obligation	56,344	39,396
Total Net Interest	(32)	7,370
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	23,175	52,918
Remeasurements of the Net Defined Liability		
- Return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(28,748)	11,205
- Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in demographic	(7,028)	(10,263)
- Actuarial (gains)/losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	(56,793)	(538,193)
- Other experience	32,414	78,622
Total Remeasurements Recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(60,155)	(458,629)
Total Post Employment Benefits Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(36,980)	(405,711)
Movement in Reserves Statement		
- Reversal of net charges made to the surplus or deficit on provision of services	(23,175)	(52,918)
- Employers' Contribution payable to the scheme	24,449	23,121

a. Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council's obligation in respect of its defined benefit scheme is as follows:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Fair value of employers assets	1,264,147	1,196,011
Present value of funded liabilities	(1,010,322)	(1,009,704)
Present value of unfunded liabilities	(26,787)	(28,202)
Asset Ceiling Adjustment	(272,967)	(106,919)
Net Asset/(Liability) arising from Defined Benefit obligation	(45,929)	51,186

Asset Ceiling

Following the pensions valuation by the Councils actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, the Council determined that the fair value of its pension plan assets outweighed the present value of the plan obligations at 31 March 2024 resulting in a pension plan asset.

IAS 19 Employee Benefits requires that, where a pension plan asset exists, it is measured at the lower of:

- The surplus in the defined benefit plan; and
- The asset ceiling.

The asset ceiling is the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions to the plan. The Council's actuary's calculated the asset ceiling as the net present value of future service costs less net present value of future contributions.

The Council has therefore limited the Pension asset recognised in its balance sheet to the asset ceiling. The adjustment has been recognised within other comprehensive income and expenditure of the CIES.

Reconciliation of the Movements in Fair Value of Scheme Assets:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£000	£000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	1,196,011	1,202,159
Interest income	56,376	32,026
Effect of settlements	(3,470)	(1,768)
<u>Remeasurement gain</u>		
- Return on plan assets excluding amounts included in net interest	28,748	(11,205)
Employer Contributions	21,571	2,380
Benefits paid	(42,306)	(34,486)
Contributions from employees into the scheme	7,217	6,905
Other Experience	0	0
Closing fair value of scheme assets	1,264,147	1,196,011

Reconciliation of Present Value of Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation):

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Opening fair value of scheme liabilities brought forward	(1,196,011)	(1,454,929)
Current service cost	(20,991)	(44,968)
Interest cost	(48,834)	(39,396)
Interest on the effect of the asset ceiling	(7,510)	0
Contributions from scheme participants	(7,217)	(6,905)
Effect of settlements	3,607	4,166
<u>Remeasurement gain</u>		
- Actuarial gains/(losses) arising from changes in financial assumptions	56,793	538,193
- Actuarial gains/(losses) arising from changes in demographic assumptions	7,028	10,263
- Changes in the effect of the asset ceiling	165,609	0
- Other experience	(32,414)	(78,622)
Unfunded benefits paid	2,878	2,778
Past service cost	(2,353)	(2,978)
Benefits paid	42,306	34,486
Closing fair value of scheme liabilities	(1,037,109)	(1,037,912)

Fair Value of Employer Assets:

Asset Category	31 March 2024				31 March 2023			
	Quoted Prices in Active Markets £000	Prices Not Quoted in Active Markets £000	Total £000	%	Quoted Prices in Active Markets £000	Prices Not Quoted in Active Markets £000	Total £000	%
Equity Securities:								
Consumer	76,547	0	76,547	6%	71,861	0	71,861	6%
Manufacturing	69,895	0	69,895	6%	66,121	0	66,121	6%
Energy and Utilities	68,274	0	68,274	5%	59,040	0	59,040	5%
Financial Institutes	107,314	0	107,314	8%	102,040	0	102,040	9%
Health and Care	63,215	0	63,215	5%	59,902	0	59,902	5%
Information Technology	65,941	0	65,941	5%	84,414	0	84,414	7%
Other	14,117	0	14,117	1%	13,598	0	13,598	1%
Debt Securities:								
Corporate Bonds (investment grade)	52,560	0	52,560	4%	47,664	0	47,664	4%
Corporate Bonds (non-investment grade)	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
UK Government	33,490	0	33,490	3%	28,581	0	28,581	2%
Other	39,462	0	39,462	3%	35,600	0	35,600	3%
Private Equity:								
All	0	86,659	86,659	7%	0	89,463	89,463	7%
Real Estate:								
UK Property	0	51,196	51,196	4%	0	46,532	46,532	4%
Investment funds and Unit Trusts:								
Equities	59,117	0	59,117	5%	63,887	0	63,887	5%
Bonds	126,751	0	126,751	10%	106,135	0	106,135	9%
Infrastructure	0	107,215	107,215	8%	0	95,575	95,575	8%
Other	29,100	180,414	209,514	17%	29,156	166,103	195,259	16%
Derivatives:								
Other	0	0	0	0%	0	0	0	0%
Cash and Cash Equivalents:								
All	32,882	0	32,882	3%	30,340	0	30,340	3%
Totals	838,663	425,484	1,264,147	100%	798,338	397,673	1,196,011	100%

The GMPF does not formally account for each employer's assets separately and therefore the Tameside share of the assets does not have any authority specific risks. Further information on the risks associated with the GMPF can be found in the Funding Strategy Statement on the GMPF website. The Tameside membership is not considered to have any particular demographic factors which expose the authority to specific risks.

b. Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

The Council's liabilities in respect of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund have been assessed under IAS19 (Employee Benefits) by Hymans Robertson, an independent firm of actuaries, using the projected unit credit method.

The significant assumptions used by the actuary in his assessment are as follows:

	2023/24	2022/23
Mortality assumptions *		
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners:		
Men	20	20
Women	23	23
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners:		
Men	21	21
Women	25	25
Rate of inflation	2.75%	2.95%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55%	3.75%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.75%	2.95%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	4.85%	4.75%

* The mortality assumptions included in the table above are measured using VitaCurves, which is a method of measuring mortality to specifically fit the membership profile of the Fund.

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 55% of the maximum additional tax free cash up to the HRMC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 80% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service.

c. Sensitivity Analysis

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out above. The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes, while all the other assumptions remain constant.

The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below are consistent with that adopted in the previous year.

Change in Assumptions at 31 March 2024	Approximate % change to Employer Liability	Approximate Monetary Amount £000
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	17,898
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	41,560
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	2,094
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)	2%	16,063

d. Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

As the Administering Authority of Greater Manchester Pension Fund (the Fund), the Council has prepared a Funding Strategy Statement (FSS) which sets out the funding objectives for the Fund. The main valuation objectives within the FSS are to hold sufficient assets to meet the cost of members' accrued pension benefits on the target funding basis and to set employer contribution rates which ensure the long term solvency and cost efficiency of the Fund.

GMPPF's funding target for most ongoing employers is a "funding level" of 100% at the end of an appropriate time horizon, calculated using the Actuary's ongoing funding basis. The funding level is the ratio of the value of assets compared to the present value of the expected cost of meeting the accrued benefits. Further information on target funding levels and calculation of contribution rates

can be found in the Funding Strategy Statement 2024 on the GMPF website. As at the date of the most recent valuation, the duration of the Council's funded liabilities is 20 years.

The Council's share of Fund assets is rolled forward by the actuary from the latest formal valuation date (31 March 2024). The roll forward amount is then adjusted for investment returns, contributions paid in and benefits paid out by the Council and its employees. As such this estimate may differ from the actual assets held by the Pension Fund at 31 March 2024.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT NOTES

29. Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

a) Adjust net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Depreciation and amortisation of non-current assets	(18,283)	(23,667)
Increase/(Decrease) in inventories	(231)	363
(Increase)/Decrease in Creditors	1,607	17,794
Increase/(Decrease) in Debtors	2,442	9,264
Pensions Liability	1,274	(50,976)
Contributions (to)/from Provisions	129	3,680
Revaluation Losses	(23,396)	7,557
Carrying value on disposal of non-current assets	(17,391)	(10,288)
Other non-cash adjustments	6,758	1,436
	(47,089)	(44,838)

b) Adjust for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets	(153,586)	447
Capital grants received	21,813	25,275
	(131,773)	25,722

c) Interest received, interest paid and dividends received	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Interest received	(12,210)	(5,675)
Interest paid	15,971	15,266
	3,761	9,591

30. Investing Activities

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	31,759	23,611
Purchase of short term and long term investments	55,000	155,700
Other movements in investing activities	0	1,835
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets	(2,119)	(458)
Proceeds from short term and long term investments	0	(151,700)
Other receipts from investing activities	(25,642)	(30,345)
Net cash flows from investing activities	58,998	(1,356)

31. Financing Activities

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Cash receipts of short term and long term borrowing	0	0
Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and on-balance sheet PFI contracts	4,685	4,125
Repayments of short term and long term borrowing	3,431	2,166
Billing Authority - Council Tax and NDR adjustments	450	360
Net cash flows from financing activities	8,566	6,651

31a. Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

	1 April 2023 £000	Financing cash flows £000	Non-cash changes		31 March 2024 £000
			Acquisition £000	Other non-cash changes £000	
Long-term borrowing	(136,689)	3,229	0	(3,209)	(136,669)
Short-term borrowings	(7,935)	203	0	3,209	(4,523)
Lease Liabilities	(2,585)	0	0	0	(2,585)
On balance sheet PFI liabilities	(86,496)	4,684	0	0	(81,812)
Billing Authority - Council Tax and NDR adjustments	622	450	0	0	1,072
Total liabilities from financing activities	(233,083)	8,566	0	0	(224,517)

	1 April 2022 £000	Financing cash flows £000	Non-cash changes		31 March 2023 £000
			Acquisition £000	Other non-cash changes £000	
Long-term borrowing	(139,909)	1,442	0	1,778	(136,689)
Short-term borrowings	(6,881)	724	0	(1,778)	(7,935)
Lease Liabilities	(2,590)	5	0	0	(2,585)
On balance sheet PFI liabilities	(90,616)	4,120	0	0	(86,496)
Billing Authority - Council Tax and NDR adjustments	262	360	0	0	622
Total liabilities from financing activities	(239,734)	6,651	0	0	(233,083)

OTHER NOTES

32. Member's Allowances

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Payments to Members	1,511	1,400

33. Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require General Fund Balances to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the Pension Fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band £000	
	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23	2023/24	2022/23
£0-£20,000	0	0	47	29	47	29	326	234
£20,001-£40,000	0	0	2	1	2	1	55	34
£40,001-£60,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
£60,001-£80,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	49	30	49	30	381	268

34. Officer's Remuneration

The remuneration paid to the Council's Senior Officers is as follows:

Post Holder Information	2023/24				
	Salary Entitlement (Full Time Equivalent)	Salary, Fees and Allowances (Paid in year) (a)	Compensation for Loss of Office (b)	Employer's Pensions Contribution (c)	Total (a+b+c)
	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive and Director of Greater Manchester Pension Fund (i) - Sandra Stewart	193,227	193,227	0	37,293	230,520
Director of Adults Services	109,615	109,615	0	21,156	130,771
Director of Children's Services (ii) 01/04/2023-31/08/2023	128,056	53,357	30,000	9,493	92,850
Director of Children's Services (ii) - Allison Parkinson	194,910	194,910	0	0	194,910
Director Of Place	126,193	126,193	0	24,355	150,548
Director of Public Health	101,793	101,793	0	19,646	121,439
Director of Resources (iii)	124,200	123,510	0	23,837	147,347

- (i) (i) The Chief Executive is also the Director of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund, the salary is paid by the council, however 50% of the salary and oncosts are recharged to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund for the services to the Pension Fund. The Chief Executive is also the Placed Based lead for the Greater Manchester Integrated Care Board (GM ICB) for which the council receive funding of £50,000.
- (ii) The Director of Children's Services left this role on the 31/08/2023 and with effect from the 21/08/2023 a new Director of Children's Services commenced at a cost of £194,910 for the period 31/03/2024
- (iii) The Salary of the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) is paid by the Council, however 10% of the salary and oncosts are recharged to the Greater Manchester Pension Fund for the Services to the pension Fund.

Post Holder Information	2022/23				
	Salary Entitlement (Full Time Equivalent)	Salary, Fees and Allowances (Paid in year) (a)	Compensation for Loss of Office (b)	Employer's Pensions Contribution (c)	Total (a+b+c)
	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive - (i)	186,692	34,387	0	7,221	41,608
Interim Chief Executive / Chief Executive - Sandra Stewart (i)	186,692	151,947	0	31,909	183,856
Director of Adults Services	105,908	105,908	0	22,241	128,149
Director of Children's Services	123,725	123,725	0	25,282	149,007
Director Of Education (Tameside and Stockport MBC) (ii) 01/04/2022 to 31/01/2023	98,207	81,839	0	17,186	99,025
Director of Governance & Pensions (Section 5 Monitoring Officer) (iii) 01/04/2022 to 07/06/2022	139,179	25,903	0	5,440	31,343
Director Of Place 01/04/22-30/06/22 (iv)	121,925	26,251	0	5,513	31,764
Interim Director of Place 01/07/2022 to	38,062	38,062	0	0	38,062
Director of Place 19/09/2022 to 31/03/2023 (iv)	121,925	65,027	0	13,656	78,683
Interim Director of Population Health/Director of Population Health (v)	98,350	98,350	0	20,653	119,003
Director of Transformation 01/04/22-31/08/22 (vi)	103,530	43,138	0	9,059	52,197
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) (vii) 01/04/2022 to 31/12/2022	135,297	101,472	0	13,447	114,919
Interim Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) (vii) 01/01/2023 to 31/03/2023	59,200	59,200	0	0	59,200

- (i) The Chief Executive held a joint role, also covering the role of Chief Accountable Officer for Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) until the 30/06/2022 when the CCG ceased to exist. The salary is paid in full by the Council and there was no recharge to the CCG. The Chief Executive left their role on the 07/06/2022 and there was then an Interim for the period 08/06/2022 to 05/12/2022 when they then became permanent Chief Executive. The salary remains the same for the period 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023.
- (ii) The post of Director Of Education was a Joint role as Director of Education at Stockport MBC, and 50% of the salary and on costs are recharged to Stockport MBC. The postholder left this position on the 31/01/2023 and the joint arrangement has ceased.
- (iii) The salary of the Director of Governance & Pensions is paid by the Council, however 50% on the salary and oncosts are recharged to Greater Manchester Pensions Fund (GMPF) for services to the Pension Fund. The Director of Governance and Pensions became the Interim Chief Executive on the 08/06/2022 and was then made permanent on the 06/12/2022. The Director of Governance role has remained vacant since the 08/06/2022.
- (iv) The Director of Place left this role on the 30/06/2022 and was then replaced by an Interim for the period 01/07/2022 to 04/09/2022 at a cost of £38,062, a permanent Director of Place was then appointed from the 19/09/2022.
- (v) The individual in the post of the Interim Director of Population Health was in post from 01/10/2021 to 20/08/2022 and then made Director of Population Health from 21/08/2022. The salary remains the same for the period 01/04/2022 to 31/03/2023.
- (vi) The Director of Transformation left their post on the 31/08/2022 and this post has not been recruited to.
- (vii) The role of Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) was a joint post with the Tameside and Glossop CCG/ICB. The total cost paid by the CCG for the period 01/04/2022 to

31/12/2022 was £106,965 (Salary £93,518 and Pension Contributions £13,447). The Council paid an additional amount of £7,954 for the period 01/04/2022 to 31/12/2022 when the post holder left the joint post. For the period 01/01/2023 to 31/03/2023 there was an Interim Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) at a cost of £59,200

The Single Leadership Team includes two further posts, both paid for in full by the CCG:

- (viii) The Director of Quality and Safeguarding salary is paid by the CCG. The total cost paid by the CCG for the period 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022 was £27,292 (Salary £27,292 and Pension Contributions £0).
- (ix) The Director of Commissioning salary is paid by the CCG. The total cost paid by the CCG for the period 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022 was £31,976 (Salary £27,956 and Pension Contributions £4,020).

Employees' Remuneration

The Council's other employees including teachers on the Council's payroll (excluding the Chief Executive and members of the Executive Team) receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions) were paid the following amounts:

Remuneration Band	Number of employees (excluding severance payments) 2023/24	Number of employees (including severance payments) 2023/24	Number of employees (excluding severance payments) 2022/23	Number of employees (including severance payments) 2022/23
£50,000 - £54,999	141	141	114	113
£55,000 - £59,999	87	87	56	57
£60,000 - £64,999	33	34	34	34
£65,000 - £69,999	26	26	27	27
£70,000 - £74,999	22	21	14	15
£75,000 - £79,999	9	9	8	8
£80,000 - £84,999	6	7	8	7
£85,000 - £89,999	8	8	5	5
£90,000 - £94,999	0	2	1	1
£95,000 - £99,999	4	4	5	6
£100,000 - £104,999	4	4	2	2
£105,000 - £109,999	1	1	1	1
£125,000 - £129,999	1	1	0	0
£135,000 - £139,999	0	0	0	0
Total	342	345	275	276

A number of employees in the accounting period received one off severance payments and left the organisation. The figures above have been presented both excluding and including this payment.

35. Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but have been disclosed below.

The Council has no material contingent liabilities at 31 March 2024.

36. Contingent Assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but have been disclosed below where it is possible but not certain that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential.

The Council has no material contingent assets at 31 March 2024.

37. External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to services provided by the Council's external auditors:

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Fees payable with regard to external audit services	287	96
Total	287	96

38. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are reflected up to the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. This date and who gave that authorisation is disclosed in the notes to the accounts, including confirmation that this is the date up to which events after the Balance Sheet date have been considered.

Where a material event is identified after the Balance Sheet date, whether favourable or unfavourable, for which it can be shown that the conditions already existed at the Balance Sheet date, it is an adjusting event and the amounts in the accounts would be adjusted accordingly.

However, where a material event is identified which occurred after the Balance Sheet date but it cannot be shown that the conditions existed before the Balance Sheet date, then it is a non-adjusting event and the accounts would not be adjusted (although a disclosure would be made in the notes to the accounts).

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Director of Resources (Section 151 Officer) on 31st May 2024. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2024, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

On 1 April 2024, Cromwell High School and on the 1st May 2024 St Stephens RC School both converted to academies. Cromwell High School has a value of £5.99m on the balance sheet and St Stephens RC School has a value of £33k on the balance sheet in the 2023/24 statement of accounts. As a result of the academy conversion, these values will be written off for nil within the 2024/25 Statement of Accounts.

39. Accounting Policies

The accounting policies adopted by the Council determine the accounting treatment that is applied to transactions during the financial year and in the preparation of the Statement of Accounts at the year end. They determine the specific principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices that will be applied by the Council in preparing and presenting its financial statements.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES FROM 1 APRIL 2023

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's income, expenditure, assets and liabilities held and incurred during the 2023/24 financial year, and its position at 31 March 2024.

The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2014 (as amended), which require accounts to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices.

Proper accounting practice for Local government comprises the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 (the 'Code') which is based on International Financial Reporting Standards and statutory guidance.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historic cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments. The Accounting Policies of the Council as far as possible have been developed to ensure that the accounts of the Council are understandable, relevant, free from material error or misstatement, reliable and comparable.

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

a) Going Concern

The Council prepares its accounts on the basis that it remains a going concern; that is that there is the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence. In the case of a pending local government reorganisation, where assets and liabilities are due to be redistributed, the Council would still account on the basis of going concern as the provision of services would continue in another Council.

b) Accruals Concept

The Council accounts for income and expenditure in the period to which the service has taken place, rather than when cash payments are received or made. Where income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Equally, where cash has been received or paid which is not yet recognised as income or expenditure, a creditor (income in advance) or debtor (payment in advance) is recorded in the Balance Sheet.

c) Cost of Services

The cost of services analysis within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) is shown by Council Directorates in line with the revenue monitoring reports to Executive Cabinet and internal reporting. The CIES reports income and expenditure in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice. The Expenditure and Funding Analysis is then intended to demonstrate how the funding available to the Council (i.e. government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) for the year has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices.

d) Value Added Tax (VAT)

Income and expenditure transactions exclude any amounts relating to VAT as currently all VAT collected is payable to HM Revenue and Customs and all VAT paid is recoverable from them.

e) Changes in Accounting Policy

Where there is a known future change in accounting policy required by the CIPFA Code, the Council will disclose the following in the notes to the accounts:

- The nature of the change in accounting policy;
- The reasons why applying the new accounting policy provides reliable and more relevant information;
- For both the current reporting period, and the previous year comparatives reported, the extent to which the change in accounting policy would have impacted on the financial statements if it had been adopted in that year;
- The amount of adjustment relating to years previous to those reported in the set of financial statements, had the proposed policy been adopted retrospectively; and
- If retrospective application is impracticable for a particular period, the circumstances that led to the existence of that condition and a description of how and from when the change in accounting policy has been applied. The Council will also disclose information relating to an accounting standard which has been issued but not yet adopted.

f) Previous Year Adjustments

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied. Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by way of a prior period adjustment and an appropriate disclosure in the notes to the accounts. A change to the accounting policy may also require that the basis of estimates is changed. This will be disclosed in accordance with the policy on changes to accounting estimates.

g) Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are reflected up to the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. This date and who gave that authorisation is disclosed in the notes to the accounts, including confirmation that this is the date up to which events after the Balance Sheet date have been considered.

