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### AGENDA

#### FINANCE & GOVERNANCE CABINET ADVISORY BOARD

Tuesday 15 January 2019 at 6.30 pm Committee Room A, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS

Members: Councillor Reilly (Chairman), Councillors Mrs Soyke (Vice-Chairman), Chapelard,

Dawlings, Heasman, Holden, Jukes, Lewis, Lewis-Grey, Scott and Uddin

**Quorum:** 3 Members

#### 1 Apologies

To receive any apologies for absence.

#### 2 Declarations of Interests

To receive any declarations of interest by members in items on the agenda. For any advice on declarations of interest, please contact the Monitoring Officer before the meeting.

#### 3 Notification of Visiting Members Wishing to Speak

To note any members of the Council wishing to speak, of which due notice has been given in accordance with Council Meeting Procedure Rule 18, and which items they wish to speak on.

#### 4 Minutes of the meeting dated 13 November 2018 (Pages 5 - 10)

To approve the minutes of a previous meeting as a correct record. The only issue relating to the minutes that can be discussed is their accuracy.

5	Work Programme as at 07 January 2019	(Pages 11 - 14)
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- 6 Property Transaction Report: July December 2018 (Pages 15 20)
- 7 \*Asset Management Plan 2019/20 (Pages 21 98)
- 8 \*Council Tax Long Term Empty Premium (Pages 99 108)

9	*Business Rates Retail Relief	(Pages 109 - 136)
10	*Budget 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update	(Pages 137 - 166)
11	*Treasury Management Policy and Strategy	(Pages 167 - 192)
12	*Capital Strategy 2019/20	(Pages 193 - 216)

#### 13 Urgent Business

To consider any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent, for the reasons to be stated, in accordance with Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### 14 Date of the Next Meeting

To note that the date of the next scheduled meeting is Tuesday 19 March 2019, at 6.30pm in Committee Room A, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells.

#### **EXEMPT ITEMS**

It is proposed that, pursuant to section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act, by virtue of the particular paragraphs shown on the agenda and on the attached reports.

 Exempt Appendix to Property Transaction Report: July -December 2018 (Item 6) (Pages 217 - 222)

Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended): Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

Mark O'Callaghan

Democratic Services Officer
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Email: mark.o'callaghan@tunbridgewells.gov.uk

Town Hall ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS Kent TN1 1RS

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#### **Options that the Cabinet Advisory Board Can Consider**

The Cabinet Advisory Board is asked to consider each report and in each case come to a consensus and advise the Cabinet which one of the three options identified below it supports:

1) The Cabinet Advisory Board supports the recommendation(s) in the report.

or

2) The Cabinet Advisory Board supports the recommendation(s) subject to the issues it has identified being taken into account by the Cabinet (any issues identified should be stated and recorded).

or

- 3) The Cabinet Advisory Board does not support the recommendation(s) on at least one of the following grounds
  - 3.1 Inadequate consultation with stakeholders; and/or
  - 3.2 Inadequate evidence on which to base the decision; and/or
  - 3.3 Insufficient consideration of legal and financial information; and/or
  - 3.4 Another reason, as decided by the meeting of the Cabinet Advisory Board.

In each case the final Cabinet report will be amended to outline the option selected by the Cabinet Advisory Board and explain why this option was selected.

All visitors wishing to attend a public meeting at the Town Hall between the hours of **9.00am** and **5.00pm** should report to reception via the side entrance in Monson Way. After **5pm**, access will be via the front door on the corner of Crescent Road and Mount Pleasant Road, except for disabled access which will continue by use of an 'out of hours' button at the entrance in Monson Way

#### **Notes on Procedure**

- (1) A list of background papers appears at the end of each report, where appropriate, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1972, section 100D(i).
- (2) Items marked \* will be the subject of recommendations by Cabinet to full Council; in the case of other items, Cabinet may make the decision, subject to call-in (Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rule 12).
- (3) Members seeking factual information about agenda items are requested to contact the appropriate Service Manager prior to the meeting.
- (4) Members of the public and other stakeholders are required to register with the Democratic Services Officer if they wish to speak on an agenda item at a meeting. Places are limited to a maximum of four speakers per item. The deadline for registering to speak is 4.00 pm the last working day before the meeting. Each speaker will be given a maximum of 3 minutes to address the Committee.
- (5) All meetings are open to the public except where confidential or exempt information is being discussed. The agenda will identify whether any meeting or part of a meeting is not open to the public. Meeting rooms have a maximum public capacity as follows:

  Council Chamber: 100, Committee Room A: 20, Committee Room B: 10.
- (6) Please note that the public proceedings of this meeting will be recorded and made available for playback on the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website. Any other third party may also record or film meetings, unless exempt or confidential information is being considered, but are requested as a courtesy to others to give notice of this to the Democratic Services Officer before the meeting. The Council is not liable for any third party recordings.