Where a material event is identified after the Balance Sheet date, whether favourable or unfavourable, for which it can be shown that the conditions already existed at the Balance Sheet date, it is an adjusting event and the amounts in the accounts would be adjusted accordingly. However, where a material event is identified which occurred after the Balance Sheet date but it cannot be shown that the conditions existed before the Balance Sheet date, then it is a non-adjusting event and the accounts would not be adjusted (although a disclosure would be made in the notes to the accounts).

h) Material Items

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

i) Contingent Assets and Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council. Contingent liabilities also arise in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably. Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts where it is possible but not certain that there will be an inflow of economic benefits or service potential that cannot be reliably measured.

2. CAPITAL ACCOUNTING

a) Recognition

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis. Expenditure on the acquisition of an asset, or expenditure which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing asset, should be capitalised, provided that it yields benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Capital expenditure includes:

- the acquisition, reclamation, enhancement or laying out of land;
- acquisition, construction, preparation, enhancement or replacement of roads, buildings and other structures;
- acquisition, installation or replacement of movable or immovable plant, machinery, apparatus, vehicles and vessels.

In this context, enhancement means works which are intended to:

- Lengthen substantially the useful life of the asset, or
- Increase substantially the market value of the asset, or
- Increase substantially the extent to which the asset can or will be used for the purposes of or in conjunction with the functions of the Council.

Under this definition, improvement works and structural repairs should be capitalised, whereas expenditure to ensure that the non-current asset maintains its previously assessed standard of performance should be recognised in the revenue account as it is incurred.

A de-minimis level of £10,000 has been adopted by the Council in relation to capital expenditure.

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

b) Measurement

Initially the assets are measured at cost, comprising the purchase price, plus any costs associated with bringing the asset into use. The measurement of an operational asset acquired other than through purchase is deemed to be its current value. The Code requires that non-operational property, plant and equipment classified as surplus assets are measured at fair value.

In accordance with 'the Code', Property, Plant and Equipment is further classified as:

- Other Land and Buildings *
- Infrastructure assets
- Vehicles, Plant and Equipment
- Community Assets
- Assets under Construction
- Surplus Assets

Each of these asset classifications are valued on the base recommended by CIPFA and in accordance with the Statements of Asset Valuation Principles and Guidance Notes issued by The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), as follows:

- Infrastructure – depreciated historical cost (DHC)

-
- Community Assets and Assets Under Construction – historical cost (HC)
 - Other assets (excluding non-operational property) – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (EUV)
 - Surplus assets (non-operational property, plant and equipment) – fair value

Where there is no market based evidence of fair value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of fair value. Where non-property assets (such as Vehicles, Plant and Equipment) have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for fair value.

*These asset categories are revalued on a five year rolling cycle. The programme of revaluations is continuing on this cyclical basis although values of those assets falling between scheduled valuation dates are reviewed annually to ensure that any material changes to asset valuations is adjusted in the interim period, as they occur. For assets where expenditure of £750,000 or above has been incurred, these are added to the preceding year's revaluation list.

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

c) Revaluation

Revaluation of property is undertaken on at least a five year “rolling programme”. A desk top valuation exercise can take place more frequently, however, if the valuer believes that market changes within the year are more significant, an interim valuation will be undertaken. Investment Properties are revalued annually to determine any material change in the carrying value.

A Revaluation Reserve for non-current assets (other than Investment Properties) is held in the Balance Sheet made up of unrealised revaluation gains relating to individual non-current assets, with movements in valuations being managed at an individual non-current asset level.

Movement in the valuation of Investment Properties are charged or credited to the Comprehensive Income Expenditure Statement. Gains arising from the revaluation of Investment Properties are not held within a revaluation reserve.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of the reserves formal implementation. Gains arising before that date were subsequently consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account. Movements in the valuations of non-current assets do not impact on General Fund Balances and are not a charge or credit to council tax levies.

d) Disposals

Receipts from the disposal of non-current assets are accounted for on an accruals basis. When an asset is disposed of, the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written out to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, as is the disposal receipt. These amounts are not a charge or receipt to council tax as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. The asset value written out is appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account, the capital receipt is appropriated to the Capital Receipts Unapplied Account, via the Movement in Reserve Statement. Any revaluation gains that have accumulated in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement element of those assets under statutory provisions. The account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the CIES (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council to finance the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement. The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties

that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Usable Capital Receipts have been used to finance capital expenditure based on the policy of the Council.

Academy Schools are written out of the Council's Balance Sheet at the time that they legally transfer to Academy status. The net book value of the school at the time of the transfer is charged to Other Operating Income and Expenditure within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as a loss on disposal/de-recognition.

Infrastructure Assets - When a component of the network is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the component in the Balance Sheet is written off to the 'Other operating expenditure' line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal).

The written-off amounts of disposals are not a charge against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are transferred to the capital adjustment account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

e) Heritage Assets

Heritage Assets are held for their cultural, environmental or historical associations. With the exception of "Statues and Other Monuments", which by their nature are located across the Borough, they are mainly held in the Council's art galleries and museums.

This collection of Heritage Assets has been secured over many years from a variety of sources, being mainly bequeaths, donations and long term loans. Assets acquired from these sources may have conditions attached which govern how the assets may be managed in the future. Any assets with conditions attached are recognised in Donated Assets as a long term liability in the Balance Sheet until any outstanding conditions cease.

Any acquisitions of Heritage Assets are initially recognised at cost and donations are recognised at valuation with valuations provided by external valuers. The Council's collections of Heritage Assets are accounted for as follows:

- Art Collection;
- Militaria;
- Civic Regalia and Silver; and
- Statues and Other Monuments.

f) Investment Properties

Investment Property is held solely to earn rental income or for capital appreciation or both. Investment Property is initially recognised at cost, but is subject to valuation at fair value at the end of each accounting period. Losses or gains are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

g) Intangible Assets

Intangible Assets represent non-current assets that do not have physical substance, but are identifiable and are controlled by the Council through custodial or legal rights. All purchased Intangible Assets are capitalised at historical cost in line with 'the Code'.

In line with other non-current assets, their useful economic life is determined based on the length of time that the benefit will accrue to the Council. Based on the best estimate of the useful economic life, the Intangible Asset is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement over this period.

h) Depreciation / Amortisation Methodology

Depreciation is provided for on all non-current assets with a finite useful life (this can be determined at the time of acquisition or revaluation) according to the following policy:

- In accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting, all buildings (but not their land) are depreciated over their remaining useful lives. A land and building split has been determined by the Council's external valuers. Estimates of the useful life are determined for each property and where material for components of those properties as part of the valuation process. These estimates of economic life may vary considerably from property to property.
- Investment Properties are not depreciated, rather an annual review is undertaken of the fair carrying value. Any changes to these values are charged to the Provision of Services within the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the period that they occur.
- Infrastructure is depreciated over a 40 year period.
- Vehicles, Plant, and Equipment is depreciated over 10 years or less depending on the nature of the asset.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis. Depreciation is not charged in the year of asset acquisition. Depreciation is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement but does not impact on council tax and is written out to the Capital Adjustment Account via the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where non-current assets have been re-valued the current value depreciation will be higher than the historic cost depreciation, this increased depreciation charge is written out against the Revaluation Reserve with an offsetting entry to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Infrastructure Assets - Depreciation is provided on the parts of the highways network infrastructure assets that are subject to deterioration or depletion and by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis.

Non-highways infrastructure assets are depreciated over periods of up to 40 years.

Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year.

Useful lives of the various parts of the highways network are assessed by the Head of Engineering Services using industry standards where applicable as follows:

Part of the Highways Network	Useful life
<i>Carriageways (inc. gullies & highways drainage)</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Carriageways – New</i>	<i>35 years</i>
<i>Footways and cycle tracks</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Structures (bridges, tunnels, underpasses & large culverts)</i>	<i>110 years</i>
<i>Small culverts - diameter less than 1.2m</i>	<i>40 years</i>
<i>Street lighting</i>	<i>25 years</i>
<i>Street furniture</i>	<i>40 years</i>
Non-Highways Assets	Useful life
<i>High Speed Fibre Network</i>	<i>40 years</i>

i) Charges to revenue for non-current assets

Service revenue accounts, support services and trading accounts are charged with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding non-current assets throughout the year:

- Depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service
- Impairment losses attributable to non-current assets used by the service in excess of the balances held in the Revaluation Reserve
- Amortisation of Intangible Assets attributable to the service

The Council does not raise council tax to cover depreciation, impairment loss or amortisations. The Council does, however, make an annual provision from revenue to reduce its borrowing

requirement, (see section m). Depreciation, impairment losses, amortisation and gains or losses on the disposal of non-current assets are therefore written out in the Movement in Reserves Statement, by way of an adjusting transaction within the Capital Adjustment Account.

j) Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute represents expenditure which may be properly capitalised, but which does not result in the creation of any non-current asset to the Council. In line with the guidance contained in 'the Code', this expenditure is written off to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year the expenditure is incurred, because the Council does not control the economic benefits arising from this expenditure.

k) Impairment of Non-current Assets

Assets have been reviewed for any impairment loss in respect of the consumption of economic benefit (e.g. physical damage). Where an impairment loss occurs this would be charged to the service revenue account, with a corresponding entry made to reduce the value of the asset in the Balance Sheet.

To remove the impact of the impairment loss on the budget, a credit entry is made in the Movement in Reserves Statement as a charge to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairments reflecting a general fall in prices would be recognised in the Revaluation Reserve, up to the value of revaluation for the individual asset, and any further impairment would be treated as a consumption of economic benefit and charged to the service revenue account.

l) Capital Receipts

Capital receipts (in excess of £10,000) arising from the sale of non-current assets are credited to Capital Receipts Unapplied Account.

Any capital receipts relating to the repayment of former Housing Revenue Account (HRA) mortgages (principal amounts) are subject to provisions included within the Local Government Act 2003. The Council is required to pay a specified amount from these receipts to the national pool. All other capital receipts are usable.

Usable capital receipts are shown separately in the Balance Sheet and can be used either to finance new capital investment, to repay grant received in relation to the asset disposed of, to finance the premium sum arising from the rescheduling of debt, or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow.

m) Minimum Revenue Provision

Where capital expenditure has been financed by borrowing there is a provision for the repayment of debt to be made in accordance with the Minimum Revenue Provision requirements of the Local Authorities ('MRP' - as set out in Capital Financing and Accounting (Amendment) Regulations 2009).

Since 2015/16 the Council has adopted the following policy in relation to calculating the Minimum Revenue Provision

- (i) Borrowing taken up prior to 01/04/2015 will be provided for using a straight-line method of calculating 'MRP'. A total of £185,215,128 will be provided for in equal instalments over 50 years which will result in an annual charge of £3.704m. The debt will be extinguished in full by 31 March 2065. If the Council elects to make additional voluntary MRP then the annual charge will be adjusted accordingly.
- (ii) The following will be required in relation to borrowing taken up on or after 01/04/2015.
 - For borrowing taken up on or after 1 April 2015, MRP is to be provided for based upon the average expected useful life of the assets funded by borrowing in the previous year. The debt will be repaid on a straight-line basis over the average useful life calculated, meaning the debt will be fully extinguished at the end of period. If the Council elects to make additional voluntary MRP then the annual charge will be adjusted accordingly.
 - For certain investment projects it may be deemed more prudent to use the asset life annuity method in order to calculate MRP. In this case the Council will use the annuity method, with the MRP based on the prevailing PWLB interest rate for a loan

with a term equal to the estimated life of the project. If the Council uses capital receipts to repay borrowing for the year then the value of MRP which would have otherwise been set aside to repay borrowing will be reduced by the this amount. The level of capital receipts to be applied to redeem borrowing will be determined annually by the Section 151 Officer, taking into account forecasts for future expenditure and the generation of further receipts.

- For any finance leases and any on-balance sheet Public Finance Initiative (PFI) schemes, the MRP charge will be equal to the principle repayment during the year, calculated in accordance with proper practices.
- There will be no MRP charge for any cash backed Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) that the Council operates. As for this type of scheme, any future debt liability would be met from the capital receipt arising from the deposit maturing after a five year period. Any repossession losses for this type of scheme would be charged to a LAMS reserve.
- The Council has considered the Statutory Guidance, which recommends a 25 year repayment charge for loans to third parties, and concluded that this provision is not necessary where there is a realistic expectation that the loan will be repaid. The Council considers an MRP charge is not necessary in respect of any loans made to third parties as the debt liability is covered by the existence of a debtor; typically long term depending on the life of the loan. The only expenditure consequence of a loan for an authority is the interest on its cash shortfall whilst the loan is outstanding, so provision for the principal amount would be over-prudent until such time as the assumption has to be made that the loan will not be repaid.

n) Capital Grants and Contributions

The Council recognises capital grants and contributions as being related to capital assets and uses them to fund capital expenditure on those assets. Grants, contributions and donations are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received.

Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor. Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor. This is in line with the Accruals Concept Policy.

Once the recognition criteria above have been satisfied, capital grants are recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

In order to not impact on the level of Council Tax, the Council removes the credit from the General Reserves through the Movement in Reserves Statement, and makes a credit to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve.

Once expenditure has been incurred on the related asset, the credit is removed from the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

o) Capital Reserves

The Council holds Capital Reserves for the purpose of financing capital expenditure. Reserves will be disclosed as either usable (available to fund capital expenditure) or unusable (reserves held as a result of timing differences associated with recognition of capital expenditure and related financing).

Movements in capital reserves are accounted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

p) Leases

In line with IFRIC 4, the Council recognises a lease to be any agreement which transfers the right to use an asset for an agreed period in exchange for payment, or a series of payments.

This includes; leases, hire purchase, rental, contracts of service, service level agreements and any other arrangement where the ability to use an asset is conveyed.

q) Defining a Finance Lease

A finance lease is where substantially all of the risks and rewards relating to ownership transfer to the lessee.

Tests to give an indication of the transfer of risk and reward are:

- If the lessee will gain ownership of the asset at the end of the lease term (e.g. hire purchase)
- If the lessee has an option to purchase the asset at a sufficiently favourable price that it is reasonably certain, at the inception of the lease, that it will be exercised
- If the lease term is for the major part of the economic life of the asset even if the title is not transferred. Measures to identify this include:
 - The economic life of the asset is deemed to be that which is consistent with the class of asset in the depreciation policy.
 - The Council recognises 'major part' to be 75% of the life of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.
- At the inception of the lease, the present value of the minimum lease payments amounts to at least substantially all of the fair value of the leased asset. Measures to identify this include:
 - Fair value of the leased asset is assessed by a RICS qualified valuer.
 - The present value of the minimum lease payments is calculated by discounting at the rate inherent in the lease.
 - If this rate cannot be determined the incremental borrowing rate applicable for that year is used.
 - The Council recognises 'substantially all' to be 75% of the value of the asset, unless on an individual case basis this would not give a true representation of the substance of the transaction.
- The leased assets are of such a specialised nature that only the lessee can use them without major modifications.
- If the lessee cancels the lease, the losses of the lessor, associated with the cancellation are borne by the lessee.
- Gains or losses from the fluctuation in the fair value of the residual accrue to the lessee (e.g. in the form of a rent rebate equalling most of the sales proceeds at the end of the lease).
- The lessee has the ability to continue the lease for a secondary period at a rent that is substantially lower than market rent.

A suitably experienced accountant, with assistance from qualified valuers, will make a judgement based on the level of risk and reward held by the Council as to whether an asset is operating or finance.

r) Defining an Operating Lease

The Council recognises an operating lease to be a lease which is not a finance lease. Where the Council is the lessor for an operating lease, normally the asset is classified as an Investment Property. Any rental income is credited to the relevant service income.

s) Lessee Accounting for a Finance Lease

Where the Council is tenant in a property, or is, by definition of IFRIC 4, leasing an asset which is deemed under IAS 17 to be a finance lease the Council will recognise that asset within the asset register, and account for that asset as though it were an owned asset.

The initial recognition of the asset is at the fair value of the property, or if lower, the present value of the minimum lease payments. A liability is also recognised at this value, which is reduced as lease payments are made.

t) Lessor Accounting for a Finance Lease

Where the Council is the lessor for a finance lease, the asset is not recognised in the asset register; however a long term debtor at the present value of minimum lease payments is recognised.

Income received is split between capital – credited against the debtor, and finance income – credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as interest receivable.

u) Lessor Accounting for an Operating Lease

Where the Council is the lessor for an operating lease, normally the asset is classified as an Investment Property. Any rental income is credited to the relevant service income.

v) Service Concession Agreements (Private Finance Initiative (PFI) and other similar contracts)

PFI and similar contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor. PFI and similar contracts are assessed against criteria within IFRIC 12 Service Concession Arrangements to determine whether the risks and rewards incidental to ownership lie with the Council or the contractor.

Those which lie with the contractor – payments made during the life of the contract are chargeable to revenue as incurred.

Those which lie with the Council – are recognised as an asset in the Balance Sheet for the construction costs of the asset. Once recognised this asset is treated in line with all capital assets. A corresponding long term liability is also recognised at the construction value. Payments made during the life of the contract are split into finance costs, capital costs and service costs.

Determining the split of payments is calculated at the inception of the contract and is based on the inherent interest rate within the original agreement. Finance costs are chargeable to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as interest payable. Capital costs reduce the level of liability in the Balance Sheet. Service costs are chargeable to the relevant revenue service expenditure. Pre-payments reduce the level of liability at the start of the contract.

PFI credits are treated as general revenue government grants.

3. REVENUE ACCOUNTING

a) Recognition of Revenue Expenditure

The Council recognises revenue expenditure as expenditure which is not capital.

b) Employee Costs

In accordance with IAS 19, the Council accounts for the total benefit earned by employees during the financial year.

Employee Costs are split into 3 categories; short term benefits, termination benefits and pensions costs.

Short Term Employee Benefits

- Salaries and Wages – The total salary and wages earned by employees during the financial year are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Where the amount accrued exceeds the amount paid at the 31 March, a creditor will be reflected in the accounts.
- Leave Owed, Accumulating Absences – The Council allows employees to earn time off in one period with the resulting cost to the Council in a later period when that time is either taken off or paid to the employee. Examples of this accumulating leave are annual leave, flexi-time and time off in lieu.

If an employee were to leave the Council, cash payment would be made for entitlements such as annual leave; this leave is termed vesting. Where no cash payment would be due, the leave is termed non-vesting.

In order to correctly reflect the cost of time owed to staff, a charge has been made to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and a creditor accrual has been reflected in the Balance Sheet. This charge is reflective of the estimated time cost value of all accumulating

leave owed to employees. Vesting leave will be charged in full; however non-vesting leave has been adjusted to reflect the turnover of staff.

- Non-accumulating Absences – are periods of leave that cannot be carried forward for use in future periods. Examples include Maternity Leave, Special Leave, Sick Leave and Jury Service. The Council does not recognise non-accumulating compensated absences until the time that the absence occurs.
- Non-monetary Benefits – Where employees have non-monetary benefits (e.g. retirement benefits or life insurance), the associated cost of providing that benefit has been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service lines in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Pensions Costs

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

- The Teachers' Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).

The assets and liabilities of the Teachers' Pension Scheme are not attributable to the Council, therefore the Council accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This means that the Children and Education Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will only include the Council's contributions payable to the scheme.

- NHS Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme administered by EA Finance NHS Pensions.

The assets and liabilities of the NHS Pension Scheme are not attributable to the Council, therefore the Council accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. This means that the Public Health Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will only include the Council's contributions payable to the scheme.

- The Greater Manchester Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by the Council, is accounted for as a defined benefit scheme. The liabilities of the scheme attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method - i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, and projections of future earnings for current employees.

Pension liabilities are measured using the projected unit method, discounted using the rate on high quality corporate bonds of equivalent term to the liabilities. The discount rate is the weighted average of "spot yields" on AA rated corporate bonds.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

Service cost comprising:

-
1. Current service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.
 2. Past service cost – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years will be debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Non Distributed Costs.
 3. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability i.e. net interest expense for the Council - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. This is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability at the end of the period, taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

Re-measurement comprising:

4. The return on plan assets – excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
5. Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. Adjustments are therefore made in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

Early Retirement, Discretionary Payments

The Council has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff (including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies which are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

c) Lessee Accounting for an Operating Lease

Costs associated with operating leased assets where the Council is the lessee are charged immediately to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services on an accruals basis.

d) Revenue Recognition

Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services of the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.

Where the Council is acting as Agent of another organisation, the amounts collected on behalf of that organisation are excluded from the Council's revenue.

e) Revenue Grants and Contributions

Grants, contributions and donations (referred to as grants for the purposes of this policy) are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received. Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor (income in advance). Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor.

Revenue grants will either be received to be used only for a specific purpose, or can be used for general purpose. Those for a specific purpose are recognised in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement within the Net Cost of Services. Those which are for general purpose are shown within Other Operating (Income) and Expenditure in the Comprehensive Expenditure and Income Statement.

The Council recognises capital grants and contributions as being related to capital assets and uses them to fund capital expenditure on those assets. Grants, contributions and donations are recognised as income at the date that the Council has satisfied the conditions of entitlement, and there is reasonable assurance that the monies will be received.

Any grant received before these recognition criteria were satisfied would be held as a creditor. Any grant which had met the recognition criteria but had not been received would be shown as a debtor. This is in line with the Accruals Concept.

Once the recognition criteria above have been satisfied, capital grants are recognised as income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

In order to not impact on the level of Council Tax, the Council removes the credit from the General Reserves through the Movement in Reserves Statement, and makes a credit to the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve.

Once expenditure has been incurred on the related asset, the credit is removed from the Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve and credited to the Capital Adjustment Account.

f) Provisions

Provision has been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for liabilities that have been incurred by the Council, but where the amounts or dates on which they will arise are uncertain.

Provisions are required to be recognised when the Council has a present obligation, as a result of a past event, where it is probable that an outflow of resources embodying economic benefit or service potential will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation, (IAS 37 – Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets).

When expenditure is incurred to which the provision relates, it is charged directly against the provision in the Balance Sheet and not against the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Council has made a provision for the costs of settling claims for back pay arising from discriminatory payments incurred before the Council implemented its equal pay strategy. However, statutory arrangements allow settlements to be financed from General Fund Balances in the year that payments actually take place, not when the provision is established. The provision is therefore balanced by an entry within the Capital Adjustment Account (CAA) created from amounts credited to the General Fund Balance in the year the provision was made or modified. The balance within the CAA will be debited back to the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement in future financial years as payments are made.

g) Revenue Reserves

The Council holds usable revenue reserves for the purpose of funding future expenditure. The General Fund Balance represents the balance of reserves to meet short term, unforeseeable expenditure and to enable significant changes in resources or expenditure to be properly managed over the period of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Earmarked Reserves represent balances where approval has been received to use the reserve for a specific purpose.

Unusable revenue reserves represent timing differences such as those associated with the recognition of retirement benefits, Council tax income and financial instruments.

Movement in reserves are accounted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

h) Council Tax and Business Rates Recognition

Council Tax and Business Rates income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement includes the Council's share of accrued income recognised by billing authorities in the production of the Collection Fund Statements.

The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Reserve is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and business rates on behalf of the major preceptors and, as principals, collecting council tax and business rates for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and business rates. Under the legislative framework for the Collection Fund, billing authorities and major preceptors share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and business rates collected could be less or more than predicted.

The council tax and business rates income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the Council's General Fund. Therefore The difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Reserve is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and reported in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the Council's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, impairment allowances for expected credit losses, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

i) Inventories and Work in Progress

Work in progress is valued at the lower of cost (including all related overheads) or net realisable value.

No amounts are included for such items as small stores at Community Services residential homes, or stocks at special schools and outdoor education centres as these are not regarded as having material value due to their size. It is considered that this difference in treatment (together with the exclusion of certain types of stock) does not have a material effect on the values stated.

j) Expected credit losses

The Council maintains an estimate for expected credit losses for any potential non-payment of debtors at each Balance Sheet date. Assessment is made based on the risk of debtors' ability to pay future cash flows due under the contractual terms. This risk is estimated where possible based on historical loss experience, credit rating for a debtor and other impacting factors.

Expected credit losses are offset against the debtor amount shown as an asset, the movement is charged against Financing and Investment in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT

a) Financial Instruments

Financial Assets

Financial Assets e.g. investments and debtors are classified into three types – amortised cost, fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI) and fair value through profit or loss (FVPL).

The categorisation of financial assets into these types is dependent on the reason for holding these assets (to collect cash flows, to sell assets or both).

Financial assets are brought onto the balance sheet at fair value when the Council becomes a party to contractual provisions.

Amortised Cost

These assets relate to financial instruments where the amounts received relating to them are solely principal and interest and they are held to generate cash flows (e.g. investments of surplus cash with the government's debt management office or loans to third parties).

The interest received on these assets is spread evenly over the life of these instruments. Any gain or loss in the value of these assets is recognised in the net surplus / deficit on the net provision of services at the point of de-recognition (disposal) or reclassification.

Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income (FVOCI)

These assets relate to financial instruments where the amounts received relating to them are solely principal and interest but they are held to collect cash and sell the assets (e.g. money market funds). The interest received on these assets is spread evenly over the life of these instruments.

Changes in the fair value of these assets are charged to Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. Cumulative gains and losses are charged to the surplus / deficit on provision of services when they are disposed of.

Under capital accounting regulations where these assets were treated as capital expenditure the gain or loss is reversed to an unusable reserve - the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

Fair Value through Profit and Loss (FVPL)

These assets relate to financial instruments where the amounts received relating to them are not principal and interest (e.g. equity investments).

Dividends received are accounted for at the point they are declared.

Charges in fair value are charged to the surplus / deficit on the net provision of services as they occur.

Under capital accounting regulations where these assets were treated as capital expenditure the gain or loss is reversed through the Movement in Reserves Statement and charged to an unusable reserve - the Capital Adjustment Account. . An equity instrument that has been classed as FVPL can be designated as FVOCI if it is not held for trading (e.g. a strategic investment). Once this designation has been made it cannot be reversed. This designation would mean that any gains and losses would be held in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

Credit loss

The Council will recognise a loss allowance for expected credit losses, if applicable, on assets where cash flows are solely principal and interest (i.e. financial instruments measured at amortised cost or FVOCI unless they have been designated as such). This does not apply where the counterparty is central government or another local authority.

At each year end the loss allowance for a financial instrument is calculated as equal to the lifetime expected credit losses if the credit risk on that financial instrument has increased significantly since initial recognition.

If at year end the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition the loss allowance is measured at an amount equal to twelve month expected credit losses.

Where the financial asset was treated as capital expenditure any losses will be reversed via the Movement in Reserves Statement to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities (e.g. borrowings and creditors) are recognised when the other party has met a commitment under the contract that creates an obligation for the Council to transfer economic benefits. For instance, when the Council takes out a loan, the advance of cash from the lender

initiates the obligation to repay at some future date, and the loan would be recognised as a liability on the Balance Sheet when the advance is received.

Charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. (The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised).

For many of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount shown in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest, and the amount charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable per the loan agreement.

For Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO) loans the effective interest rate has been calculated over the life of the loan. This is an average and differs from the amounts actually paid in the year. The difference between the calculated interest charge and interest paid has been adjusted in the carrying amount of the loan on the balance sheet. The amount charged in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the effective interest rate for the life of the loan rather than the amount payable per the loan agreement.

Where the Council is in receipt of loans that are interest free or at less than prevailing market interest rates if material, the effective interest rate is calculated so that the value of the financial assistance to the Council by the lender is separated from the financial cost of the transaction. This gain is calculated by working out the net present value of all future cash payments using the interest rate for a similar loan taken by the Council. This results in a lower figure for the fair value of the loan with the difference from the loan received treated as a government grant. This gain is reversed out in the Movement in Reserves Statement to the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account.

Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of repurchase or settlement. However if the repurchase takes place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan. In this scenario the write down to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Where premiums and discounts (amounts paid or received on the rescheduling of a loan) have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact of premiums on the General Fund balance to be spread over the longer of the outstanding period of the replaced loan or the period of the replacement loan or any other shorter period that the Council wishes to choose. Discounts are required to be credited to revenue over a maximum period equal to the outstanding term of the replaced loan or ten years (if shorter). The difference between the amount charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the net charge against the General Fund balance is transferred to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement of Reserves Statement.

b) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash equivalents are short term investments that are of a highly liquid nature. The Council has deemed that deposits held within money market funds are categorised as cash equivalents.

c) Interests in Companies and Other Entities

Where the Council has material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries, associates and joint arrangements, it is required to prepare group accounts. In the Council's own single-entity accounts, the interests in companies and other entities are recorded as investments, i.e. at cost, less any provision for losses. The Council has identified Inspired Spaces Tameside as an associate but group accounts have not been prepared on the grounds of materiality. Information on financial transactions between the Council and this associate are disclosed as related party transactions.

40. Accounting Policies Issued but not yet adopted

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard which has been issued but is yet to be adopted by the 2023/24 Code.

The Code also requires that changes in accounting policy are to be applied retrospectively unless transitional arrangements are specified, this would, therefore result in an impact on disclosures spanning two financial years.

Accounting changes that are introduced by the 2024/25 Code are:

- (i) IFRS 16 Leases (but only for those local authorities that have decided to voluntarily implement IFRS 16 in the 2023/24 year).
- (ii) Classification of Liabilities as current or non-current (Amendments to IAS 1) Issued in January 2020.
- (iii) Lease Liability in a sale and leaseback (Amendments to IFRS 16) Issued in September 2022
- (iv) Non-Current Liabilities with covenants (Amendments to IAS 1) Issued in October 2022
- (v) International tax reform: Pillar two model reforms (Amendments to IAS12) Issued in May 2023
- (vi) Supplier Finance arrangements (Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7) Issued in May 2023

Items (i) and (iii) are not relevant to Tameside Council. Items (ii) and (vi) will have only a small impact on narrative disclosures when implemented.

41. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

The following are critical management judgements in applying the accounting policies of the Council that have the most significant effect on the financial statements.

Accounting for Schools – Consolidation

In line with accounting standards and ‘the Code’ on group accounts and consolidation, all maintained schools in the Borough are now considered to be entities controlled by the Council. Rather than produce group accounts the income, expenditure, assets, liabilities, reserves and cash flows of each school are recognised in the Council’s single entity accounts.

Accounting for Schools – Balance Sheet Recognition of Schools

The Council recognises schools in line with the provisions of the Code. Schools are recognised on the Balance Sheet only if the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the school will flow to the Council. The Council regards that the economic benefits or service potential of a school flows to the Council where the Council has the ability to appoint the employees of the school and is able to set the admission criteria.

There are generally five categories of schools:

- Community schools
- Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools
- Voluntary Aided (VA) schools
- Foundation/Trust schools
- Academies

Employees at community schools are appointed by the Council and the Council sets the admission criteria. These schools are therefore recognised on the Council’s Balance Sheet.

In order to comply with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting the Council wrote to each of the diocese who occupy schools within the borough of Tameside in order to establish the accounting arrangements.

Diocese of Salford, The Church of England Diocese of Chester, The Church of England Diocese of Manchester and Diocese of Shrewsbury have all responded in writing to confirm that the schools occupy the school premises under the direction of the trustees and that the legal ownership resides with the religious body. The Council has also had confirmation that the religious bodies referred to above account for the school buildings within their Balance Sheets.

The legal ownership of Voluntary Controlled School buildings belong to a charity, normally a religious body, therefore the Council does not recognise these non-current assets on the Balance Sheet. However the adjoining school playing fields remain in Council ownership and are therefore included on the Council's Balance Sheet.

Foundation Trust, Voluntary Aided and Academy school employees are appointed by the schools' governing body, which also set the admission criteria. As a consequence the Council does not receive the economic benefit or service potential of these schools and does not recognise them on the Council's Balance Sheet. However the playing fields surrounding Voluntary Aided schools remain in Council ownership and are therefore included on the Council's Balance Sheet. In addition, the assets relating to PFI VA schools are recognised on the Council's balance sheet, together with the corresponding liability.

Type of School	No of Primary School	No of Secondary School	No of Special School	Total	Land on the Balance Sheet £000s	Buildings on the Balance Sheet £000s
Community	18	4	4	26	18,613	152,099
Voluntary Controlled (VC)	6	0	0	6	94	0
Voluntary Aided (VA)	18	2	0	20	2,409	15,743
Foundation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Foundation Trust	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maintained Schools	42	6	4	52	21,116	167,842
Free Schools	0	1	0	1	0	0
Academies	34	9	2	45	0	0
Total	76	16	6	98	21,116	167,842

Accounting for schools - Transfers to Academy status

When a school that is held on the Council's Balance Sheet transfers to Academy status the Council accounts for this as a disposal for nil consideration on the date that the school converts to Academy status, rather than as an impairment on the date that approval to transfer to Academy status is announced.

Where the Council has entered into construction contracts for replacement schools on behalf of an Academy, the Council charges the cost of construction against Assets Under Construction (part of Property, Plant and Equipment), whilst the Academy is constructed. Once the construction is complete the asset is transferred to Property, Plant and Equipment on the date of transfer to Academy status. The Council accounts for this as a disposal for nil consideration.

Investment Properties

Investment Properties have been identified using criteria under 'the Code', and are those assets held solely for rental income or for capital appreciation, or both. The assessment of Investment Properties using these criteria is subject to interpretation.

Leases

The Council has examined its leases, and classified them as either operational or finance leases. In some cases the lease transaction is not always conclusive and the Council uses judgement in

determining whether the lease is a finance lease arrangement that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership. In assessing leases the Council has estimated the implied interest rate within the lease to calculate interest and principal payments.

Funding

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

42. Assumptions made about the future and other major sources of estimated uncertainty

Property, Plant and Equipment

An asset is depreciated over a useful life that is dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to the individual asset. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Council will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance bringing into doubt the useful life assigned to assets. If the useful life of an asset is reduced, the depreciation charge increases and the carrying amount of the asset falls.

An important estimation contained in the accounts is that of the useful economic life of non-current assets (or useful remaining economic life where assets are revalued). This is important as it determines the depreciation charge posted to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Depreciation is provided for on all non-current assets with a finite useful life (this can be determined at the time of acquisition or revaluation) according to the following policy:

Asset Category	Useful Economic Life
Buildings	Up to 70 years
Infrastructure assets (such as roads)	Up to 40 years (110 years for structures)
Other non-current assets (such as vehicles, plant and equipment)	10 years or less
Investment properties	Not depreciated - revalued each year
Surplus assets	Not depreciated - revalued each year

All assets held at current value are revalued as a minimum every five years. Specific assets may be valued more frequently depending on the wider economic context, particularly if it is expected that there has been a material reduction in their value during the year. The total value of assets subject to revaluation at 31 March 2024 was £342.073m. A 1% change in the value of these assets would result in a £3.421m change in the balance sheet value.

Depreciation could also be calculated by adopting a fixed policy regarding economic life for each identified class of asset. However, it has been determined by the Council that a 'catch-all' policy cannot be as accurate as the case-by-case review that is employed, because of the wide variety of assets held. The depreciation charge in the 2023/24 financial year was £18.283m. An increase of one to all useful economic lives would reduce this depreciation charge by £1.057m, and a reduction of one to all useful economic lives would increase the depreciation charge by £1.292m.

Pension Fund Liability

The estimation of the Pension Fund liability depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discounts used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on Pension Fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions. Further information including sensitivity analysis is set out in note 28.

43. Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties – bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently, or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council. In this context, related parties include Central Government (UK), Members, Officers, other public bodies and entities controlled or significantly influenced by the Council.

Central Government (UK)

Central Government (UK) has significant influence over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. Council Tax billing and Housing Benefits). Grants received from government departments are set out in Note 4 and 5.

Elected Members of the Council

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of Members' Allowances paid in 2023/24 is shown in Note 32

Members' interests outside of the Council are recorded in the register of interests and register of gifts and hospitality maintained by the monitoring officer. A small number of members hold official positions in organisations independent of their role as elected members of the Council. Where the Council has contracts for services and/or has awarded grants to such organisations, the Council's standing orders were fully complied with, ensuring proper consideration of any declaration of interests.

Members hold positions on boards of various community and voluntary organisations in and around Tameside. In 2023/24 there were no material transactions with any individual bodies where a member has a controlling interest in the organisation. Transactions with the individual bodies where a member has an influence in the organisation are as follows:

Related Party	2023/24				2022/23			
	Receipts	Payments	Creditors	Debtors	Receipts	Payments	Creditors	Debtors
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Active Tameside (Tameside Sport Trust)	-	4,399	(94)	-	(22)	4,192	92	-
Ashton Pioneer Homes	-	23	-	-	-	22	-	-
Jigsaw Homes (New Charter Housing)	(233)	1,922	378	-	(36)	2,097	337	-

Active Tameside (Tameside Sport Trust) – Payments were made by the Council to the Trust during the year in respect of the annual management fee to operate leisure facilities, improvement works to facilities, educational programmes and Adult day care provision

Ashton Pioneer Homes – Payments were made by the Council to Ashton Pioneer Homes during the year in respect of supported accommodation and homelessness.

New Charter Housing Trust (Part of the Jigsaw Homes Group) – Payments were made by the Council to New Charter during the year in respect of supported accommodation and homelessness. Income was received from New Charter in the form of fees and charges for various services including pest control and trade waste.

Other Public Bodies

The Council pays the following levies:

Levying Body	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Waste Disposal	15,295	14,903
Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Transport	15,961	15,347
Environmental Agency - Flood Defense	125	123

Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF)

The Council administers the GMPF, but there are separate management and governance arrangements in place to ensure the GMPF is able to act as an independent entity. Further details can be found in the GMPF Statement of Accounts.

	2023/24 £000	2022/23 £000
Balance B/fwd owed from/(to) the Pension Fund at 1st April	(1,891)	408
Cost incurred of behalf of Pension Fund	9,930	9,526
VAT Refund obtained from HMRC	(16,300)	(8,483)
Due from Tameside MBC to the Pension Fund	(8,261)	1,451
Reimbursements by the Pension Fund to TMBC	-	(3,342)
Owed from/(to) the Pension Fund by TMBC at 31st March	(8,261)	(1,891)

In the course of fulfilling its role as administering authority to the GMPF, the Council incurs costs for services (e.g. salaries and support costs), and manages the GMPF's VAT liabilities on its behalf. The Council in turn recovers these costs from the GMPF.

Chief Officers

All Chief Officers have been asked to disclose any relationships or interests with entities that could be a related party of the Council.

Chief Officer	Interests Declared
Chief Executive and Director of Greater Manchester Pension Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Greater Manchester Pension Fund • Director of Northern Pool General Partner (Number 1) Ltd representing Greater Manchester Pension Fund • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd
Assistant Director of Resources. From 01/04/2023 to 19/04/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd
Director of Resources. From 19/04/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd • Director of Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Holdings 2) Ltd

<p>Interim Assistant Director, Digital Tameside</p> <p>From 01/04/2023 to 30/11/2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Information Officer (c-dpo) Tameside and Glossop Integrated Care NHS Foundation trust
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Inspired Spaces Tameside Ltd, Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd have been identified as related parties and further information on transactions and balances is set out below.

Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council

The Council carries out a complex range of activities, often in conjunction with external organisations. Where those organisations are in partnership with or under the ultimate control of the Council a judgement is made by management as to whether they are within the Council's group boundary. A group structure may exist where the Council has a controlling (or significant ability to influence) another entity. A group structure would necessitate the preparation of group accounts. This judgement is made in line with the provisions set out in the Code and relevant accounting standards.

The Council's group boundaries have been assessed using the criteria outlined in 'the Code'. It was determined that the Council has a significant influence over Inspiredspaces Tameside Ltd, Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd and Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd. However, on the basis of materiality the Council has determined that the preparation of group accounts is not required because group accounts would not be materially different to the single entity accounts.

Transactions and balances with Inspiredspaces Tameside Ltd, Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd, Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd were as follows:

Related Party	2023/24				2022/23			
	Receipts	Payments	Creditors	Debtors	Receipts	Payments	Creditors	Debtors
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Co-operative Network Infrastructure	-	-	-	-	(53)	-	-	(12)
Inspired Spaces Tameside Ltd	-	31,899	1,079	(13)	-	16,624	2,209	-
Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 1) Ltd	(388)	-	-	(115)	(317)	-	-	(120)
Inspired Spaces Tameside (Project Co 2) Ltd	(483)	-	-	(262)	(364)	-	-	(194)

A review of the Council's relationship with other entities has also been undertaken to ensure they are properly reported. Following the current guidance, with the exception of the investments above, it is clear that the Council is not in a further group arrangement, as it does not have the ability to exercise either influence or control at a material level over another entity.