Further details are available on the website (<u>www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk</u>) or from Democratic Services.

# If you require this information in another format, please contact us, call 01892 526121 or email <a href="mailto:committee@tunbridgewells.gov.uk">committee@tunbridgewells.gov.uk</a>

**Accessibility into and within the Town Hall –** There is a wheelchair accessible lift by the main staircase, giving access to the first floor where the committee rooms are situated. There are a few steps leading to the Council Chamber itself but there is a platform chairlift in the foyer.

**Hearing Loop System –** The Council Chamber and Committee Rooms A and B have been equipped with hearing induction loop systems. The Council Chamber also has a fully equipped audio-visual system.

#### FINANCE & GOVERNANCE CABINET ADVISORY BOARD

#### Tuesday, 13 November 2018

Present: Councillor David Reilly (Chairman)
Councillors Mrs Soyke (Vice-Chairman), Chapelard, Dawlings, Heasman, Holden,
Jukes, Lewis, Scott and Uddin

Officers in Attendance: John Antoniades (Estates Manager), David Candlin (Head of Economic Development and Property), Lee Colyer (Director of Finance, Policy and Development (Section 151 Officer)), Jane Fineman (Head of Finance and Procurement), Keith Trowell (Team Leader - Corporate Governance (Deputy Monitoring Officer)) and Mark O'Callaghan (Democratic Services Officer)

Other Members in Attendance: None

#### **APOLOGIES**

FG47/18 There were no apologies. Councillor Lewis-Grey was not present.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

FG48/18 There were no disclosable pecuniary or other significant interests declared at the meeting.

#### NOTIFICATION OF VISITING MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK

FG49/18 There were no Visiting Members who had registered as wishing to speak.

#### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING DATED 02 OCTOBER 2018**

FG50/18 Members reviewed the minutes. No amendments were proposed.

**RESOLVED –** That the minutes of the meeting dated 02 October 2018 be approved as a correct record.

#### **WORK PROGRAMME AS AT 02 NOVEMBER 2018**

FG51/18 Members considered the work programme. No amendments were proposed.

**RESOLVED –** That the Work Programme as at 02 November 2018 be noted.

#### **CALVERLEY SQUARE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

FG52/18 David Candlin, Head of Economic Development and Property, introduced the report.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

- The comprehensive report, which was only a summary of the hundreds of pages of reports available to the project team, was commended.
- The funding strategy was running ahead of schedule with £316k already in reserve, further savings and an increased share of Business Rates were expected which would result by the end of the year in £618k in reserve.

- Experience of the Business Rates Retention Scheme and recent changes to the appeals process gave confidence in Business Rates receipts which allowed the Council to utilise the increased income to maintain the community grants budget for at least two years.
- The project was on track and on budget.
- Consultant B scored more highly on service and technical experience making them the preferred supplier over the cheaper Consultant A.
- The cost of purchasing The Lodge was close to budget. The property was generating rental income and avoided CPO liability.
- Income from Business Rates pilot was not guaranteed but the Kent pilot was a strong bid as it included a multi-tiered area.
- Whilst imperfect, Business Rates income was reliable as Tunbridge Wells remained vibrant and Rates were liable even if buildings were vacant.
- There were no fundamental changes to the layout of the Theatre and the Council was now looking at interior fittings to ensure a unique and high quality finish.

The decision was made taking the related exempt information as read.

**RESOLVED –** That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### **DRAFT ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019/20**

FG53/18 John Antoniades, Estates Manager, introduced the report.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

- Income from the sale of Holly Farm was a significant capital gain and the Council has been able to sell as is.
- Crescent Car Park renovation had overrun due to more structural repairs being necessary than expected, works would pause for Christmas and resume in the new year. The cost was still on budget.
- The format of the asset register would change before the final report to Cabinet to show greater detail and take account of recent changes to the Transparency Code.
- Recent acquisitions were not shown on the asset register as they
  had been leased to Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Limited, in
  future the asset register would show all properties.
- The Council had released non-performing land for housing which would typically be much-needed starter homes and ultimately provide income through Council Tax.