44. Agency Services and Pooled Budgets

Agency Services

	HMP £000	iStandUK £000	i-Network £000	GMPHLG £000	NAFN £000	GMHSCP £000	NW ADASS £000	GMEU £000	PPP £000
Balance Brought Forward	(4,230)	(244)	(443)	(956)	(1,590)	(1,332)	(581)	(452)	(51)
Contributions	(164)	(41)	(338)	(354)	(1,196)	(1,794)	(1,587)	(518)	(240)
Interest earned on Balances	(325)	(1)	(24)	0	(95)	0	0	0	0
Total Income	(489)	(42)	(362)	(354)	(1,291)	(1,794)	(1,587)	(518)	(240)
Employee Expenses	0	38	279	218	697	5	517	408	88
Payments as per Business Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Project Payments to Authorities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Supplies & Services/Other expenditure	232	126	101	93	642	385	1,154	124	64
Total Expenditure	232	164	380	311	1,339	390	1,670	532	152
Balance Carried Forward	(4,487)	(121)	(425)	(1,000)	(1,542)	(2,737)	(498)	(438)	(139)

Hattersley/Mottram Project (HMP)

HMP involves the regeneration of land previously owned by Manchester City Council and the Council mainly for residential use. In addition, the former Manchester City Council housing stock was transferred and is now owned by Onward. This is being improved and refurbished as part of the latter's business plan, for which £18.5m has been provided from the proceeds from Base Hattersley to be able to build in Hattersley.

The Council's partners in the project are Homes England and Onward. The partners operate under a Collaboration Agreement and, in accordance with this Agreement signed by the principal partners, the Council acts as the accountable body on behalf of the partnership. The Council receives funds from the developer (Base Hattersley) as per the respective agreements (Collaboration Agreement and Development Agreement) and distributes the funds to the partners in priority ranking as per the Agreement. The balance will be carried forward into 2023/24 and used to fund the remaining elements of the Collaboration Agreement and Public Realm.

iStandUK

iStandUK is a programme established to develop and promote data standards that support the efficiency, transformation, and transparency of local public services in the UK. The Council is the lead partner and accountable body for the programme. During 2023/24 iStandUK continued work on the SAVVI standards project, funded by DLUHC, Local Digital, to identify and support vulnerable individuals and households. Phase 3 of the SAVVI project continues into 2024/25 and the 2023/24 funding balance will be carried forward to continue the work of the project. The iStandUK programme is sustained by Central Government sponsorship and grant funding.

i-Network

iNetwork is a partnership that brings together local authorities, police, fire, health, housing and voluntary sector organisations across the North to support innovation and the transformation of local public services. The Council acts as treasurer and accountable body. iNetwork charges membership and service fees in order to sustain the partnership and deliver set outcomes. The 2023/24 balance will be carried forward into 2024/25.

Greater Manchester Public Health Leadership Group (GMPHLG)

GMPHLG is a collaborative network that works on behalf of the Greater Manchester Directors of Public Health which is funded by contributions from constituent members. The network supports Greater Manchester Local Authorities to fulfil their statutory public health functions under the Health and Social Care Act 2012. The network works with local partners to improve health and wellbeing

for residents across Greater Manchester and the Greater Manchester economy, reducing health inequalities.

National Anti-Fraud Network (NAFN)

Formed in 1997, NAFN is currently hosted by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council. The Service Team comprises 19 full-time officers together with 1 fixed-term position. We provide a national service supporting organisations fighting fraud to protect the public purse. Operating costs are recovered from grant funding, membership fees and service recharges. Currently, 98% of local authorities are members and there are a rapidly growing number of affiliated wider public authorities including social housing providers. NAFN is the single point of contact for all local authorities seeking to acquire communications data and is widely recognised as provider of data and intelligence to support member's fraud and criminal investigations. Membership is open to any organisation which has responsibility for managing public funds and/or assets. Use of our services is voluntary, which ensures we deliver value for money.

NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care (GMHSCP)

NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care is in charge of the NHS money and making sure services are in place to put plans into action. Made up of representatives from the NHS and the local council, they're responsible for making decisions about health services across Greater Manchester. The partnership operates at three levels: neighbourhood, locality and Greater Manchester and has a single vision and strategy. Hospitals, GPs, community services, voluntary services and others have come together to form 'provider collaboratives' within all 3 levels, helping to join care and help people live well across our ten boroughs. Tameside Council is the accountable body for the Greater Manchester Adult Social Care Transformation programme, a function of NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care.

North West Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (NWADASS)

North West ADASS incorporates the sub-regions of Cheshire and Merseyside; Lancashire and South Cumbria; plus Greater Manchester. The region encompasses tremendous diversity and relative poor health. The component 23 local authorities are at the forefront of innovation through regional sector led improvement programmes and participation in a range of integration activity with key partners. Tameside Council is the accountable body for NW ADASS with each component local authority contributing an equal annual subscription funding contribution to the financing of the association infrastructure and agreed work programme priorities. In addition, the association receives various non-recurrent grant funding allocations and DHSC contracts to support the delivery of specified programmes of work.

Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU)

The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) provides specialist advice to, and on behalf of, Local Authorities on biodiversity, nature conservation and wildlife issues. Although hosted by Tameside MBC, GMEU works across the whole of Greater Manchester and North West England.

The Ecology Unit maintains the habitats and species database for Greater Manchester, maintains the Register of designated nature conservation sites, comments on the ecological impact of development proposals on behalf of planning departments, and provides advice on safeguarding wildlife on development sites.

Public Protection Partnership (PPP)

The Public Protection Partnership (PPP) in Greater Manchester – made up of heads of service from each of the ten GM local authorities' regulatory teams and GMFRS – have a long history of strong collaboration. In 2017, they created the Greater Manchester Regulatory Centre of Excellence (GMRCE), in part, as a means to join the national Better Business for All (BBfA) programme created

by the former Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS). A BBfA/GMRCE coordinator was appointed in March 2018, funded by contributions from each GM local authority and Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service (GMFRS), and has further developed GMRCE's flagship offer – primary authority – which enables a business or business organisation to form a long-term, legally recognised partnership with a local authority or fire service to access advice and support about how they can comply most efficiently with regulation. The business pays for this service on a cost-recovery basis.

In 2022, the service successfully applied for funding from the Regulator's Pioneer Fund (distributed by the Department for Science, Innovation & Technology) for £503,708. This funding has been used to create Greater Manchester Business Compliance Support and the funds will be re-distributed to GM regulatory services teams to pay salaries for each members of the team, as well as any costs associated with the project.

45. Building Control

The Council sets charges for work carried out in relation to building regulations with the aim of covering all costs incurred. The Council aims to ensure that, taking one financial year with the next, Building Control fees are set to cover costs without generating a material surplus or loss.

However, certain activities performed by the Building Control Unit cannot be charged for, such as providing general advice and liaising with other statutory authorities, including pre-application advice of up to one hour duration. The total net cost of operating the Building Control Unit was £0.66m in 2023/24, which was made up of a deficit on chargeable activities of £0.048m and a deficit on non-chargeable activities of £0.020m.

	2023/24		
	Chargeable	Non-Chargeable	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Expenditure:			
Employee Expenses	122	52	174
Premises	0	0	0
Transport	0	0	0
Supplies and Services	4	2	6
Central and Support Service Charges	0	0	0
	126	54	180
Income:			
Building Regulation Charges	0	0	0
Miscellaneous Income	(115)	0	(115)
	(115)	0	(115)
(Surplus)/Deficit for year	11	54	65

46. Pooled Budget

In 2022/23 the Council and the Tameside Locality Integrated Commissioning Board (ICB) reported budgets that were within the Integrated Commissioning Fund. The fund included Section 75, Aligned and In Collaboration Funded Services of both organisations. The single fund was reported to members of the Tameside Strategic Partnership Board.

In 2023/24 the Council and Tameside Locality ICB have agreed to report just the Section 75 funded services. This comprises the Locality Better Care Fund allocations as set out in the table. This ensures compliance with the national NHS Better Care Fund assurance requirement that all Better

Care Fund (BCF) funding awarded to localities is pooled within a section 75 agreement as a minimum.

The BCF was established by the Government pursuant to the Care Act 2014 to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care to achieve mandatory National Conditions and Local Objectives. It is a National Health Service England requirement that the Council and locality Integrated Care Board (ICB) establish a pooled fund for this purpose. A section 75 agreement under the National Health Service (NHS) act 2006 must be updated annually and set out the detail of budget areas pooled for the respective financial year.

Funding provided to the pooled budget:			
Section 75	2023/24 Funding		
	Council £000	ICB £000	Total £000
Revenue			
Better Care Fund	13,145	7,427	20,572
Improved Better Care Fund	12,585	0	12,585
Discharge Fund	1,765	1,598	3,363
Capital			
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	2,849	0	2,849
DFG - Additional	249	0	249
Section 75 Total	30,593	9,025	39,618

Expenditure met from the pooled budget:			
Section 75	2023/24 Expenditure		
	Council £000	ICB £000	Total £000
Revenue			
Better Care Fund	13,252	7,427	20,679
Improved Better Care Fund	12,585	0	12,585
Discharge Fund	1,765	1,598	3,363
Capital			
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	2,849	0	2,849
DFG - Additional	142	0	142
Section 75 Total	30,593	9,025	39,618

Collection Fund

Section 89 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992) for billing authorities to establish and maintain a separate Collection Fund account that holds details of transactions relating to Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rates and Precept Demands (and any Residual Community Charge adjustments), together with details of how any balances have been distributed.

Collection Fund Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

This account reflects statutory requirements for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund to account for the income from Council Tax and NDR.

	31 March 2024			31 March 2023		
	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000	Council Tax £000	NDR £000	Total £000
Income						
Income from Council Tax	(136,547)	0	(136,547)	(129,072)	0	(129,072)
Transfers from General Fund (S13A relief)	(455)	0	(455)	0	0	0
Income from NDR	0	(50,840)	(50,840)	0	(50,568)	(50,568)
Total Income	(137,003)	(50,840)	(187,843)	(129,072)	(50,568)	(179,640)
Expenditure						
<u>Council Tax</u>						
The Council	110,234	0	110,234	104,622	0	104,622
GMCA Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	15,457	0	15,457	14,453	0	14,453
GMCA Mayoral General Precept (inc. Fire)	6,858	0	6,858	6,517	0	6,517
<u>NDR</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Council	0	54,431	54,431	0	47,099	47,099
Central Government	0	0	0	0	0	0
GM Fire and Rescue Authority	0	550	550	0	476	476
Allowance for cost of collection	0	288	288	0	286	286
Transitional Protection Payments	0	(5,305)	(5,305)	0	(63)	(63)
Increase/(decrease) in:	0	0	0	0	0	0
Allowance for non-collection	2,907	771	3,679	2,270	1,662	3,932
Provision for appeals	0	(7,349)	(7,349)	0	(2,514)	(2,514)
<u>Surplus/deficit (allocated)/paid out in year:</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Council	(169)	6,564	6,395	3,036	(15,062)	(12,026)
Central Government	0	0	0	0	0	0
GMCA Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	(23)	0	(23)	413	0	413
GMCA Mayoral General Precept (inc. Fire)	(11)	66	55	172	(152)	20
Total Expenditure	135,254	50,017	185,271	131,483	31,732	163,215
(Surplus)/deficit for the year	(1,749)	(823)	(2,572)	2,411	(18,836)	(16,425)
Balance brought forward	(1,105)	(8,265)	(9,370)	(3,516)	10,570	7,054
(Surplus)/deficit for the year	(1,749)	(823)	(2,572)	2,411	(18,836)	(16,425)
Balance carried forward	(2,853)	(9,089)	(11,942)	(1,105)	(8,266)	(9,371)
<u>Share of (surplus)/deficit</u>						
The Council	(2,373)	(7,221)	(9,594)	(919)	(6,406)	(7,325)
Central Government	0	(1,777)	(1,777)	0	(1,777)	(1,777)
GMCA Mayoral Police and Crime Commissioner	(334)	0	(334)	(130)	0	(130)
GMCA Mayoral General Precept (inc. Fire)	(147)	(91)	(238)	(57)	(83)	(140)
	(2,853)	(9,089)	(11,942)	(1,105)	(8,266)	(9,371)

Notes to the Collection Fund

Section 89 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992) for billing authorities to establish and maintain a separate Collection Fund account that holds details of transactions relating to Council Tax, Non-Domestic Rates and Precept Demands (and any Residual Community Charge adjustments), together with details of how any balances have been distributed.

1. Overview

The Collection Fund is a statement that reflects the statutory obligation of Tameside as the billing authority to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The Collection Fund statement shows the Council's transactions in relation to the collection from taxpayers of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates (NDR) and its distribution to the relevant preceptors.

The Council has a statutory obligation under section 89 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992) to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The purpose of the Collection Fund is to isolate the income and expenditure relating to Council Tax and NDR. The administrative costs associated with the collection process are charged to General Fund Balances.

'The Code' stipulates that a Collection Fund Income and Expenditure account is included in the Council's Statement of Accounts. The Collection Fund Balance Sheet meanwhile is incorporated into the Council's Balance Sheet.

2. Council Tax

All domestic properties are placed in one of eight valuation bands. Each year the Council must estimate the number of properties in each band and after allowing for discounts, exemptions and losses on collection, the net number of properties is then converted into a Band D equivalent in order to calculate the Council Tax base for tax setting purposes. The income which the Council requires to be raised is then divided by the Council Tax Base to give the Band D equivalent Council Tax for the year.

The Council Tax level for each of the bands is assessed as a proportion of the tax rate for a Band D property.

Council Tax Base for 2023/24

The Council Tax base for 2023/24 was set in January 2023.

Table showing the tax base for the whole Council and Council Tax for properties within the Mossley Parish Council boundary:

Tameside 2023/24 Tax Base (Excluding Mossley Parish)								
	Total Number of Dwellings	Equivalent Number of Dwellings after Discounts applied	Specified ratio for Council Tax	Number of Band D Equivalent Dwellings	Tameside MBC Precept (Excluding Mossley)	Mayoral Police & Crime Commissioner Precept	Mayoral General Precept	Council Tax (Excluding Mossley Parish)
Disabled Relief	0	72	5/9	40	0	0	0	0
Band A	52,666	36,706	6/9	24,470	1,156	162	72	1,391
Band B	19,375	16,164	7/9	12,572	1,349	189	84	1,622
Band C	19,958	17,752	8/9	15,780	1,542	216	96	1,854
Band D	7,095	6,546	9/9	6,546	1,735	243	108	2,086
Band E	3,874	3,619	11/9	4,423	2,120	297	132	2,549
Band F	940	886	13/9	1,280	2,505	351	156	3,013
Band G	436	411	15/9	685	2,891	406	180	3,476
Band H	41	21	18/9	41	3,469	487	216	4,172
Total	104,385	82,176		65,837				
Less Allowance for Losses on Collection				(2,304)				
MOD Properties				0				
Total Tameside Tax Base 2023/24				63,532				

Table showing the tax base and Council Tax for properties within the Mossley Parish Council:

Tameside 2023/24 Tax Base (Mossley Parish)									
	Total Number of Dwellings	Equivalent Number of Dwellings after Discounts applied	Specified ratio for Council Tax	Number of Band D Equivalent Dwellings	Tameside MBC Precept (Excluding Mossley)	Mossley Precept	Mayoral Police & Crime Commissioner Precept	Mayoral General Precept	Council Tax (Including Mossley Parish)
Disabled Relief	0	3	5/9	3	0	0	0	0	0
Band A	2,795	2,083	6/9	1,388	1,156	6	162	72	1,397
Band B	896	776	7/9	604	1,349	7	189	84	1,629
Band C	1,046	924	8/9	822	1,542	8	216	96	1,862
Band D	456	428	9/9	428	1,735	9	243	108	2,095
Band E	193	183	11/9	224	2,120	11	297	132	2,561
Band F	53	57	13/9	82	2,505	13	351	156	3,026
Band G	13	16	15/9	27	2,891	15	406	180	3,492
Band H	1	1	18/9	2	3,469	19	487	216	4,190
Total	5,453	4,472		3,580					
Less Allowance for Losses on Collection				(125)					
MOD Properties				0					
Total Mossley Parish Tax Base 2023/24				3,455					

3. Non-Domestic Rates (NDR)

The Council collects NDR for its area based on local rateable values provided by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) multiplied by a uniform Business Rate set nationally by Central Government.

For 2023/24, the total Non-Domestic Rateable value at 31 March 2024 is £158.6m (£148.6m in 2022/23). The national multipliers for 2023/24 were 49.9p for qualifying small businesses, and the standard multiplier being 51.2p for all other businesses (49.9p and 51.2p respectively in 2022/23).

Local authorities retain a proportion of the total collectable rates due. Prior to 2017/18, the local share for Tameside was 49%, with the remainder distributed to the Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Authority (GMFRA) (1%) and Central Government (50%). Since 2017/18 Tameside has been part of the 100% retention for Greater Manchester. This means that Tameside retains 99% of total collectable rates, with 1% distributed to the GMFRA. The NDR shares paid in 2023/24, (excluding previous year's distribution) were £54.431m to the Council and £0.550m to GMFRA. (2022/23 shares paid were £47.100m to the Council and £0.476m to GMFRA). From 2023/24 a new 100% Greater Manchester trailblazing devolution deal will run for a further 10 years.

Greater Manchester 100% Business Rates Retention

Greater Manchester is one of the regions piloting the full retention of Business Rates from 1 April 2017. The purpose of this Pilot is to develop and trial approaches to manage risk and reward, and to finance from additional Business Rates income new responsibilities and/or existing funding streams including those that support economic growth.

Being part of the Greater Manchester 100% Business Rates Retention scheme provides the Council and the Greater Manchester region with potential financial benefits with the guarantee that Authorities will not be worse off as a result of the scheme. The 'No Detriment' agreement will guarantee that the resources available to the Council under the 100% scheme will be the same as the 50% retention scheme that exists for non 100% retention authorities.

As a result of the Business Rates Retention Scheme, the Council has not received Revenue Support Grant or Public Health Grant from Government since 2017/18. Instead the Council retains 99% of its Non Domestic (Business) Rates income with 1% distributed to GMFRA. The original scheme arrangements ran until the end of 2022/23 and have now been extended for a further 10 years from 2023/24 as part of the Greater Manchester trailblazing devolution deal.

Glossary of Financial Terms

Accruals Basis

The accruals principle is that income is recorded when it is earned rather than when it is received, and expenses are recorded when goods or services are received rather than when the payment is made.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

Actuaries assess financial and non-financial information provided by the Council to project levels of future pension fund requirements. Changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses can arise leading to a loss or gain because:

- events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation;
- the actuarial assumptions have changed.

Agency Services

These are services that are performed by or for another Authority or public body, where the principal (the Authority responsible for the service) reimburses the agent (the Authority carrying out the work) for the costs of the work.

Associate Companies

This is an entity other than a subsidiary or joint venture in which the reporting Authority has a participating interest and over who's operating and financial policies the reporting Authority is able to exercise significant influence.

Association of Greater Manchester Authorities (AGMA)

AGMA represents the ten local authorities in Greater Manchester and works in partnership with Central Government, regional bodies and other Greater Manchester public sector bodies.

Appointed Auditors

From 1 April 2015 the appointment of External Auditors to Local Authorities has been undertaken by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA), an independent company limited by guarantee and incorporated by the Local Government Association in August 2014. This role was previously undertaken by The Audit Commission.

Asset

Items of worth that are measurable in terms of value. Current assets may change daily, but the Council is expected to yield the benefit within the one financial year (e.g. short term debtors). Non-current assets yield benefit to the Council for a period of more than one year (e.g. land).

Balances

The balances of the Authority represent the accumulated surplus of income over expenditure on any of the Funds.

Better Care Fund (BCF)

The BCF was announced by Government in the June 2013 spending round to ensure a transformation in health and social care.

Billing Authority

An authority which collects Council Tax, Business Rates and precepts on behalf of itself and other bodies.

Capital Expenditure

This is expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset, or expenditure, which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing fixed asset.

Capital Financing Costs

This is the annual charge to the revenue account in respect of interest and principal repayments and payments of borrowed money, together with leasing rentals.

Capital Finance Requirement (CFR)

Introduced as a result of the Prudential Framework for Capital Accounting and measures the underlying need of the Council to borrow for expenditure of a capital nature.

Capital Receipts

Income received from the sale of land or other capital assets, a proportion of which may be used to finance new capital expenditure.

Carrying Amount

The Balance Sheet value recorded of either an asset or liability.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions payable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

CIPFA is the leading professional accountancy body for public services.

Collection Fund

A fund administered by the Council that shows the transactions of the billing authority, in relation to the collection from taxpayers of Council Tax and NDR and how the income from these sources has been distributed to precepting authorities, Central Government and the Council's General Fund Balances. The Collection Fund is maintained separately, as a statutory requirement.

Community Assets

Non-current assets that an authority intends to hold in perpetuity which have no determinable finite useful life and, in addition, may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples include parks and historical buildings not used for operational purposes.