**RESOLVED –** That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### PERFORMANCE SUMMARY: QUARTER 2

FG54/18 Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy and Development, introduced the report.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

 Overall collection rates for Council Tax were good but the Council was looking to improve the time taken to process.

- Government funding for the implementation of Universal Credit, due to commence on 21 January 2019, was inadequate and there was a lack of specialist staff. However, the Council was mindful of the importance of processing claims in a timely manner and agency staff could be employed in the interim.
- The total number of crimes had fallen across the Borough.
- Performance indicators relating to the Museum had been suspended during refurbishment works.
- Fluctuations in performance due to seasonality were built into the targets.

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### **COMPLAINTS SUMMARY: QUARTER 1 AND 2**

FG55/18 Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy and Development, introduced the report.

The report was taken as read.

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### **QUARTERLY FINANCIAL MONITORING REPORTS: QUARTER 2**

FG56/18 Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement, provided a verbal report of any significant variations to the agreed budget noting that there were no matters of urgent concern.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

- In the normal course of monitoring the revenue budget, no amendments would be made in Quarter 1 unless a clear mistake had been made. Quarter 2 may address significant variations. Quarter 3 would start looking in more detail and any potential funding gaps to be identified would be address with a view to resolving any issues by the end of Quarter 4.
- Dowding House was full but unfortunately there was still demand for assistance which would require the continued use of Bed and Breakfast services.

**RESOLVED** – That the verbal report be noted.

#### **FEES AND CHARGES SETTING 2019/20**

FG57/18 Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement, introduced the report.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

- £700k of income included in the funding strategy for the Calverley Square development were the accumulated savings from the renegotiated waste contract over 3 years. This was not related to the £642k budgeted income from the opt-in green waste service as set out in the annual fees and charges report.
- The Government had not yet followed through with its stated intention of centralising Land Charges, therefore the projected income was included in next year's budget.

- New charges for Planning Performance Agreements were proposed to recharge the cost of supporting major developments.
   Such charges were common in other authorities and did not have a dissuasive effect on large-scale developers.
- Planning Performance Agreements may assist the winning of Building Control contracts as the Council would already be engaged with the client.
- The healthy projections for the Ice Rink were welcomed.

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### DRAFT BUDGET 2019/20 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY UPDATE

FG58/18

Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy and Development, introduced the report noting that, provided the Government followed through with its pledge to remove negative support grant, the council was confident of closing the remaining £76k funding gap.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

- The Government's fair funding review provided an opportunity to address a number of historical inequalities. The Council was engaging proactively with the various consultation exercises but remained realistic in its expectations on timescales. Construction of new fair funding models would commence in May 2019 with specific details being released around December 2019.
- The Council's efficiency and effectiveness despite low Council Tax and low spending power was welcomed.
- The Council Tax cap was a blunt instrument which did not take account of local circumstances and was undemocratic.
- The Council would also welcome the opportunity to review Council Tax banding as property values had diverged considerably from the levels established 25 years ago but this was controlled centrally and was unlikely to change.

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### **CALCULATION OF COUNCIL TAX BASE**

FG59/18 Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement, introduced the report.

The discussion included consideration of the following additional matters:

 Proposals would come forward at a later date to charge a 100 per cent Council Tax surcharge on properties empty more than 2 years. Awaiting probate provided an exemption to the surcharge.

**RESOLVED** – That the recommendations set out in the report be supported.

#### **URGENT BUSINESS**

FG60/18 There was no urgent business.

#### **DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

FG61/18 The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 15 January 2019, at 6.30pm in

Committee Room A at the Town Hall.

NOTES:

The meeting concluded at 8.15 pm.
Councillor Chapelard left during FG57/18.
An audio recording of this meeting is available on the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council website.



## EXTRACT OF FORWARD PLAN



www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk/forwardplan

### Notice of Key Decisions / Notice of Private Meetings

Pursuant to the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

This Plan gives at least 28 days notice if the Cabinet of Tunbridge Wells Borough Council intends to make a key decision or make a decision in private<sup>2</sup>. Other decisions by the executive are also included on the Plan wherever possible.

Relevant documents can be downloaded from the Council's website or are available on request from: Democratic Services, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS or <a href="mailto:committee@tunbridgewells.gov.uk">committee@tunbridgewells.gov.uk</a>. Documents may be submitted to the decision maker via Democratic Services.

If it is necessary to hold a meeting in private, the reason for this are stated alongside the decision. These reasons are prescribed by Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) and summarised at the back of this Plan.

Representations against the intention to make a decision in private can be submitted in writing to Democratic Services no less than ten working days before the meeting date.

If the Council is unable to give 28 days notice, it will publish the reasons for this on its website and at its offices.

Councillor David Jukes Leader of the Council

Publication Date: 07 January 2019

The most recent version of the Plan supersedes all previously issued versions Guidance notes are provided at the back of this document

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### Finance and Governance Portfolio – Councillor Reilly

Date of decision/ Decision maker	Full Council	Advisory Board	Report Title, Summary and Ward	Consultation Details	Relevant Officer	Key? <sup>1</sup>	Private? <sup>2</sup>
07/03/19 Cabinet		12/02/19 Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	Performance Summary: Quarter 3 To review an outline of the Council's performance against key strategic indicators. Measures prescribed by central government through the Single Data List (SDL) and the progress against each of the strategic projects as at end of December 2018. (All Wards)	The relevant Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted.	Jane Clarke, Head of Policy and Governance	No	Open
07/03/19 Cabinet		12/02/19 Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	Revenue Management Report: Quarter 3 To receive the financial position as at the end of December 2018. (All Wards)	The relevant Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted.	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement	No	Open
07/03/19 Cabinet		12/02/19 Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	Capital Management Report: Quarter 3 To receive the financial position as at the end of December 2018. (All Wards)	The relevant Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted.	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement	No	Open
07/03/19 Cabinet		12/02/19 Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	Treasury and Prudential Indicator Management Report: Quarter 3 To receive the financial position as at the end of December 2018. (All Wards)	The relevant Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted.	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement	No	Open
07/03/19 Cabinet		12/02/19 Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	ICT Strategy To agreed the ICT strategy for the next 5 years, setting out the strategic direction of Mid Kent IT 2018-2023.  Part of this meeting may be held in private in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Act. (All Wards)	The relevant Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted.	Chris Woodward, Interim Head of ICT	No	Agenda ile

#### **Guidance Notes**

#### **Note 1: KEY DECISIONS**

A "key decision" means a decision which is to be taken by the executive of the Council which is likely to:

- result in the Council incurring expenditure which is, or the making of savings which are over £250,000 as well as otherwise being significant having (a) regard to the Council's budget for the service or function to which the decision relates; or
- be significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells. (b)

#### Note 2: REASONS A MEETING MAY BE HELD IN PRIVATE

In accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended), the public may be excluded from a meeting on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act. The exemption must be by virtue of one or more specified paragraphs which are shown on the meeting agenda (giving 5 days notice) and, in the case of the Cabinet, on the Forward Plan (giving 28 days notice). The exemptions are summarised as follows:

- Paragraph (1) Information relating to any individual.
- Paragraph (2) Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual.
- aragraph (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).
- Paragraph (4) Information relating to any consultations or negotiations, or contemplated consultations or negotiations, in connection with any labour relations matter arising between the authority or a Minister of the Crown and employees of, or office-holders under, the authority.
- Paragraph (5) Information in respect of which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained in legal proceedings.
- Paragraph (6) Information which reveals that the authority proposes
  - to give under any enactment a notice under or by virtue of which requirements are imposed on a person; or
  - to make an order or direction under any enactment.
- Paragraph (7) Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

- Information falling within paragraph (3) above is not exempt information by virtue of that paragraph if it is required to be registered under –
  - the Companies Act 1985;
  - the Friendly Societies Act 1974;
  - the Friendly Societies Act 1992;
  - the Industrial and Provident Societies Acts 1965 to 1978;
  - the Building Societies Act 1986; or
  - the Charities Act 1993.
- Information is not exempt information if it relates to proposed development (9)for which the local planning authority may grant itself planning permission pursuant to regulation 3 of the Town and Country Planning General Regulations 1992.
- Information which -(10)
  - falls within any of paragraphs 1 to 7 above; and
  - is not prevented from being exempt by virtue of paragraph 8 or 9 above.