Contingency

This is money set aside in the budget to meet the cost of unforeseen items of expenditure, or shortfalls in income, and to provide for inflation where this is not included in individual budgets.

Contingent Liabilities or Assets

These are amounts potentially due to or from individuals or organisations, which may arise in the future but which at this time cannot be determined accurately, and for which provision has not been made in the Council's accounts.

Corporate Governance

Corporate governance is the Council's accountability for the stewardship of resources, risk management and relationship with the community. It encompasses policies on whistle blowing, fraud and corruption.

Council Tax

This is the main source of local taxation to Local Authorities. Council Tax is levied on households within its area by the Billing Authority and the proceeds are paid into its Collection Fund for distribution to precepting Authorities and for use by its own General Fund Balances.

Council Tax Requirement

This is the estimated revenue expenditure on General Fund services that needs to be financed from the Council Tax after deducting income from fees and charges, certain specific grants and any funding from reserves.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered, for which payment has not been made at the date of the Balance Sheet.

Current Service Cost

Current Service Cost is the increase in the present value of a defined benefit pension scheme's liabilities expected to arise from employee service in the current period, i.e. the ultimate pension benefits "earned" by employees in the current year's employment.

Debtors

These are sums of money due to the Council that have not been received at the Balance Sheet date.

Deferred Capital Receipts

These represent capital income still to be received after disposals have taken place and wholly consists of principal outstanding from the sale of council houses.

Defined Benefit Scheme

This is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme other than a Defined Contribution Scheme. Usually, the scheme rules define the benefits independently of the contributions payable and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme. The scheme may be funded or unfunded (including notionally funded).

Defined Contribution Scheme

A Defined Contribution Scheme is a pension or other retirement benefit scheme into which an employer pays regular contributions as an amount or as a percentage of pay and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the scheme does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC)

A method of valuation that provides a proxy for the market value of specialist assets.

Derecognition

This is when financial assets and liabilities are removed from the Balance Sheet once performance under the contract is complete or the contract is terminated.

Depreciation

This is the measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful economic life of a fixed asset.

Discounts

Discounts represent the outstanding discount received on the premature repayment of Public Works Loan Board loans. In line with the requirements of 'the Code', gains arising from the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing have been written back to revenue. However, where the repurchase or borrowing was coupled with a refinancing or restructuring of borrowing with substantially the same overall economic effect when viewed as a whole, gains have been recognised over the life of the replacement loan.

Earmarked Reserves

The Council holds a number of reserves earmarked to be used to meet specific, known or predicted future expenditure.

External Audit

The independent examination of the activities and accounts of Local Authorities to ensure the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices and to ensure the Council has made proper arrangements to secure value for money in its use of resources.

Expenditure

This is amounts paid by the Council for goods received or services rendered of either a capital or revenue nature. This does not necessarily involve a cash payment since expenditure is deemed to have been incurred once the goods or services have been received even if they have not been paid for.

Fair Value

Fair value is the price at which an asset could be exchanged in an arm's length transaction, less any grants receivable towards the purchase or use of the asset.

Finance Lease

A finance lease is a lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. The term 'financial instrument' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes both the most straightforward financial assets and liabilities such as trade receivables and trade payables and the most complex ones such as derivatives and embedded derivatives.

Financial Regulations

These are the written code of procedures approved by the Council, intended to provide a framework for proper financial management. Financial regulations usually set out rules on accounting, audit, administrative and budgeting procedures.

General Fund Balances

The main revenue fund of the Council and includes the net cost of all services financed by local taxpayers and Government grants.

Heritage Asset

A tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

Housing Benefit

This is an allowance to persons on low income (or none) to meet, in whole or part, their rent. Benefit is allowed or paid by Local Authorities but Central Government refunds part of the cost of the benefits and of the running costs of the services to Local Authorities.

Impairment

A reduction in the value of a non-current asset below its value brought forward in the Balance Sheet. Examples of factors which may cause such a reduction in value include general price decreases, a significant decline in a non-current asset's market value and evidence of obsolescence or physical damage to the asset.

Income

These are amounts due to the Council for goods supplied or services rendered of either a capital or a revenue nature. This does not necessarily involve a cash payment. Income is deemed to have been earned once the goods or services have been supplied even if the payment has not been received (in which case the recipient is a debtor to the Council).

Infrastructure Assets

Those non-current assets from which benefit can be obtained only by continued use of the asset created e.g. highways, footpaths and bridges.

Intangible Assets

These are non-current assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council. Examples include software, licenses and patents.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

Defined Accounting Standards that must be applied by all reporting entities to all financial statements in order to provide a true and fair view of the entity's financial position, and a standardised method of comparison with financial statements of the other entities.

Interest Cost

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period on the present value of the scheme liabilities which arises from the passage of time.

Inventories

Amounts of unused or unconsumed stocks held in expectation of future use.

Investment Properties

Property, which can be land or a building or part of a building or both, that is held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation or both, rather than for operational purposes.

Joint Venture

A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties who have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the arrangement.

Leasing Costs

This is where a rental is paid for the use of an asset for a specified period of time. Two forms of lease exist: finance leases and operating leases.

Lender Option Borrower Option (LOBO)

A LOBO is a type of loan instrument. The borrower borrows a principal sum for the duration of the loan period (typically 20 to 50 years), initially at a fixed interest rate. Periodically (typically every six months to 3 years), the lender has the ability to alter the interest rate. Should the lender make this offer, the borrower then has the option to continue with the instrument at the new rate or alternatively to terminate the agreement and pay back the principal sum without penalty.

Liabilities

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

Liquid Resources

Current asset investments that are readily disposable by the Council without disrupting its business and are either readily convertible to known amounts of cash at or close to the amount they are held at on the Balance Sheet, or traded in an active market.

Materiality

The concept that any omission from or inaccuracy of the Statement of Accounts should not be large enough to affect the understanding of those statements by the reader. Materiality must be considered for individual amounts and also all amounts together.

Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP)

This is a financial planning document that sets out the future years financial forecasts for the Council. It considers local and national policy influences and projects their impact on the general fund revenue budget and capital programme.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP)

MRP is the minimum amount which must be charged to a Council's revenue account each year and set aside as provision for credit liabilities, as required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Net Debt

Net debt is the Council's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

Non-Domestic rates (NDR) (also known as Business Rates)

Business Rates is the levy on business property, based on a national rate in the pound applied to the 'rateable value' of the property. The Government determines a national rate poundage each year which is applicable to all local authorities.

Net Book Value (NBV)

The amount at which non-current assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical cost or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for by depreciation.

Non-current Asset

Assets that yield benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year.

Net Realisable Value (NRV)

NRV is the open market value of the asset in its existing use (or open market value in the case of non-operational assets) less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

Operating Lease

This is a type of lease, usually of computer equipment, office equipment, furniture, etc. where the balance of risks and rewards of holding the asset remains with the lessor. The asset remains the property of the lessor and the lease costs are revenue expenditure to the Council.

Outturn

Actual expenditure and income compared to the budget.

Precept

The amount levied by one authority which is collected on its behalf by another (the billing authority).

Premiums

These are discounts that have arisen following the early redemption of long term debt, which are written down over the lifetime of replacement loans where applicable.

Prior Period Adjustments

These are material adjustments which are applicable to an earlier period arising from changes in accounting policies or for the correction of fundamental errors.

Private Finance Initiative (PFI)

A Central Government initiative which aims to increase the level of funding available for public services by attracting private sources of finance. The PFI is supported by a number of incentives to encourage authorities' participation.

Property, Plant and Equipment (PPE)

PPE are tangible assets (i.e. assets that have physical substance) that are held for use in the production or supply of goods and services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes, and are expected to be used during more than one year.

Provisions

Amounts set aside to meet liabilities or losses which it is anticipated will be incurred but where the amount and/or the timing of such costs are uncertain.

Public Works and Loans Board (PWLB)

An arm of Central Government which is the major provider of loans to finance long term funding requirements of Local Authorities.

Related Parties

Related parties are Central Government, other Local Authorities, precepting and levying bodies, subsidiary and associated companies, Elected Members, all Senior Officers from Assistant Director and above and the Pension Fund.

Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability

Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability (asset) comprises:

- a) actuarial gains and losses
- b) the return on plan assets, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset), and
- c) any change in the effect of the asset ceiling, excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset).

Reporting Standards

The Code of Practice prescribes the accounting treatment and disclosures for all normal transactions of a Local Authority. It is based on International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), International Accounting Standards (IAS) and International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) plus UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP) and Financial Reporting Standards (FRS).

Reserves

Amounts set aside for general contingencies, to provide working balances or earmarked to specific future expenditure.

Revenue Contributions

The method of financing capital expenditure directly from revenue.

Revenue Expenditure

Expenditure incurred on the day-to-day running of the Council. This mainly includes employee costs, general running expenses and capital financing costs.

Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provision but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset that has been charged as expenditure to the CIES.

Subsidiary

A subsidiary is an entity, including an unincorporated entity such as a partnership, which is controlled by the Council.

Treasury Management

This is the process by which the Council controls its cash flow and its borrowing and lending activities.

Treasury Management Strategy

A Strategy prepared with regard to legislative and CIPFA requirements setting out the framework for treasury management activity for the Council.

Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing

This is borrowing for which no financial support is provided by Central Government. The borrowing costs are to be met from current revenue budgets.

Useful Economic Life

The period over which the Council will derive benefits from the use of an asset.

Greater Manchester Pension Fund

Statement of Accounts

2023/24

DRAFT UNAUDITED

***DRAFT Statement of Accounts 2023/24 – These accounts have not yet been subject to audit.
The External Auditor's report will be inserted here on completion of the audit.***

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Fund Account for the year ended 31 March 2024			
31 March 2023 £000		Note	31 March 2024 £000
	Contributions and benefits		
(184,648)	Contributions from members	5	(200,941)
(528,724)	Contributions from employers	5	(654,848)
(713,372)			(855,789)
0	Transfers in (bulk)		0
(35,147)	Transfers in (individual)		(45,978)
(748,519)			(901,767)
954,379	Benefits payable	6	1,058,840
54,043	Payments to and on account of leavers	7	58,412
259,903	Net (additions) / withdrawals from dealings with members		215,485
105,736	Management expenses	8	101,045
365,639	Net (additions) / withdrawals including management expenses		316,530
	Returns on investments		
(722,211)	Investment income	9	(775,104)
3,258	Taxes on income	10	2,867
251,855	Profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in value of investments	11a	(1,450,933)
(467,098)	Net return on investments		(2,223,170)
(101,459)	Net (increase) / decrease in the net assets available for benefits during the year		(1,906,640)
(29,324,254)	Net assets of the Fund at start of year		(29,425,713)
(29,425,713)	Net assets of the Fund at end of year		(31,332,353)

Please see relevant notes for further information and/or analysis.

Net Assets Statement at 31 March 2024

31 March 2023 £000		Note	31 March 2024 £000
10,849,776	Equities	11a	11,760,238
2,786,973	Bonds	11b	2,792,572
807,695	Investment property	11c	898,527
14,929	Derivative contracts	11d	9,903
10,773,706	Pooled investment vehicles	11e	11,392,046
3,526,911	Insurance policies	11f	3,633,381
435,893	Cash and deposits	11g	614,463
182,053	Other investment assets	11h	222,412
29,377,936	Investment assets		31,323,542
(7,155)	Derivative contract liabilities	11d	(8,641)
(23,528)	Other investment liabilities	11h	(30,777)
(30,683)	Investment liabilities		(39,418)
96,712	Current assets	11h	73,001
(18,252)	Current liabilities	11h	(24,772)
78,460	Net current assets		48,229
29,425,713	Net assets of the scheme available to fund benefits at the reporting period end		31,332,353

Please see relevant notes for further information and/or analysis.

Notes to Greater Manchester Pension Fund Accounts

1. Notes to the Accounts

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2023/24 based on IFRS, published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). This requires that GMPF accounts should be prepared in accordance with International Accounting Standard (IAS) 26, except where interpretations or adaptations to fit the public sector are detailed in the Code. The financial statements summarise the transactions of GMPF and deal with net assets at the disposal of the Management Panel. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the GMPF financial year. Under IFRS, GMPF is required to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. This is disclosed as a separate note (Note 25). The full actuarial position of GMPF which does take account of pension and benefit obligations falling due after the year end is outlined in Note 22. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with that information.

1b. The Management and Membership of the Greater Manchester Pension Fund

Tameside MBC is the statutory Administering Authority for the Greater Manchester Pension Fund (GMPF). The administration and investment performance of GMPF is considered and reviewed every quarter by the Management Panel, which throughout most of the year, consisted of 19 elected Members (10 from Tameside MBC, being the Administering Authority, and nine from other Greater Manchester local authorities) and a representative from the Ministry of Justice.

The Management Panel is advised in all areas by the Advisory Panel. Each of the ten Greater Manchester local authorities and the Ministry of Justice are represented on the Advisory Panel and there are six employee representatives nominated by the North West TUC. There are also currently two External Advisors who assist the Advisory Panel, in particular, regarding investment related issues.

As a result of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and subsequent Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations, each public sector pension fund has been required to establish a Local Pension Board from 1 April 2015.

The GMPF Local Pensions Board is not a decision-making body. However, it is required to assist the Administering Authority in complying with regulations and ensuring that appropriate governance is in place.

GMPF also currently has three Working Groups, which consider particular areas of its activities and make recommendations to the Management Panel. Governance arrangements for GMPF are continually under review. The Working Groups in operation in 2023/24 covered:

- Policy and Development
- Investment Monitoring and Environment, Social and Governance
- Pensions Administration, Employer Funding and Viability

There are two Officers to GMPF:

- Chief Executive & Director of Pensions – administrator of GMPF and link for Panel Members, advisors and investment managers between meetings
- Director of Resources – responsible for preparation of Administering Authority’s accounts, which includes GMPF’s Statement of Accounts

GMPF’s investment strategy is implemented by management arrangements, which include:

- one external investment manager that manages multi asset briefs
- two external managers with a global equity brief
- one external manager with a global credit brief
- three external managers with a direct and indirect UK property brief, i.e. two discretionary UK and one advisory local
- internal management of cash, private equity, infrastructure, generalist pooled property funds, local and other unquoted investments

GMPF subscribes to an industry performance measurement service run by Portfolio Evaluation Ltd in order to analyse/benchmark GMPF’s performance relative to market returns and relevant industry comparators. In addition to this, GMPF also subscribes to the Local Authority Pension Performance Analytics Service supplied by Pensions Investment Research Consultants Ltd (PIRC) to enable assessment of its performance relative to all other funds that operate under the same regulations.

GMPF is a pension fund which administers the statutory Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), set up to provide death and retirement benefits for local government employees other than teachers, fire fighters and police officers for whom separate arrangements exist. In addition, other qualifying bodies, which provide similar services to that of local authorities, have been admitted to GMPF.

GMPF operates a career average scheme whereby as each year goes by members build up a set portion of pay as a pension. It is funded by contributions from employees, which are set out in regulations, and variable contributions from employers, which take account of the relationship of assets held to liabilities accrued (see Actuarial Review of GMPF – Note 22). The benefits of the Scheme are prescribed nationally by Regulations made under the Public Service Pension Schemes Act 2013.

The membership of GMPF as at 31 March 2024 and the preceding year is shown below:

31 March 2023		30 March 2024
119,703	Contributors	123,068
143,039	Pensioners	147,007
153,628	Deferred members *	158,730
416,370	Total membership	428,805
643	Employers with contributing members	680

* Includes former contributors who have retained a right to a refund of contributions or a transfer of pension benefits to another scheme.

The contributions received from GMPF employers can be found in Note 20.

Further information is published in the Greater Manchester Pension Fund Annual Report 2023/24 and Funding Strategy Statement (FSS). The FSS is available from www.gmpf.org.uk and the Annual Report will be published on the website following the completion of the external audit of GMPF’s Statement of Accounts 2023/24.

2. Accounting policies

Basis of preparation:

The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis. That is, income and expenditure is recognised as it is earned or incurred including contributions receivable and pension benefits payable. The exceptions are that individual and bulk transfers (due to uncertainty over final settlement and timing of payments), advance payment of employer contributions, and investment costs for private markets administered by the custodian as part of investment activity, are recognised on a received or paid basis. There are no accounting standards issued but not adopted in the preparation of the financial statements.

Financial assets and liabilities:

A financial asset or a financial liability shall be recognised in the balance sheet when, and only when, GMPF becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. On initial recognition, GMPF is required to classify financial assets and liabilities into amortised cost, fair value through profit and loss or fair value through other comprehensive income.

- Financial assets are classified dependent on the reason for holding the assets.
- Amortised cost assets are those held to generate cash flows and the amounts received are solely principal and interest.
- Fair value assets through profit and loss or other comprehensive income, are assets which fail the amortised cost categorisation tests, where they are held for trading purposes and/or the amounts received relate to more than solely principal and interest (e.g. equity instruments).
- Financial liabilities are classified as amortised cost except in certain circumstances where they are classified as at fair value.

Contribution income:

Tiered employee contribution rates are set in accordance with LGPS regulations using common percentage rates across all Funds which rise according to pensionable pay.

Normal contributions, from both the members and from the employer, are accounted for on an accruals basis at the percentage rate recommended by the fund actuary in the payroll period to which they relate. Employer funding contributions are accounted for on the due dates on which they are payable under the schedule of contributions set by the scheme actuary or on receipt if earlier than the due date.

Employers' augmentation contributions and pensions strain contributions are accounted for in the period in which the liability arises. Any amount due in year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset. Amounts not due until future years are classed as long-term financial assets.

Additional voluntary contributions (AVC):

GMPF provides an AVC scheme for its contributors, the assets of which are invested separately from GMPF. These AVC sums are not included in the GMPF's financial statements in accordance with Regulation 4(2)(c) of the Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 (as amended). Members participating in this arrangement each receive an annual statement confirming the amount held in their account and the movements in the year. Further details are provided in Note 24.

Additional voluntary contributions income:

Where a member is able and chooses to use their AVC fund to buy scheme benefits, this is treated on a cash basis and is categorised within Transfers In.

Investment income:

Dividends from quoted securities are accounted for on an accruals basis and any outstanding amount is included in the Net Asset Statement as an investment asset. Dividend income is recognised on the date the asset is quoted ex-dividend.

Distributions from pooled investment vehicles are recognised at the date of issue. Distribution income is accounted for on an accruals basis and any outstanding amount is included in the Net Asset Statement as an investment asset.

Property rent, interest income from fixed interest investments and short-term deposits have been accounted for on an accruals basis.

Accrued investment income:

Acquisitions costs of listed equities investments which comprise stamp duty, commissions and market levies are included within the management expenses recorded in the Fund Account.

Accrued investment income has been categorised within investments in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: 2023/24 Accounts.

Foreign income:

Foreign income is translated into sterling at the rate applicable at the date of conversion. Income due at the year-end is translated at the rate applicable at 31 March 2024. Any differences are treated as gains or losses on realisation.

Foreign investments:

Foreign investments are translated at the exchange rate applicable at 31 March 2024. Any gains or losses arising on translation of investments into sterling are accounted for as a change in market value of investment.

Rental income:

Rental income from operating leases on investment properties owned by GMPF is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Any lease incentives granted are recognised as an integral part of the total rental income over the term of the lease. Contingent rents are only recognised when contractually due.

Benefits:

Benefits payable represent the benefits paid during the financial year and include an estimated accrual for lump-sum benefits outstanding as at the year-end if applicable. Benefits payable also includes interest on late payment. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the net assets statement as current liabilities.

Investment levels:

Greater Manchester Pension Fund Statement of Accounts 2023/24

All investment assets held at their fair value as at 31 March 2024 are determined at levels in line with current guidance classifications.

Where, compared to the prior year, there is a change in the observable market data input into the valuation of an individual asset or an entire asset class, then a transfer between levels will be considered and if enacted will be recorded in the current year.

Investment values:

All investment assets are valued at their fair value as at 31 March 2023 are determined as follows:

At 31 March 2024	Valuation basis / technique	Main assumptions	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Equities and bonds (Level 1)	Pricing from market data providers based on observable bid price quotations.	Use of pricing source. If there are minor variations in the price dependent upon the pricing feed used, the Custodian's valuation will take precedence.	Not required
Direct investment property (Level 3)	Independent valuations for freehold and leasehold investment properties at fair value have been valued by Savills plc, Chartered Surveyors, as at 31 December 2023, subsequently adjusted for transactions undertaken between 1 January and 31 March 2024. Valuations have been prepared in accordance with Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) Red Book.	Investment properties have been valued on the basis of open market value (the estimated amounts for which a property should exchange between a willing buyer and seller) and market rent (the expected benefits from holding the asset) in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation Manual. The values are estimates and may not reflect the actual values.	Significant changes in rental growth, vacancy levels or discount rate could affect valuations, as could more general changes to market processes.
Indirect property (part of Pooled Investment Vehicles) (Levels 2 - 3)	Independent valuations for freehold and leasehold properties less any debt within the individual property fund plus/minus other net assets.	Freehold and leasehold properties valued on an open market basis. Valuation carried out in accordance with the principles laid down by the RICS Appraisal and Valuation Manual and independent audit review of the net assets within the individual property fund.	Material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and GMPF's own reporting date, changes to expected cashflows, differences audited and unaudited accounts.
Cash and other net assets (Level 1)	Value of deposit or value of transaction.	Cash and account balances are short-term, highly liquid and subject to minimal changes in value. All cash is recorded at book value unless there is knowledge of any impairment.	Not required
Insurance policies (Level 2)	Insurance policies consist of units held in a pooled fund. Unit prices are provided by the fund investment manager based on the bid value of the underlying securities held by the fund.	Use of pricing source, bid values of underlying securities are provided by the investment manager are compared to the Custodian's records. All cash held by the funds are recorded at book value unless the investment manager has knowledge of any impairment.	Not required

Greater Manchester Pension Fund Statement of Accounts 2023/24

At 31 March 2024	Valuation basis / technique	Main assumptions	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Derivatives (Level 2)	<p>Derivative contracts are valued at fair value.</p> <p>Futures contracts' fair value is determined using exchange prices at the reporting date.</p> <p>The fair value is the unrealised profit or loss at the current bid market quoted price. The amounts included in change in market value are the realised gains and losses on closed futures contracts and the unrealised gains and losses on open futures contracts.</p> <p>The fair value of the forward currency contracts is based on market forward exchange rates at the year-end date and determined as the gain or loss that would arise if the outstanding contract was matched at the year end with an equal and opposite contract.</p>	<p>All derivatives are based on a visible price (i.e. not private transactions) and all counter parties are deemed solvent and able to meet their liabilities.</p> <p>The relevant prices and exchange rates used are provided by the Custodian and consistent with those used elsewhere in accounts.</p>	Not required
Private equity, infrastructure and special opportunities portfolios (Level 3)	<p>The funds are valued either in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 820 or with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).</p> <p>The valuation basis, determined by the relevant fund manager, may be any of quoted market prices, broker or dealer quotations, transaction price, third party transaction price, applying earnings multiples of comparable public companies to projected future cash flows, third party independent appraisals or pricing models. The valuation of these assets can take up to six months to come through.</p> <p>GMPF practice when closing accounts is to use the latest available valuation and adjust for cashflows.</p>	<p>In reaching the determination of fair value, the investment managers consider many factors including changes in interest rates and credit spreads, the operating cash flows and financial performance of the investments relative to budgets, trends within sectors and/or regions, underlying business models, expected exit timing and strategy and any specific rights or terms associated with the investment, such as conversion features and liquidation preferences.</p> <p>The preparation of financial statements in conformity with IFRS requires management to make judgments, estimates, and assumptions that affect the application of policies and the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expense.</p> <p>The estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis.</p>	<p>Material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and GMPF's own reporting date, changes to expected cashflows, differences audited and unaudited accounts.</p>

Cash and cash equivalents:

Cash comprises of cash in hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to minimal risk of changes in values.

Transaction costs of investments:

Acquisitions costs of listed equities investments which comprise stamp duty, commissions and market levies are included within the management expenses recorded in the Fund Account.

Acquisitions costs of investments other than listed equities are included in purchase prices and netted from sale receipts.

Management expenses:

Investment management expenses paid directly by GMPF are included within Management Expenses within the Fund Account. These costs together with other management costs are met from within the employer contribution rate. Certain of GMPF's external securities managers have contracts which include performance fees in addition to the annual management fees. The performance fees are based upon one off, non-rolling, three yearly calculations. It is GMPF policy to accrue for any performance fees which are considered to be potentially payable.

In addition, certain investments in pooled vehicles, predominantly in private markets, alternatives and property have investment costs charged directly by the investment managers. These costs are allocated directly to the Fund Account where information is available to the Custodian by the investment manager, on an as paid rather than on an accruals basis. Where costs are charged by these managers and not disclosed to the Custodian, they are included in the fair value adjustments applied to assets concerned within the Fund Account and corresponding notes, in previous years all of these costs were treated this way. The annual report contains a comprehensive review of investment costs.

Administration Expenses are included within Management Expenses within the Fund Account. These costs are accounted for on an accruals basis. The costs of administration are met by employers through their employer contribution rate. All staff costs of the administering authority's pension service are charged direct to GMPF.

Net (profit)/loss on foreign currency:

Net (profit)/loss on foreign currency comprise the change in value of short-term deposits due to exchange rate movements during the year.

Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits:

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on an annual basis by the Actuary in accordance with the requirements of IAS19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under IAS26, GMPF has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the Net Asset Statement (see Note 25).

Transfers:

Transfer values represent amounts received and paid during the period for individual members who have either joined or left GMPF during the financial year and are calculated in accordance with Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations.

Individual transfers in/out are accounted for when received/paid, which is normally when the member liability is accepted or discharged. This reflects when liabilities are transferred and received. Transfers in from members wishing to use the proceeds of their additional voluntary contributions to purchase scheme benefits are accounted for on a receipts basis and are included in transfers in. Bulk (group) transfers, due to uncertainty over final settlement and timing of payments, are recognised on a received or paid basis.

Taxation:

GMPF is a registered public service scheme under section 1(1) of Schedule 36 of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a fund expense as it arises.

2a. Critical judgements in applying accounting policies

In applying the policies, GMPF has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions, or those involving uncertainty. Those with most significant effect are:

- All leases are classified as operating leases.

Any judgements made in relation to specific assets and liabilities, in addition to information stated in the relevant notes, can also be found in Note 2: Accounting policies.

2b. Major sources of estimation uncertainty

Compliance with IFRS requires the assumptions and uncertainties contained within figures in the accounts and the use of estimates to be explained. GMPF accounts contain estimated figures, taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors, as detailed below:

Unquoted equity, infrastructure and special opportunities investments

Unquoted equities are valued by the investment managers in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification 820 or with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The value of unquoted equities, infrastructure and special opportunities held via investment in specialist pooled investment vehicles at 31 March 2024 was £5,446,279,000 (£5,224,591,000 at 31 March 2023).

The valuation of these assets can take up to six months to come through. GMPF practice when closing accounts is to use the latest available valuation and adjust for cashflows.

3. Classification of financial instruments

Accounting policies describe how different asset classes of financial instruments are measured and how income and expenses, including fair value gains and losses, are recognised. The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities by category and net assets statement heading.

	At 31 March 2024		
	Fair value through profit and loss £000	Financial assets at amortised cost £000	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £000
Financial assets:			
Equities	11,760,238	0	0
Bonds	2,792,572	0	0
Derivatives	9,903	0	0
Pooled investment vehicles	11,392,046	0	0
Insurance policies	3,633,381	0	0
Cash	0	614,463	0
Other investment assets	0	222,412	0
Current assets	0	73,001	0
	29,588,140	909,876	0
Financial liabilities:			
Derivatives	(8,641)	0	0
Other investment liabilities	0	0	(30,777)
Current liabilities	0	0	(24,772)
	(8,641)	0	(55,549)
Total	29,579,499	909,876	(55,549)

	At 31 March 2023		
	Fair value through profit and loss £000	Financial assets at amortised cost £000	Financial liabilities at amortised cost £000
Financial assets:			
Equities	10,849,776	0	0
Bonds	2,786,973	0	0
Derivatives	14,929	0	0
Pooled investment vehicles	10,773,706	0	0
Insurance policies	3,526,911	0	0
Cash	0	435,893	0
Other investment assets	0	182,053	0
Current assets	0	36,700	0
	27,952,295	654,646	0
Financial liabilities:			
Derivatives	(7,155)	0	0
Other investment liabilities	0	0	(23,528)
Current liabilities	0	0	(9,506)
	(7,155)	0	(33,034)
Total	27,945,140	654,646	(33,034)

Note: the above tables do not include investment property.

Net gains and losses on financial instruments

All gains and losses on financial instruments were at fair value through the profit and loss. The net profit for the year ending 31 March 2024 was £1,464,000,000 (£199,870,000 net loss for year to 31 March 2023).

3a. Valuation of assets carried at fair value

The table below provides an analysis of the assets and liabilities of GMPF that are carried at fair value in the GMPF Net Asset Statement grouped into Levels 1 to 3 based on the degree to which fair value is observable. Further details of the values shown can be found in Note 11.

	At 31 March 2024			
	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
Financial assets:				
Equities	11,760,238	0	0	11,760,238
Fixed interest	0	2,792,572	0	2,792,572
Derivatives	0	9,903	0	9,903
Pooled investment vehicles	0	2,941,977	8,450,069	11,392,046
Insurance policies	0	3,633,381	0	3,633,381
Non-financial assets (at fair value through profit & loss):				
Directly held investment property	0	0	898,527	898,527
Total	11,760,238	9,377,833	9,348,596	30,486,667

	At 31 March 2023			
	Level 1 £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
Financial assets:				
Equities	10,849,776	0	0	10,849,776
Fixed interest	0	2,786,973	0	2,786,973
Derivatives	0	14,929	0	14,929
Pooled investment vehicles	0	2,841,223	7,932,483	10,773,706
Insurance policies	0	3,526,911	0	3,526,911
Non-financial assets (at fair value through profit & loss):				
Directly held investment property	0	0	807,695	807,695
Total	10,849,776	9,170,036	8,740,178	28,759,990

The valuation of assets has been classified into three levels according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine the fair values.

Level 1

Inputs to Level 1 are quoted prices on the asset being valued in an active market where there is sufficient transaction activity to allow pricing information to be provided on an ongoing basis. Financial instruments classified as Level 1 predominantly comprise actively traded shares.

There have been no transfers in year between Level 1 and Level 2.

Level 2

Level 2 prices are those other than Level 1 that are observable e.g. composite prices for fixed income instruments and fund net asset value prices. This is considered to be the most common level for all asset classes other than equities.

Level 3

Level 3 prices are those where at least one input, which could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation, is not based on observable market data. Such instruments would include the GMPF private equity and infrastructure investments which are valued using various valuation techniques that require significant management judgement in determining appropriate assumptions, including applying earnings multiples from comparable public market companies to estimated future cash flows.

The valuation techniques used by GMPF, and the key sensitivities to those, are detailed in Note 2 and there has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year. All assets have been valued using fair value techniques which represent the highest and best price available at the reporting date. Transfers between levels are deemed to have occurred when there is a significant change to the level of observable and unobservable inputs used to determine fair value.

The table below sets out the assets classified as level 3 assets. GMPF has determined that the valuation methods detailed in Note 2 are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges, as provided by GMPF's investment advisor, Hymans Robertson LLP, and has set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2023. There are various factors that affect the complexity of valuation and the realisable value of assets including changing one or more unobservable inputs and certain asset specific issues may lead to realisable valuations falling outside the stated range.

	Valuation at 31 March 2024 Level 1 £000	Valuation range %	Value on increase Level 3 £000	Value on decrease Total £000
Directly held investment property	898,527	15.6%	1,038,697	758,357
Private equity	4,416,425	31.2%	5,794,350	3,038,501
Indirect property investments	1,431,877	15.6%	1,655,250	1,208,504
Infrastructure	2,601,767	13.6%	2,955,607	2,247,927
Level 3 Assets	9,348,596		11,443,904	7,253,289

	Valuation at 31 March 2023 Level 1 £000	Valuation range %	Value on increase Level 3 £000	Value on decrease Total £000
Directly held investment property	807,695	17.2%	946,619	668,771
Private equity	4,258,276	33.6%	5,689,057	2,827,495
Indirect property investments	1,365,283	17.2%	1,600,112	1,130,454
Infrastructure	2,308,924	17.3%	2,708,368	1,909,480
Level 3 Assets	8,740,178		10,944,156	6,536,200

A reconciliation of fair value measurements in Level 3 is set out below:

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
7,644,062	Opening balance	8,740,178
1,721,838	Acquisitions	1,312,916
(948,120)	Disposal proceeds / Return of capital	(604,469)
	Total gains/losses included in the Fund account:	
320,736	- on assets sold	208,902
1,662	- on assets held at year end	(308,931)
8,740,178	Closing balance	9,348,596

4. Financial risk management

The Management Panel of GMPF recognises that risk is inherent in any investment activity. GMPF has an active risk management programme in place and the measures, which it uses to control key risks, are set out in its Funding Strategy Statement (FSS).

The FSS is prepared in collaboration with GMPF's Actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, and after consultation with GMPF's employers and investment advisors.

The FSS is reviewed in detail at least every three years in line with triennial valuations being carried out. A full review was completed in December 2022.

GMPF's approach to investment risk measurement and its management is set out in its Investment Strategy Statement (ISS). The overall approach is to reduce risk to a minimum where it is possible to do so without compromising returns (e.g. in operational matters), and to limit risk to prudently acceptable levels otherwise (e.g. in investment matters).

The means by which GMPF minimises operational risk and constrains investment risk is set out in further detail in its ISS (available at www.gmpf.org.uk).

Some risks lend themselves to being measured (e.g. using such concepts as 'Active Risk' and such techniques as 'Asset Liability Modelling') and where this is the case, GMPF employs the relevant approach to measurement. GMPF reviews new approaches to measurement as these continue to be developed.

GMPF's exposures to risks and its objectives, policies and processes for managing and measuring the risks have not changed throughout the course of the year.

Market risk

Market risk is the level of volatility in returns on investments caused by changes in market expectations, interest rates, credit spreads, foreign exchange rates and other factors.

This is calculated as the standard deviation of predicted outcomes. GMPF is exposed to market risk through its portfolio being invested in a variety of asset classes.

GMPF seeks to limit its exposure to market risk by diversifying its portfolio as explained within its ISS and by restricting the freedom of its fund managers to deviate from benchmark allocations. The asset allocation has been made with regard to the balance between expected returns and expected volatility of asset classes and using advice from GMPF's investment advisor, Hymans Robertson LLP.

The table below shows the expected market risk exposure or predicted volatilities of GMPF's investments:

Asset type	Potential market movements (+/-)	
	31 March 2023 p.a.	31 March 2024 p.a.
UK equities	19.1%	16.0%
Overseas equities	19.8%	17.5%
Fixed interest gilts	6.3%	5.8%
Index linked gilts	7.5%	7.1%
Corporate bonds	7.8%	7.0%
High yield debt	8.2%	7.1%
Investment property	17.2%	15.6%
Private equity	33.6%	31.2%
Infrastructure	17.3%	13.6%
Cash and other liquid funds	0.3%	0.3%
GMPF	11.5%	10.0%

The volatilities for each asset class and correlations used to create the total GMPF volatility have been estimated using standard deviations of 5,000 simulated one-year total returns using Hymans Robertson Asset Model, the economic scenario generator maintained by Hymans Robertson LLP.

The overall GMPF volatility has been calculated based on GMPF's target asset split as at 31 March 2023 and 2024. The calibration of the model is based on a combination of historical data, economic theory and expert opinion. This model includes the impact of potential changes in UK interest rates and foreign exchange rates to fixed income assets allowing for correlation impacts.

If the market price of GMPF's investments increases or decreases over a period of a year in line with the data within the table above, the change in the market value of the net assets available to pay benefits as at 31 March 2023 and 2024 would have been as shown in the tables below.

Asset type	31 March 2024 £000	% Change p.a.	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
UK equities	3,278,542	16.0%	3,803,109	2,753,975
Overseas equities	9,919,453	17.5%	11,655,357	8,183,549
Fixed interest gilts	1,063,683	5.8%	1,125,377	1,001,989
Index linked gilts	2,065,497	7.1%	2,212,147	1,918,847
Corporate bonds	2,019,458	7.0%	2,160,820	1,878,096
High yield debt	1,654,309	7.1%	1,771,765	1,536,853
Investment property	3,007,049	15.6%	3,476,149	2,537,949
Private equity	4,416,425	31.2%	5,794,350	3,038,500
Infrastructure	2,601,767	13.6%	2,955,607	2,247,927
Cash and other liquid funds	1,297,359	0.3%	1,301,251	1,293,467
GMPF	31,323,542	10.0%	34,455,896	28,191,188

Asset type	31 March 2023 £000	% Change p.a.	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
UK equities	3,497,152	19.1%	4,165,108	2,829,196
Overseas equities	8,930,763	19.8%	10,699,054	7,162,472
Fixed interest gilts	1,273,326	6.3%	1,353,546	1,193,106
Index linked gilts	1,635,500	7.5%	1,758,163	1,512,838
Corporate bonds	1,979,020	7.8%	2,133,384	1,824,656
High yield debt	1,543,647	8.2%	1,670,226	1,417,068
Investment property	2,914,997	17.2%	3,416,376	2,413,618
Private equity	4,258,276	33.6%	5,689,057	2,827,495
Infrastructure	2,308,924	17.3%	2,708,368	1,909,480
Cash and other liquid funds	1,036,331	0.3%	1,039,440	1,033,222
GMPF	29,377,936	11.5%	32,756,399	25,999,473

Note: the above tables do not include investment liabilities and net current assets. Pooled Investment Vehicles have been broken down and included in the relevant asset type.

Interest rate risk

GMPF invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on investments whilst recognising that there is a risk that returns will not be as expected. Changes in the level of interest rates will contribute to the volatility of returns in all asset classes. The table in the section on market risk shows the expected volatility over one year for GMPF's investment portfolio. One area directly affected by interest rate changes is the level of income expected from floating rate cash instruments. As at 31 March 2024, GMPF had £417,845,000 (2022/23 £388,176,000) invested in this asset via pooled investment vehicles. Therefore, a 1% change in interest rates will increase or reduce GMPF's return by £4,123,000 (2022/23 £3,882,000) on an annualised basis. Interest rates would have to rise significantly to have any material impact on value of the Fund.

Currency risk

GMPF invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on investments whilst recognising that there is a risk that returns will not be as expected. Changes in the level of foreign exchange rates will contribute to the overall volatility of overseas assets. GMPF's approach is to consider these risks in a holistic nature. The table in the section on market risk shows the expected volatility over one year for GMPF's investment portfolio including overseas assets which are separately identified.

Credit risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction or a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause GMPF to incur a financial loss. The market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit risk in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of GMPF's financial assets and liabilities. The volatility of credit risk is encapsulated within the overall volatility of assets detailed in the table showing market risk.

In essence, GMPF's entire investment portfolio is exposed to some form of credit risk. However, the selection of high-quality counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises the credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle a transaction in a timely manner.

Contractual credit risk is represented by the net payment or receipt that remains outstanding, and the cost of replacing the derivative positions in the event of counterparty default. The residual risk is minimal due to the various insurance policies held by the exchanges to cover defaulting counterparties.

Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they are rated independently and meet Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council's (TMBC), as administering authority, credit criteria. TMBC has also set limits as to the maximum percentage of the deposits placed with any one class of financial institution. In addition, TMBC invests an agreed percentage of its funds in the money markets to provide diversification. Money market funds chosen all had an 'AAA' rating from a leading ratings agency.

TMBC believes it has managed its exposure to credit risk and has had no experience of default or uncollectable deposits, with no balances written off during the period. GMPF's cash holding under its Treasury Management arrangements at 31 March 2024 was £427,800,000 (31 March 2023 £279,000,000). This was held with the following institutions:

Summary	Rating	Balance at 31 March 2023 £000	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000
Money market Funds			
Aberdeen Assets	AAA	0	75,000
Federated	AAA	0	75,000
Insight	AAA	0	72,400
Invesco	AAA	0	5,400
Legal & General	AAA	0	75,000
Morgan Stanley	AAA	75,000	75,000
SSGA	AAA	66,000	0
Banks			
Bank of Scotland	A+	0	50,000
Close Brothers	A+	50,000	0
Barclays	A+	50,000	0
Local authorities & public bodies			
Aberdeenshire Council	N/A	5,000	0
Enfield Council	N/A	5,000	0
Great Yarmouth Borough Council	N/A	8,000	0
Telford & Wrekin Council	N/A	5,000	0
West Dunbartonshire Council	N/A	5,000	0
Wokingham Council	N/A	10,000	0
Total		279,000	427,800

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that GMPF will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. TMBC therefore take steps to ensure that GMPF has adequate cash resources to meet its commitments. This will particularly be the case for cash from the liability matching mandates from the main investment strategy to meet the pensioner payroll cost; and also, cash to meet investment commitments.

TMBC has immediate access to the GMPF cash holdings, except for investments placed with other local authorities – where periods are fixed when the deposit is placed. GMPF had in excess of £614 million cash balances at 31 March 2024, of which £428 million was held on deposit.

All financial liabilities at 31 March 2024 are due within one year.