is exempt information if and so long as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

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## Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board

### 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

## **Property Transaction Report: July – December 2018**

Final Decision-Maker	Cabinet
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Jukes – Leader of the Council
	Councillor David Reilly – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Lee Colyer Director of Finance, Policy & Development (S151 Officer)
Head of Service	David Candlin – Head of Economic Development & Property
Lead Officer/Author John Antoniades – Estates Manager	
Classification Part Exempt	
	Exempt Appendix A: Exempt by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended): Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person including the authority holding that information.
Wards affected	All

#### This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the report be noted.

#### This report relates to the following corporate priorities:

- A Prosperous Borough by making the best use of land and property assets for the benefit
  of residents and in encouraging future growth and investment by marketing opportunities that
  the Borough owns.
- A Confident Borough by empowering communities and residents through the release of Council assets; working with parish and town councils and community groups to enable them to take control of their services; enabling residents to take control of their futures through an active asset programme of change and evolution

Timetable	
Meeting	Date
Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	15/01/2019
Cabinet	07/02/2019

## **Property Transaction Report: July – December 2018**

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 This report informs Cabinet of the property transactions completed under delegated authority for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018 in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Constitution of the Council provides for delegated authority in respect of commercial properties.
- 2.2 Commercial properties are defined for this purpose as being all land and buildings owned by the Council or in which it has an interest and which are managed on a commercial basis but excluding land and buildings which are held by the Council in order to discharge or fulfil its statutory functions where different considerations may apply.
- 2.3 Under the delegation outlined in the Constitution the following powers are exercised including the service of any necessary statutory or other notices, subject to the provisos set out below:
  - (i) to negotiate and agree rent reviews;
  - (ii) to terminate, renew or re-let leases and licences as appropriate;
  - (iii) to grant new leases or licences;
  - (iv) to grant licences to assign or to sub-let;
  - (v) to vary the terms of leases;
  - (vi) to grant wayleaves, easements or rights of way; and
  - (vii) to grant or refuse to give consents or approvals under covenants or other provisions where permission must be sought from the Council under the terms of any leases, tenancies, licences or similar documents.

#### **Provisos**

- (a) All rents, charges etc shall not be less than current relevant market values.
- (b) No leases or licences shall be granted, renewed or terminated where the current or proposed consideration or annual rent (which for this purposes shall be exclusive of VAT) exceeds £25,000 in value.
- (c) All decisions shall be in accordance with all adopted Council policies.
- (d) At six monthly intervals, action taken shall be reported to Cabinet.
- 2.4 This report also details acquisitions and disposals where the Constitution delegates authority to acquire or dispose of land assets with a value under £250,000 subject to Section 151 Officer and Portfolio Holder approval.
- 2.5 Set out in the tables in Appendix A and Exempt Appendix A are the property transactions undertaken with delegated authority for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2018 as required to be reported to Cabinet under the delegation.

- 2.6 This report also serves to update Cabinet on the lease management for the Royal Victoria Place.
- 2.7 This report further seeks to update Cabinet on any property transactions undertaken by Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Ltd.

#### 3. PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS

- 3.1 Appendix A and Exempt Appendix A set out all the property transactions completed under delegation as outlined above.
- 3.2 **Property Disposals/Transfers** During the second six months of the calendar year, the Council has disposed of 3 property assets: land to the north side of Newton Road (rear of 60 Calverley Road); land at 120 London Road/Holden Park Road, Southborough and land on the north side of Blackthorn Avenue, Tunbridge Wells producing a total capital receipt of £309,000.
- 3.3 **Lease & Licence Renewals/New Leases** Seven new lettings/ licences were granted, equating to a net revenue increase of £1,212.44 per annum. Breakdowns with explanations are given in Exempt Appendix A of this report.
- 3.4 **Rent Reviews** Nine rent reviews were completed, securing a net annual rental increase of £17,325.05.
- 3.5 Other Matters Completed in Accordance with Delegated Authority Three other matters were dealt with under delegated authority as listed.
- 3.6 **Property Acquired by TWBC** Apartment 13 Grove Hill House, Tunbridge Wells was acquired by the Council at a purchase price of £340,000.
- 3.7 New Assured Shorthold Tenancies Granted by Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Limited Eleven new ASTs were granted as listed.
- 3.8 Royal Victoria Place Sub-lettings from Hermes for retail units and commercialisation. The lease from TWBC to Hermes which is now vested in British Land provides that, in the event of income (as defined under the lease) being greater than the initial rent, then the tenant will pay an increased rental sum. TWBC have set up a process whereby Hermes advise the Council of changes in the sub-tenancies for review by Finance on an annual basis, upon receipt of Hermes' formal accounts. No changes in the tenancy schedule were reported during this period.
- 3.9 **Property Investment Portfolio** No further acquisitions have taken place during this period.