The majority of GMPF assets are liquid; their value could be realised within one week. The table below shows GMPF investments in liquidity terms:

31 March 2023 £000	Liquidity terms	31 March 2024 £000
19,714,739	Assets realisable within 7 days	21,298,301
141,000	Assets realisable in 8-30 days	0
20,000	Assets realisable in 31-90 days	0
9,502,197	Assets taking more than 90 days to realise	10,025,241
29,377,936	Total	31,323,542

Management prepares periodic cash flow forecasts to understand and manage the timing of GMPF's cash flows. The appropriate strategic level of cash balances to be held is a central consideration when preparing GMPF's annual investment strategy.

The effects of reductions in public expenditure are expected to result in a significant maturing of GMPF's liabilities, with fewer employee members and more pensioner and deferred members. However, when income from investments is taken into account, GMPF is expected to continue to be cash flow positive for the foreseeable future and it will not be a forced seller of investments to meet its pension obligations.

5. Contributions

By Category

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
(184,648)	Members' contributions	(200,941)
	Employers:	
(524,959)	Normal contributions	(654,118)
(3,765)	Deficit recovery contributions	(730)
(528,724)	Total employers contributions	(654,848)
(713,372)	Total	(855,789)

By Authority

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
(11,943)	Tameside MBC (administering body)	(28,803)
(633,724)	Scheduled bodies	(766,971)
(67,705)	Admission bodies	(60,015)
(713,372)	Total	(855,789)

Scheme employers can be split into those listed in Part 1 of Schedule 2 of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2013 (as amended) (such as local authorities), which participate automatically, and those listed in Part 2 (such as town councils) which can only participate if they choose to do so by designating employees or groups of employees as eligible. Part 2 employers are called designating bodies. Community admission bodies provide a public service in the United Kingdom otherwise than for the purposes of gain and have sufficient links with a Scheme employer. Transferee admission bodies are commercial organisations carrying out work for local authorities, or other Part 1 or Part 2 employers, under a best value or other arrangement. Further analysis of contributions by employer is contained in Note 20 of these statements.

The funding level is the ratio of assets to liabilities at the valuation date. At the 2022 Actuarial Valuation, GMPF was assessed as 104% funded. The employer contribution rates specified are minimum rates. Some employers make voluntary payments in excess of these minimum rates and some make contributions in excess of their future service rate in order to help repay a deficit position over a period. In addition, a small number of employers were required to make explicit lump sum deficit payments – details of these can be found in the 2022 Actuarial Valuation report located at www.gmpf.org.uk.

Contribution rates in 2022/23 were based on the results of the 2019 Actuarial Valuation. The contribution rates resulting from the 2022 Actuarial Valuation take effect from 1 April 2023.

6. Benefits payable

By Category

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
793,763	Pensions	880,850
142,337	Commutation & lump sum retirement benefits	153,680
18,279	Lump sum death benefits	24,310
954,379	Total	1,058,840

By Authority

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
40,034	Tameside MBC (administering body)	46,002
719,037	Scheduled bodies	796,544
195,308	Admission bodies	216,294
954,379	Total	1,058,840

Further analysis of benefits payable by employer is contained in Note 20 of these statements.

7. Payments to and on account of leavers

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
52,868	Individual transfers to other schemes	57,000
(8)	Income for members from state scheme	(6)
1,183	Refunds to members leaving service	1,418
54,043	Total	58,412

8. Management expenses

The costs of administration and investment management are met by the employers through their employer contribution rate. In June 2016, CIPFA published guidance on Accounting for LGPS Management Costs. The aim of this guidance is to assist in the improvement of consistent and comparable data across LGPS funds. GMPF Scheme management costs have been categorised in accordance with this guidance in the tables below.

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
96,425	Investment management expenses	90,438
7,273	Administrative costs	8,666
2,038	Oversight and governance costs	1,941
105,736	Total	101,045

The cost of administration and investment management are met by the employers through their employer contributions. Note 8 shows costs analysed as per CIPFA guidance. The key element of investment management costs are fees paid to investment managers and these are set out in more detail in Note 11i. The above costs include GMPF's share of costs for Northern LGPS Pool – see Note 8a for further details

Investment management expenses:

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
1,871	Employee costs	1,927
308	Support services including IT	349
4,956	Transaction costs (public managers) *	4,124
67,746	Management fees - private markets (custodian)**	60,553
21,092	Management fees - public markets	23,042
452	Custody fees	443
96,425	Total	90,438

* Transaction costs are incremental costs directly attributable to the sale and purchase of UK and Overseas equities. They comprise £630,000 (2023 £629,000) commissions and £4,326,000 (2023 £4,327,000) other costs which included UK stamp duty and market levies.

**These costs are allocated directly to the Fund Account where information is available to the Custodian by the investment manager, on an as paid rather than on an accruals basis.

Administrative costs:

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
5,339	Employee costs	6,008
1,727	Support services including IT	2,341
207	Printing and publications	317
7,273	Total	8,666

Oversight and governance costs:

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
566	Employee costs	587
392	Support services including IT	491
178	Governance and decision making costs	166
37	Investment performance monitoring	145
73	External audit fees *	73
134	Internal audit fees	172
98	Actuarial fees - investment consultancy	215
560	Actuarial fees	92
2,038	Total	1,941

* Total external auditors fee in 2023/24 is £73,383 (2022/23 73,383) of which £30,000 (2022/23 £30,000) was in relation to work carried out on behalf of GMPF's main scheme employers.

8a. Costs related to the Northern LGPS Pool

	At 31 March 2024			
	Direct £000	Indirect £000	Total in year £000	Cumulative £000
Set up costs:				
Legal	0	0	0	71
Procurement	0	0	0	30
Other costs	45	0	45	424
Total set up costs	45	0	45	525

	At 31 March 2023			
	Direct £000	Indirect £000	Total in year £000	Cumulative £000
Set up costs:				
Legal	0	0	0	71
Procurement	0	0	0	30
Other costs	66	0	66	379
Total set up costs	66	0	66	480

9. Investment income

31 March 2023 £000	For the year ending:-	31 March 2024 £000
(56,692)	Fixed interest (corporate and government bonds)	(58,900)
(366,446)	Equities	(325,627)
(1,684)	Index linked	(5,752)
(248,365)	Pooled investment vehicles	(322,905)
(40,501)	Investment property (gross)	(40,393)
8,937	Investment property non-recoverable expenditure	7,769
(15,315)	Interest on cash deposits	(27,923)
(2,145)	Stocklending	(1,373)
(722,211)	Total	(775,104)

In accordance with IAS 12 Income Taxes, investment income includes withholding taxes and irrecoverable withholding tax is analysed separately as a tax charge. Income received by Legal and General and Stone Harbour is automatically reinvested within the relevant sector fund, as are many of the other specialist pooled funds, and thus excluded from the above analysis.

10. Taxation

GMPF is exempt from UK income tax on interest and from capital gains tax on the profits resulting from the sale of investments. GMPF is exempt from United States withholding tax on dividends and can recover all or part of the withholding tax deducted in some other countries. The amount of withholding tax deducted from overseas dividends which GMPF is unable to reclaim in 2023/24 amounts to £2,867,000 (2022/23 £3,258,000) and is shown as a tax charge.

As Tameside MBC is the Administering Authority for GMPF, VAT input tax was recoverable on all GMPF activities including expenditure on investment and property expenses.

11a. Reconciliation of movement in financial assets

The following tables analyse the carrying amounts of the financial assets and liabilities by category.

Value at 31 March 2023 £000		Purchases & derivative payments £000	Sales & derivative receipts £000	Change in fair value £000	Value at 31 March 2024 £000
	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss				
10,849,776	Equities	3,639,227	(4,056,930)	1,328,165	11,760,238
2,786,973	Bonds	1,143,122	(1,145,468)	7,945	2,792,572
807,695	Investment property	115,599	(21,912)	(2,855)	898,527
7,774	Net derivatives	85,345	(100,579)	8,722	1,262
14,300,617	Managed and unitised funds	1,573,017	(966,907)	118,700	15,025,427
28,752,835		6,556,310	(6,291,796)	1,460,677	30,478,026
	Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost				
435,893	Cash				614,463
182,053	Other investment assets				222,412
96,712	Net current assets				73,001
(23,528)	Other investment liabilities				(30,777)
(18,252)	Net current liabilities				(24,772)
29,425,713	Total				31,332,353

Value at 31 March 2022 £000		Purchases & derivative payments £000	Sales & derivative receipts £000	Change in fair value £000	Value at 31 March 2023 £000
	Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss				
11,104,860	Equities	3,676,689	(4,096,650)	164,877	10,849,776
2,473,336	Bonds	1,899,404	(1,439,230)	(146,537)	2,786,973
975,760	Investment property	89,599	(180,247)	(77,417)	807,695
(24,661)	Net derivatives	170,551	(216,180)	78,064	7,774
13,542,679	Managed and unitised funds	3,563,824	(2,509,612)	(296,274)	14,300,617
28,071,974		9,400,067	(8,441,919)	(277,287)	28,752,835
	Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost				
922,059	Cash				435,893
298,234	Other investment assets				182,053
76,083	Net current assets				96,712
(18,148)	Other investment liabilities				(23,528)
(25,948)	Net current liabilities				(18,252)
29,324,254	Total				29,425,713

The table above excludes any profits or losses on foreign currency transactions from Changes in Fair Value. This accounts for the difference to the value shown in the Fund Statement.

11b. Bonds

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
591,351	UK public sector quoted	331,003
263,134	Overseas public sector quoted	250,361
435,994	UK corporate quoted	399,153
674,564	Overseas corporate quoted	605,945
821,930	Index linked	1,206,110
2,786,973	Total	2,792,572

11c. Investment property

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
591,825	UK - Main investment property portfolio	598,179
215,870	UK - Greater Manchester Property Venture Fund	300,348
807,695		898,527

In order to reduce risk, investment property is diversified over a wide range of sectors.

No directly held investment property has restrictions on its realisation, remittance of income or disposal proceeds.

Undrawn commitments to property related pooled investment funds can be found at Note 17.

In accordance with the Investment Property Strategy, hold/sell decisions for the investment properties remain under active review, subject to business plan progress and investment market sentiment. Two properties were either being prepared for sale, being marketed or prices had been agreed at 31 March 2024 - combined valuation: £10,700,000 (compared to three properties March 2023 combined valuation: £22,9000,000).

GMPF sold four investment properties during the 2023/24 financial year: combined valuation £21,900,000 at 31 March 2023 (had sold four investment properties during the 2022/23 financial year: combined valuation £172,000,000 at 31 March 2022).

The following tables summarise the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year:

Movement in the fair value of investment properties in 2023/24	£000
Balance at 1 April 2023	807,695
Purchases	54,500
Expenditure during year	61,099
Disposals	(21,912)
Net gains/ (losses) from fair value adjustments	(2,855)
Balance at 31 March 2024 *	898,527

* Two properties were either being prepared for sale, marketed or prices had been agreed at 31 March 2024

Movement in the fair value of investment properties in 2022/23	£000
Balance at 1 April 2022	975,760
Purchases	57,045
Expenditure during year	32,554
Disposals	(180,247)
Net gains/ (losses) from fair value adjustments	(77,417)
Balance at 31 March 2023 *	807,695

* Three properties were either being prepared for sale, marketed or prices had been agreed at 31 March 2023

Future operating lease rentals receivable

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
36,786	Not later than 1 year	38,453
116,147	Later than 1 year, but not later than 5 years	147,211
216,290	Later than 5 years	227,626
369,222	Total	413,290

The future minimum lease payments due to GMPF under non-cancellable operating leases are stated above. Only direct properties have been included.

The following approach has been taken in calculating the figures above: -

- Where a lease contains a tenant's break clause, it is only up to this point that the aggregation is made.
- GMPF's share of club deals, joint ventures and indirect holdings are excluded.
- Some (predominantly retail) tenancies contain provisions for rent concessions during periods of enforced store closures. These have not been modelled above, due to the unknown extent and timing of any such periods.
- For tenancies where the rent is linked to turnover and there is no base rent element, the rent has been modelled as zero as no further sums are guaranteed to be received.
- No contingent rents were recognised in the period.

11d. Derivatives

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
	Investment assets:	
36	Forward currency contracts	1,903
14,893	Financial futures	8,000
14,929		9,903
	Investment liabilities:	
(7,067)	Forward currency contracts	(594)
(88)	Financial futures	(8,047)
7,774	Net (liability)/asset	1,262

Derivative receipts and payments represent the realised gains and losses on futures contracts and forward currency contracts. GMPF's objective in entering into derivative positions was to decrease risk in the portfolio.

The tables below analyse the derivative contracts held at 31 March by maturity date. The Forward Currency Contracts were all traded on an over-the-counter basis and the settlement dates are within one month.

31 March 2024						
Contract	Currency	Currency bought 000	Currency	Currency sold 000	Assets £000	Liabilities £000
Forward Currency Contract	GBP	100,915	USD	127,305	153	0
Forward Currency Contract	JPY	46,128,600	GBP	242,672	12	(532)
Forward Currency Contract	CHF	5,500	GBP	4,903	0	(58)
Forward Currency Contract	EUR	28,500	GBP	24,389	0	(4)
Forward Currency Contract	CAD	16,500	GBP	9,575	79	0
Forward Currency Contract	AUD	9,500	GBP	4,902	7	0
Forward Currency Contract	USD	245,500	GBP	192,669	1,647	0
Forward Currency Contract	HKD	6,000	GBP	603	5	0
Forward Currency Contract						
Total					1,903	(594)

31 March 2023						
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Greater Manchester Pension Fund Statement of Accounts 2023/24

Contract	Currency	Currency bought 000	Currency	Currency sold 000	Assets £000	Liabilities £000
Forward Currency Contract	JPY	27,935,700	GBP	174,089	0	(3,776)
Forward Currency Contract	AUD	10,000	GBP	5,508	0	(89)
Forward Currency Contract	CHF	7,000	GBP	6,230	0	(22)
Forward Currency Contract	HKD	15,000	GBP	1,576	0	(30)
Forward Currency Contract	EUR	27,750	GBP	24,366	36	0
Forward Currency Contract	USD	213,000	GBP	175,324	0	(3,131)
Forward Currency Contract	CAD	14,750	GBP	8,833	0	(19)
Total					36	(7,067)

31 March 2024			Economic exposure 000	Market value £000
Contract	Settlement date	Currency		
UK Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	13,819	528
Overseas Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	316,337	7,472
UK Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	(23,644)	(502)
Overseas Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	(556,724)	(7,545)
Total			(250,212)	(47)

31 March 2023			Economic exposure 000	Market value £000
Contract	Settlement date	Currency		
UK Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	13,215	182
Overseas Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	277,446	14,711
UK Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	0	0
Overseas Equity Futures	Less than one year	GBP	22,767	(88)
Total			313,428	14,805

11e. Pooled investment vehicles

Pooled investment vehicles aggregate capital from multiple investors to pursue specified investment strategies. The table below analyses, by type and underlying asset class, funds in which GMPF invests.

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
1,233,618	Property	1,275,569
2,308,924	Infrastructure *	2,601,767
3,700,187	Private equity **	3,854,429
696,410	Equities	733,377
558,089	Special opportunities	561,997
1,411,873	Global credit	1,532,002
9,909,101	Managed funds	10,559,141
864,605	Property	832,905
864,605	Unit trusts	832,905
10,773,706	Total pooled investment vehicles	11,392,046

* includes £1,137,775,000 GLIL investment via the Northern LGPS Pool vehicle (2023 £983,284,000)

** includes £691,903,000 NPEP investment via the Northern LGPS Pool vehicle (2023 £538,506,000)

11f. Insurance policies

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
9,080	Property	47
260	UK quoted equity	279
233,112	UK fixed interest	268,519
627,984	UK index linked securities	649,321
505,910	UK corporate bonds	580,876
388,176	UK cash instruments	417,845
866,663	Overseas quoted equity	704,147
185,730	Overseas fixed interest	213,800
362,551	Overseas corporate bonds	433,484
185,587	Overseas index linked securities	210,066
131,774	Global credit	122,307
30,084	Inflation funds	32,690
3,526,911	Insurance policies	3,633,381

11g. Cash

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
329,062	Sterling	447,410
106,831	Foreign currency	167,053
435,893	Total	614,463

11h. Other investments balances and net assets

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
1,821	Amounts due from broker	35,529
71,317	Outstanding dividends and recoverable withholding tax	82,025
19,651	Gross accrued interest on bonds	21,217
13,768	Gross accrued interest on loans	15,040
59,949	Investment loans	17,939
12,715	Variation margin	47,842
2,832	Other accrued interest and tax reclaims	2,820
182,053	Other investment assets	222,412
(21,762)	Amounts due to broker	(29,012)
(1,766)	Irrecoverable withholding tax	(1,765)
(23,528)	Other investment liabilities	(30,777)
24,508	Employer contributions - main scheme	26,059
39	Employer contributions - additional pensions	27
24,121	Property	19,583
910	Admin & investment management expenses	939
47,134	Other	26,393
96,712	Current assets	73,001
(7,260)	Property	(8,669)
(18)	Employer contributions - main scheme	0
(1,726)	Employer contributions - additional pensions	(1,956)
(4,903)	Admin & investment management expenses	(6,429)
(4,345)	Other	(7,718)
(18,252)	Current liabilities	(24,772)
78,460	Net current assets	48,229
236,985	Other investment balances and net assets	239,864

11i. Transaction and management costs

Managers of listed securities

Since 1 April 2016 transaction costs in respect of the purchase and sale of equities have been respectively excluded or included in the prices reported in the Net Assets Statement and charged to the Fund Account. Details may be seen at Note 8.

Directly held property

Transaction costs continue to be capitalised and are implicit within the value of the assets concerned. These amounted to £6,350,000 for 2023/24 (2022/23 £4,784,000).

The CIPFA Code of Practice (and guidance related to the Code) does not require 'bid-offer spread' to be reported as a transaction cost.

Pooled investment vehicles in unlisted assets

Certain investments in pooled vehicles, predominantly in private markets, alternatives and property have investment costs charged directly by the investment managers from either asset values or capital calls/payments. These costs are allocated directly to the Fund Account where information is available to the Custodian by the investment manager, on an as paid rather than on an accruals basis.

Where costs are charged by these managers and not disclosed to the Custodian, they are included in the fair value adjustments applied to assets concerned within the Fund Account and corresponding notes; in previous years all of these costs were treated this way.

The table below shows an estimate of a fuller charge to these private market funds on an accruals basis including performance related fees.

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
	GMPF Private market and alternative investments	
534	- performance related	59,052
77,342	- non-performance related	86,838
	GMPF Indirect investment property	
14,273	- performance related	7,309
25,928	- non-performance related	36,732
	Northern LGPS Investments (NPEP/GLIL)	
3,505	- performance related	8,101
15,025	- non-performance related	15,765
136,607	Total	213,797

12. Local investments

GMPF invests within the North West of England with a focus on the Greater Manchester conurbation in property development and redevelopment opportunities. This programme of investments is delivered through Greater Manchester Property Venture Fund

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
215,870	Greater Manchester Property Venture Fund	300,348

13. Designated funds

A small number of employers within GMPF have a materially different liability profile. Some earmarked investments are allocated to these employers. The investments of the designated fund incorporated in the Net Asset Statement are as follows:

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
0	UK equities	102,627
0	Overseas equities	
144,849	UK corporate bond	146,647
447,920	UK index linked	382,918
18,607	Cash instruments	17,094
30,085	Inflation funds	32,690
131,774	Investment Grade Corporate Bonds	122,307
51,721	UK fixed interest	0
824,956	Insurance policies (MF36861)	804,283
27,502	Cash	27,035
852,458	Total	831,318

14. Summary of managers' portfolio values at 31 March

2023			2024	
£m	%		£m	%
		Externally managed		
9,816	33.3%	UBS Global Asset Management	10,647	34.0%
3,518	12.0%	Legal & General	3,633	11.6%
2,650	9.0%	Sci Beta	2,761	8.8%
1,875	6.4%	Ninety One (formerly Investec)	1,880	6.0%
1,412	4.8%	Stone Harbor	1,532	4.9%
0	0.0%	LaSalle	0	0.0%
489	1.7%	Schroders Capital	518	1.7%
103	0.4%	APAM	80	0.3%
216	0.7%	Avison Young / CBRE *	300	1.0%
20,079	68.3%		21,351	68.3%
		Internally managed		
6,567	22.2%	Private markets	7,018	22.3%
28	0.1%	Designated funds	28	0.1%
2,107	7.2%	Property (indirect)	2,109	6.7%
645	2.2%	Cash, other investments and net assets	826	2.6%
9,347	31.7%		9,981	31.7%
29,426	100.0%	Total	31,332	100.0%

* Assets managed by. Avison Young until 1 December 2023 when transferred to CBRE.