#### 4 PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The recommendations are to inform Cabinet and comply with the Constitution.

#### 5 CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	<ul> <li>(a) Legal – Legal advice was sought for all transactions and all necessary legal documentation was approved by Legal Services before completion.</li> <li>(b) Human Rights Act – There are no consequences arising from the recommendation that adversely affect or interfere with individuals' rights and freedoms as set out in the Human Rights Act 1998.</li> </ul>	Keith Trowell, Senior Lawyer and Deputy Monitoring Officer
Finance and other resources	Assistance from the Finance team was provided as and when necessary and all required notification has been provided to amend the Council's financial records.  The condition of the current property market is reflected in all property transactions but the transactions reported have been achieved in accordance with the acquisitions and disposals policy of the Council as stated in the Constitution.	Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy and Development (section 151 Officer)
Staffing establishment	Appropriate staffing was provided in all services of the Council involved in these transactions and professional consultants were appointed as appropriate to ensure compliance with the Constitution.	Nicky Carter, Head of Human Resources
Risk management and health & safety	Risk has been managed by complying with the Constitution requirement to obtain valuations where necessary.	Rich Clarke, Head of Internal Audit
Environment and sustainability	No impact	John Antoniades, Estates Manager
Community safety	No impact	John Antoniades, Estates Manager
Health and wellbeing	No impact	John Antoniades, Estates Manager
Equalities	The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Sarah Lavallie, West Kent Equalities Officer

#### **6 REPORT APPENDICES**

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: List of Property Disposals/Transfers
- Exempt Appendix A: List of Lease and License Renewals/New Leases, Rent Reviews and Other Matters

#### 7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

#### **APPENDIX A**

Property Disposals/Transfers	Date Completed	Price (£)
Land to the North side of Newton Road	11/10/2018	5,000.00
(rear of 60 Calverley Road)		
Land at 120 London Road/Holden Park	28/11/2018	3,000.00
Road, Southborough.		
Land on the North Side of Blackthorn	17/12/2018	301,000.00
Avenue, Tunbridge Wells		
Total		£309,000.00



## Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board

### 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

Yes

## \* Asset Management Plan 2019/20

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Jukes – Leader of the Council Councillor David Reilly – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Head of Service	David Candlin – Head of Economic Development and Property
Lead Officer/Author	John Antoniades – Estates Manager
Classification	Non-Exempt
Wards affected	All

#### This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the Asset Management Plan 2019/20 be agreed.

(The report is currently out for consultation ending on 21 January 2019.)

#### This report relates to the following corporate priorities:

The Council's Five Year Plan sets out the Council's overall priorities and objectives for the years 2017 - 22. All assets are managed in accordance with the Five Year Plan and the property portfolio is managed and maintained having regard to the objectives within the framework of legislation and the state of the current property market. The Asset Management Plan is a fundamental contributor to core business resource planning and to empowering wellbeing within the Borough, as set out in the Council's corporate priorities within the Five Year Plan.

Timetable			
Meeting	Date		
Management Board	31 October 2018		
Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	13 November 2018		
Cabinet (Draft)	6 December 2018		
Public Consultation	12 Dec 2018 – 21 Jan 2019		
Management Board (Verbal Update)	19 December 2019		
Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019		
Cabinet	7 February 2019		
Full Council	27 February 2019		

## \* Asset Management Plan 2019/20

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Asset Management Plan (AMP) 2019/20 for approval. The report is currently out for consultation ending on 21 January 2019.
- 1.2 The AMP supports the Council's Corporate Priorities and the Five Year Plan, along with other strategic documents such as the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Asset Management Plan for the period 2019/20 provides a management strategy for the Council's property assets. It details the principles, procedures and mechanisms to be adopted that effectively and efficiently manage the Property Asset Portfolio. It evaluates specific actions for the previous financial year relating to the Council's property estate, and identifies the main portfolio ambitions for 2019/20. The attached latest version of the AMP has been produced on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2019 part way through the financial year and therefore figures and details will change as the year progresses. The figures highlighted in yellow are correct at the time of writing this report.
- 2.2 Text has now been added to detail the three disposals which have now been completed.
- 2.3 So far this financial year the Council has negotiated lease renewals, new lettings and rent reviews to an increased value of approximately £39,000 annually on Council property, excluding transfers to the new property company. Property and Estates Services have established and will support the activities of Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Ltd.
- 2.4 All property rentals that are subject to an annual rental increase at the RPI were increased over this financial year to date, resulting in a rental increase of £12,000 per annum. These reviews are usually based on the previous year's RPI figure which was 3.4% for April 2017/18.
- 2.5 In this financial year to date the Council has negotiated a capital income of £1.85M from the rationalisation of the asset portfolio (with two further staged payments of £1.38M due on 04/05/2019 and 04/05/2020 from the sale of Holly Farm) and a further £309,000 from the sale of land on the north side of Blackthorn Avenue, Tunbridge Wells and two small pieces of land.
- 2.6 Vacant space on the portfolio has been reduced by letting or licensing space to reduce occupation liabilities and to achieve rental income. Property and Estates continues with the disposal of surplus land held by the Council from the review that was commenced a few years ago, continuing to identify and dispose of specific sites for development for affordable housing, for private residential development or other regenerative purposes.

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- 2.7 The Planned Maintenance Programme for the financial year 2018/19 will have completed works to the value of £593,000 to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and to carry out priority repairs and upgrades to maintain assets and prevent dilapidation.
- 2.8 Capital projects to the value of £4.4M were programmed during 2018/19. Refurbishment and improvements to the multi-storey car parks have been the primary focus in this expenditure to maintain the asset and significantly reduce energy consumption and having positive impact on revenue expenditure.
- 2.9 The Asset Management Plan outlines the forward projection and management strategy for the Property Asset Portfolio in 2019/20. It identifies the aims and objectives for next year. It includes any requirements relating to the publication of data as required by the Local Government Transparency Code 2015.

#### 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- 3.1 Option 1: That the Council approves the Asset Management Plan 2019/20.
- 3.2 Option 2: Approve alternative plans. The Asset Management Plan is based on sound best practice and has been subject to public consultation.
- 3.3 Option 2: Do nothing. The Asset Management Plan is a key strategic document, taking no action is not recommended.

#### 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 That Council approves the Asset Management Plan 2019/20.
- 4.2 Adoption of the Asset Management Plan will help the authority to improve its efficiency and focus on delivering its objectives, aiding the decision-making process. The Asset Management Plan is a requirement of the Constitution and of local government statute.

#### 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- 5.1 The Draft AMP was approved by Cabinet on 12 December 2018.
- 5.2 The AMP is currently out for public consultation. A verbal update of responses received to date will be provided to the Advisory Board and full details will be provided to Cabinet.

#### RECOMMENDATION FROM CABINET ADVISORY BOARD

5.3 The Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board will be consulted on this decision on 115 January 2019..

#### 6. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 requires councils to put in place proper processes for the management of their finances, including their assets. The Asset Management Plan demonstrates the Council's commitment to fulfilling its duties under the Act.	Patricia Narebor Head of Mid Kent Legal Partnership 25/10/2018
	The Local Government Act 1972, section 111(1) empowers a local authority to do any thing (whether or not involving the expenditure, borrowing or lending of money or the acquisition or disposal of any property or rights) which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of any of their functions. This enables the Council as part of its asset management strategy to acquire and/or dispose of assets meeting relevant statutory requirements.	
	In particular, section 120(1)(2) of the 1972 Act enables the Council to acquire land to be used for the benefit, improvement or development of their area; or for the purpose of discharging the Council's functions.	
	Section 123(2) of the 1972 Act enables the Council to dispose of land or property for the best consideration reasonably obtainable, otherwise the consent of the Secretary of State will be required subject to certain conditions.	
	Acting on the recommendations is within the Council's powers as set out in the above statutory provisions.	
	Human Rights Act There are no consequences arising from the recommendation that adversely affect or interfere with individuals' rights and freedoms as set out in the Human Rights Act 1998.	
Finance and other resources	Ensuring that assets are properly managed and accounted for will impact on maintenance expenditure, revenue income and capital receipts.	Jane Fineman, Head of Finance and Procurement 24/10/2018
Staffing establishment	Work will be prioritised to be undertaken by permanent staff, but specialist consultants will	Nicky Carter, Head of Human