15. Concentration of investment

As at 31 March 2024, GMPF held, respectively, 9.02%, 2.57% and 0.004% of its net assets in insurance contracts MF32950, MF36861 and MF36558 with Legal & General Assurance (Pensions Management) Limited. They are linked long term contracts under Class III of Schedule 1 of the Insurance Companies Act 1982 and not "with profits" contracts.

The policy documents have been issued and the values are incorporated in the Net Asset Statement within insurance policies. Details of the underlying asset classes included in policy MF36861 can be seen in Note 13 Designated Funds, the other policies' underlying asset classes are as follows:

31 March 2023 £000	POLICY MF32950	31 March 2024 £000
866,090	Overseas equities	703,486
181,356	UK fixed interest	216,036
360,989	UK corporate bonds	434,152
185,695	Overseas fixed interest	213,764
180,027	UK index linked	216,184
185,552	Overseas index linked	210,029
369,502	UK cash instruments	400,680
362,479	Overseas corporate bonds	433,409
2,691,690	Total	2,827,740

31 March 2023 £000	POLICY MF36558	31 March 2024 £000
260	UK equities	279
573	Overseas equities	661
35	UK fixed interest	37
72	UK corporate bonds	77
35	Overseas fixed interest	36
37	UK index linked	38
35	UK cash instruments	37
67	Overseas index linked	71
72	Overseas corporate bonds	75
1,186	Total	1,311

16. Notifiable interests

As at 31 March 2023 and 31 March 2024, GMPF had holdings of 3% or over in the ordinary share capital of the following quoted companies:

UK Equity 31 March 2023 %		UK Equity 31 March 2024 %
4.0	Curry's PLC	3.4
3.3	Intu Properties PLC	3.3
5.8	Synthomer PLC	6.5

Note: the table only shows investments of 3.0% and above; all others are less than 3%

17. Undrawn commitments

31 March 2023 £000	Asset type	Nature of commitment	31 March 2024 £000
251,042	Directly held investment property	Commitments regarding demolition or refurbishment work	250,681
43,331	Directly held investment property	Commitments regarding purchases	0
2,221,962	Indirect private equity and infrastructure	Commitments to fund	1,820,632
361,383	Special Opportunities portfolio	Commitments to fund	283,806
288,354	Property managed funds	Commitments to fund	258,663
9,697	Property unit trusts	Commitments to fund	9,999
9,417	Commercial/domestic based property unit trust	Commitments to fund	3,992
17,092	Local Investment 4 Growth fund	Commitments to fund	15,032
368,055	Local Impact Portfolio	Commitments to fund	327,413
22,078	Greater Manchester Property Venture Fund	Commitment to lend	48,447
513,821	Private debt portfolio	Commitment to fund	522,268
81,756	Internally Managed LGPS Northern Housing	Commitment to fund	280,942
4,187,988	Total		3,821,875

The above expenditure was contractually committed as at 31 March and a series of staged payments are to be made at future dates.

18a. Related party transactions

In the course of fulfilling its role as administering authority to GMPF, Tameside MBC incurred costs for services (e.g. salaries and support costs) and reclaimed VAT from HMRC on behalf of GMPF. The debt owing to GMPF at the year-end has therefore increased to £8,261,000 and will be netted off future payments due to Tameside MBC.

31 March 2023 £000		31 March 2024 £000
9,526	TMBC incurred costs on behalf of GMPF	9,928
(8,483)	TMBC reclaimed from HMRC VAT (net)	(16,299)
1,043	Payment due to TMBC / (GMPF)	(6,371)
2,933	Payment made to TMBC / (GMPF)	0
(1,890)	Amount generated in year to TMBC / (GMPF)	(6,371)
409	Opening value to TMBC / (GMPF)	(1,890)
409	Payment made to TMBC / (GMPF) re prior year	0
(1,890)	Total debt outstanding to TMBC / (GMPF)	(8,261)

There is no direct charge to GMPF for the services of the Chief Executive & Director of Pensions and the Director of Resources, but a contribution towards their cost is included in the recharge as detailed above. They receive no additional salary or remuneration for undertaking these roles. Details of the total remuneration of these officers will be published on the Tameside MBC website. The remuneration of the Chair of the Management Panel can be found by accessing the following link: <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/constitution/part6>

Other key management personnel full time and total remuneration, including employer's pension contributions, are as shown below:

For year ending 31 March 2024	Salary entitlement (Full time equivalent)	Salary, fees & allowances (Paid in year)	Employers pensions contributions (Paid in year)	Total (Paid in year)
Assistant Director of:	£	£	£	£
Pensions (Special Projects)	101,645	60,987	11,770	72,757
Pensions (Investments)	101,645	101,645	19,617	121,262
Pensions (Local Investments & Property)	101,645	101,645	18,311	119,956
Pensions (Administration)	101,645	101,645	19,617	121,262

For year ending 31 March 2023	Salary entitlement (Full time equivalent)	Salary, fees & allowances (Paid in year)	Employers pensions contributions (Paid in year)	Total (Paid in year)
Assistant Director of:	£	£	£	£
Pensions (Special Projects)	98,207	58,924	12,374	71,298
Pensions (Investments)	98,207	98,207	20,623	118,830
Pensions (Funding & Business Development) - Left post 30/10/2022	98,207	57,023	11,975	68,998
Pensions (Local Investments & Property)	98,207	98,207	20,623	118,830
Pensions (Administration)	91,652	91,652	19,247	110,899

Paragraph 3.9.4.3 of the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom exempts Local Authorities on the Key Management Personnel disclosure requirements of IAS 24, on the basis that the disclosure requirements for officer remuneration and members' allowances detailed in Section 3.4 of the code (which are derived from the requirements of Regulation 7(2)-(4) of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011 and Regulation 7A of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations (2005) satisfy the Key Management Personnel disclosure requirements of paragraph 16 of IAS 24.

The disclosures required by regulation 7(2)-(4) of the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations can be found in the main accounts of the administering authority - Tameside MBC.

No senior officers responsible for the administration of GMPF have entered into any contract (other than their contract of employment) with Tameside MBC (administering authority).

18b. Other Directorships and Pension Benefits

At 31 March 2024, a number of officers responsible for the administration of GMPF have directorships in companies which have been incorporated for the sole purpose of the investment administration and management of GMPF's assets and other assets which GMPF has a joint interest with other LGPS funds. These are:

Name	Position in GMPF 2023/24	Company in which directorship is held	Company Registration Number
Sandra Stewart	Chief Executive & Director of Governance & Pensions	Northern Pool GP (No1) Ltd	11360203
Patrick Dowdall	Assistant Director of Pensions (Local Investments & Property)	Matrix Homes (General Partner) Ltd Hive Bethnal Green Ltd Plot 5 First Street Nominee Ltd Plot 5 First Street GP Ltd GMPF UT (Second Unit Holder) Ltd Airport City (General Partner) Ltd Airport City (Asset Manager) Ltd Manchester Charles Street Residential (ELP GP) Ltd Manchester Charles Street Residential (SLP GP) Ltd Manchester New Square (General Partner) Ltd GMPF Heimstaden Bostad Ltd Semperian PPP Investment Partners Holdings Ltd (Jersey Registration)	08980059 09362438 09919396 09904743 08725454 08723477 08723467 10977358 SC576947 11082473 14684986 98327
John Douglas	Head of Accountancy	GLIL Corporate Holdings Ltd GLIL Corporate Holdings 2 Ltd GLIL Corporate Holdings 3 Ltd GLIL Corporate Holdings 4 Ltd GLIL Corporate Holdings 5 Ltd GLIL Renewable Holdings GLIL Storage 1 Ltd GLIL Storage 2 Ltd GLIL Blue Comet Holdings Limited	10046509 10824179 12932522 13679875 13680391 12315576 13489710 13490021 12880831

The above receive no remuneration for these directorships.

Name	Position in GMPF 2023/24	Company in which directorship is held	Company Registration Number
Kevin Etchells	Head of Real Assets	Island Site (General Partner) Ltd	11532059
		Island Site (Nominee) Ltd	11532379
		Hive Bethnal Green Ltd	09362438
		Leeds Valley Park Management Company Ltd	04635674
		GMPF Heimstaden Bostad Ltd	14684986
		Bruntwood Scitech Ltd	3814666
Andrew Hall	Senior Investment Manager (Property)	GMPF UT (Second Unit Holder) Ltd	08725454
		Matrix Homes (General Partner) Ltd	08980059
		Plot 5 First Street GP Ltd	09904743
		Plot 5 First Street Nominee Ltd	09919396
		Manchester Charles Street Residential (ELP GP) Ltd	10977358
		Manchester Charles Street Residential (SLP GP) Ltd	SC576947
		Island Site (General Partner) Ltd	11532059
		Island Site (Nominee) Ltd	11532379
		Manchester New Square (General Partner) Ltd	11082473

The above receive no remuneration for these directorships.

Greater Manchester Pension Fund Statement of Accounts 2023/24

Under legislation introduced in 2003/04, Councillors were entitled to join the pension scheme. However, separate legislation came into effect from 2014 rescinding this and all Councillors in the LGPS had their benefits deferred on expiry of their terms of office.

The following members of the Management and Advisory Panels consequently have:

- benefits on hold during 2023/24 under the Councillor Scheme,
- are in receipt of pension benefits under the Councillor Scheme,
- have benefits on hold by virtue of their membership of GMPF in current or previous employments,
- are in receipt of pension benefits by virtue of their membership of GMPF in previous employments.

Deferred Benefits from membership as Councillor	
Name	Position
Cllr J Fitzpatrick	Councillor member
Cllr A Jabbar	Councillor member

In receipt of pension from membership as Councillor	
Name	Position
Cllr G Cooney	Councillor member
Cllr J Lane	Councillor member
Cllr S Quinn	Councillor member
Cllr J Taylor	Councillor member
Cllr D Ward	Councillor member

Deferred Benefits from membership as Employee	
Name	Position
G Blackburn	Employer representative

In receipt of pension from membership as Employee	
Name	Position
Cllr G Cooney	Councillor member
Cllr V Ricci	Councillor member
Cllr J North	Councillor member
Cllr J Drennan	Councillor member
Cllr J Lane	Councillor member
Cllr A Jabbar	Councillor member
J Thompson	Employer representative
F Llewellyn	Employee representative
A Flatley	Employee representative
D Hope	Employee representative

Each member of the Local Board, the GMPF Management and Advisory Panels and Working Groups formally considers declarations of interest at each meeting. In addition, an annual return of all declarations of interest is obtained from the members by their respective Councils. Those relevant to GMPF Management Panel or Board membership, i.e. where the organisation is a GMPF contributing employer, are listed below:

Name	Position & Organisation	Organisation relationship with GMPF
Cllr G Cooney	Director of Ashton Pioneer Homes Ltd (Reg No 03383565)	Contributing employer
	Director of Pioneer Homes Services Ltd (subsidiary of Ashton Pioneer Homes Ltd) (Reg No 06546606)	Contributing employer
	Director of APH Developments Ltd (subsidiary of Ashton Pioneer Homes Ltd) (Reg No 03989251)	Contributing employer
	Director - The Mechanics Centre Museum of Labour and Trades' Union History Trust (Co No: 02150230)	Contributing employer
	Director of Mechanics' Centre Ltd (Reg No 01983373)	Contributing employer
Cllr J Fitzpatrick	Member of Cash Box Credit Union	Contributing employer
Cllr C Martin	School Governor - Aldwyn Primary School	Contributing employer
Cllr G Jones	Employed by South Manchester Learning Trust	Contributing employer
Cllr N Rehman	Director - Leigh Sports Village (Co No: 05374768)	Contributing employer
Cllr B Fairfoull	Member of Manchester Airport Consultative Committee	Contributing employer
Cllr J Naylor	Trustee of Fairfield High School for Girls	Contributing employer
Cllr A Jabbar	Deputy - Greater Manchester Combined Authority	Contributing employer
	Non Executive Director Jigsaw Homes Group Ltd (IP Reg No: 29433R)	Contributing employer
	External Member - Oldham College	Contributing employer
Cllr M Barnes	Employee of University of Salford	Contributing employer
P Herbert	Employee of Ministry of Justice	Contributing employer
K Drury	Employee of University of Manchester	Contributing employer
A Flatley	Employee of Bolton MBC	Contributing employer
S Caplan	Employee of Trafford MBC	Contributing employer
G Blackburn	Employee of Salford CC	Contributing employer
P Taylor	Employee of LTE Group	Contributing employer
M Rayner	Employee of Stockport MBC	Contributing employer
C Lloyd	Employee of Tameside MBC	Contributing employer
C Goodwin	Employee of University of Manchester	Contributing employer
Mr P Entwistle	Employee of Oldham MBC	Contributing employer
M Cullen	Employee of Stockport MBC	Contributing Employer

19. Employer related investment

As at 31 March 2024, GMPF had no outstanding short-term loans to any contributing employer i.e. £ Nil (2023 £ Nil).

As part of the Greater Manchester Property Venture Fund, the Fund has a portfolio of loans secured on development projects across the North West. These types of loans are often done alongside other lenders. The Greater Manchester Combined Authority – a contributing employer to the Fund - is also a provider of development debt and has co-invested into several developments with GMPF.

GMPF has a minor holding in the Airport City joint venture, which is developing land adjacent to Manchester Airport for commercial use. The main stakeholder at Airport City, being Manchester Airport Group, was a contributing employer to GMPF until August 2021.

GMPF formed a joint venture with Manchester City Council in 2014, a contributing employer to GMPF, known as Matrix Homes, to develop residential property, for both sale and to rent, at sites across Manchester.

As at 31 March 2024, the GMPF UK Property Portfolio includes a standing investment of office accommodation. Part of this property is leased to Irwell Valley Housing Association who are a contributing employer to GMPF.

20. Contributions received, and benefits paid during the year ending 31 March

During the previous actuarial cycle some authorities made use of the opportunity to pay some contributions up front in order to maximise efficiency of treasury management. This prepayment ended in the financial year 2022/23. For the year 2023/24 payments made fully match accrued contributions.

Contributions from employers 2023 £m	Contributions from members 2023 £m	Benefits Paid 2023 £m		Contributions from employers 2024 £m	Contributions from members 2024 £m	Benefits paid 2024 £m
(26)	(8)	50	Bolton Borough Council	(28)	(8)	53
(16)	(5)	31	Bury Borough Council	(16)	(5)	34
(11)	(19)	117	Manchester City Council	(54)	(21)	128
(5)	(7)	39	Oldham Borough Council	(20)	(7)	44
(22)	(7)	41	Rochdale Borough Council	(23)	(7)	44
(24)	(8)	46	Salford City Council	(26)	(9)	51
(8)	(8)	39	Stockport Borough Council	(25)	(9)	43
(5)	(7)	40	Tameside Borough Council (administering authority)	(22)	(7)	46
(4)	(6)	29	Trafford Borough Council	(18)	(6)	33
(35)	(11)	49	Wigan Borough Council	(37)	(12)	57
(320)	(84)	277	Other scheme employers *	(340)	(96)	310
(53)	(15)	196	Admitted bodies *	(46)	(14)	216
(529)	(185)	954	Total	(655)	(201)	1059

* A full list of all scheme and admitted bodies can be found in the GMPF Annual Report 2023/24 which is available at www.gmpf.org.uk.

21. Investment Strategy Statement and Funding Strategy Statement

GMPF has published an Investment Strategy Statement and a Funding Strategy Statement. Both documents can be found on its website www.gmpf.org.uk.

22. Actuarial Review of GMPF

GMPF's last Actuarial valuation was undertaken as at 31 March 2022. A copy of the valuation report can be found on the GMPF website.

<https://www.gmpf.org.uk/about/policies-reports-and-statements>

The funding policy is set out in the Funding Strategy Statement (FSS). The key funding principles are as follows:

- to ensure the long-term solvency of GMPF using a prudent long-term view. This will ensure that sufficient funds are available to meet all members'/dependants' benefits as they fall due for payment;
- to ensure that employer contribution rates are reasonably stable where appropriate;
- to minimise the long-term cash contributions which employers need to pay to GMPF, by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy which balances risk and return (this will also minimise the costs borne by Council taxpayers);
- to reflect the different characteristics of different employers in determining contribution rates. This involves GMPF having a clear and transparent funding strategy to demonstrate how each employer can best meet its own liabilities over future years;
- to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers, and ultimately to the Council taxpayer, from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

The valuation revealed that GMPF's assets, which at 31 March 2022 were valued at £29,324 million, were sufficient to meet 104% of the present value of promised retirement benefits earned. The resulting surplus was £1,021 million. The present value of promised retirement benefits at 31 March 2024 can be found in Note 25.

The key financial assumptions adopted for the 2022 valuation were:

Financial assumptions	31 March 2022	
	% p.a. Nominal	% p.a. Real
Discount rate	3.60%	0.70%
Pay increases	3.70%	0.80%
Price inflation / Pension increases	2.90%	

The liabilities were assessed using an accrued benefits method that takes into account pensionable membership up to the valuation date. It also makes an allowance, where applicable, for expected future salary growth revaluation to retirement or expected earlier date of leaving pensionable membership.

23. Stock lending

GMPF's custodian, Northern Trust, is authorised to release stock to third parties under a stock lending agreement. Under the agreement, GMPF does not permit Northern Trust to lend UK or US equities.

At the year end the value of stock on loan was £360.7 million (31 March 2023: £701.8 million) in exchange for which the custodian held collateral at fair value of £378.4 million (31 March 2023: £726.8 million), which consisted exclusively of government bonds and government guaranteed bonds.

24. AVC investments

GMPF provides an additional voluntary contributions (AVC) scheme for its contributors, the assets of which are invested separately from GMPF. Therefore, these amounts are not included in the GMPF accounts in accordance with regulation 4(2)(c) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 (SI 2009 No 3093).

GMPF's main AVC provider is Prudential where the sums saved are used to secure additional benefits on a money purchase basis for those contributors electing to pay additional voluntary contributions. The funds are invested in a range of investment products from which each member can select.

The fair value of AVC investments at 31 March 2024 was £74,964,885. However, as not all details for 2024 are currently available, the figures for the year to March 2023 are shown in the table below.

Contributions paid 2022/23		£9,325,440
Units purchased 2022/23	6,570,622	
Units sold 2022/23	(5,037,904)	
Fair value as at 31 March 2023		£72,433,920
Fair value as at 31 March 2022		£74,076,034

25. Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2023/24 requires administering authorities of LGPS funds to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits in accordance with IAS26 Accounting and Reporting by Retirement Benefit Plans.

Allowance has been made for the Government's decision to make full indexation, relating to the ruling on the equalisation of Guaranteed Minimum Pensions (GMPs) between men and women, the permanent solution for public service pension schemes including the LGPS.

Allowance has been made for the McCloud ruling i.e. an estimate of the potential in case in past service benefits arising from the findings of the Court of Appeal in relation to claims of age discrimination in the Firefighters' and Judges' pension schemes case affecting public service pension schemes.

This value has been calculated by GMPF's Actuary, Hymans Robertson LLP, using the assumptions below.

Assumptions

The assumptions used are those adopted for the administering authority's IAS19 Employee Benefits report at each year end as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting 2023/24.

Financial assumptions

31 March 2023 % p.a.		31 March 2024 % p.a.
2.95%	Inflation/pension increase rate	2.75%
3.75%	Salary increase rate	3.55%
4.75%	Discount rate	4.85%

Mortality

Life expectancy is based on GMPF's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2021 model, and will converge to a long-term rate of 1.5% p.a. Other demographic assumptions are unchanged. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

31 March 2023			30 March 2024	
Males	Females		Males	Females
20.2 years	23.5 years	Current pensioners	20.1 years	23.3 years
21.4 years	25.1 years	Future pensioners*	21.2 years	24.9 years

* future pensioners are assumed to be currently aged 45

Commutation

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 55% of the maximum additional tax-free cash up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 60% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service. This applies to both the current and prior years.

Value of promised retirement liabilities

31 March 2023 £m		31 March 2024 £m
29,426	Value of net assets per NAS	31,332
(24,694)	Present value of promised retirement benefits	(24,839)
4,732	IAS26 Surplus / (deficit) in the Fund	6,493

Liabilities have been projected using a roll forward approximation from the latest formal funding valuation as at 31 March 2022.

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are set out below.

31 March 2023			31 March 2024	
Approximate % increase to promised retirement benefits	Approximate monetary amount (£m)	Change in assumptions at year ended 31 March	Approximate % increase to promised retirement benefits	Approximate monetary amount (£m)
2%	404	0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	417
0%	51	0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	20
4%	988	1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	994
2%	448	0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	437

It should be noted that the above figures are only appropriate for the preparation of the accounts of GMPF. They should not be used for any other purpose.

26. Post balance sheet events

There are no events after the reporting period to be disclosed.