## Agenda Item 7

	he appointed when personners will be the	Decourses
	be appointed when necessary, subject to approval, in order to deliver the aims and objectives of the AMP.	Resources 09/11/2019
Risk management	Strong asset management should ensure that risks are quickly identified and that there are procedures in place to remedy them.	Estates Manager John Antoniades 23/10/2018
Environment and sustainability	There are no specific implications that arise from the Asset Management Plan other than the Plan will support the Council's priorities. Projects, including maintenance schemes, will need to include a sustainability assessment to ensure that the impact of projects are fully understood and that mitigation measures are put in place and support a reduction in the carbon emissions.	Gary Stevenson, Head of Housing, Health & Environment 24/10/2018
Community safety	There are no consequences of concern arising from this report.	Terry Hughes Community Safety Manager 31/10/2018
Health and Safety	No specific issues.	Mike Catling Corporate Health and Safety Advisor 25/10/2018
Health and wellbeing	There are no specific implications that arise from the Asset Management Plan over the fact that the Plan will support the Council's priorities.	Stuart Smith, Health Team Leader 25/10/2018
Equalities	Decision-makers are reminded of the requirement under the Public Sector Equality Duty (s149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups.	Ingrid Weatherup Corporate Governance Officer 02/11/2018
	The Draft Asset Management plan includes proposals and projects which have the potential to support the aims of the duty to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with regard to:	
	Estate management priorities and seeking opportunities to work all assets with local community groups to improve community	

facilities

- Strategic assessment management priorities and asset disposal
- Property and projects maintenance programmes that could impact on access for protected characteristics
- Development Calverley Square development / Amelia Scott project / community facility projects for Cranbrook and Paddock Wood (covered in Five Year Plan).
- The progression of acquisition of land for recreational use
- Supporting regeneration initiatives in Royal Tunbridge Wells, Cranbrook and Paddock Wood central areas

An EQIA has already been completed on the Council's five year plan. Separate EQIA's are being carried out for projects such as the Amelia Scott project, Calverley Square development which are referred to in the draft Asset Management Plan. Members should note that further analysis of the impacts of the Draft Asset Management Plan will take place and suggestions for mitigating any impacts identified, will be presented when the final plan is put forward for approval.

#### 7. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: Plan Document
- Appendix B: Ten Year Property Maintenance Plan
- Appendix C: Asset Register (Investment)
- Appendix D: Asset Register (Operational)
- Appendix E: Asset Register (Non-Operational)



## Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

Asset Management Plan

Appendix A
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Asset Management Plan

#### **CONTENTS**

- 1. Introduction Function of the Asset Management Plan
- 2. The Council's Property Asset Portfolio
- 3. Summary of Property Portfolio Asset Management for 2018/19
- 4. Forward Projection and Management Strategy for Property Asset Portfolio 2019/20

#### **Appendices**

- 1 Property Management Strategy
- 2 Mechanisms for Achieving the Aims and Objectives of the AMP
- 3 External and Internal Influences
- 4 Asset Disposal Programme
- 5 Ten Year Property Maintenance Plan (attached to this agenda at Appendix B)
- 6 Asset Register (attached to this agenda as follows):
  - Appendix C Asset Register Investment
  - Appendix D Asset Register Operational
  - Appendix E Asset Register Non-Operational

#### 1 Introduction – Function of the Asset Management Plan

The Asset Management Plan (AMP) defines how the Council managed, maintained, acquired and disposed of the Council's property assets over the past financial year and identifies the objectives for the next financial year.

#### **Aims and Objectives**

The aims and objectives of the Asset Management Plan are to:

- Manage the asset portfolio in accordance with the Council's Corporate Priorities and the Five Year Plan; Medium Term Financial Strategy; and the Cultural Strategy;
- Raise awareness of property as a valuable and workable asset;
- Manage the asset portfolio to deliver the needs of the Council's services;
- Maximise asset value and asset use through strategic maintenance and operational planning;
- Manage the portfolio in accordance with the advice received following cross party review through the Development Advisory Panel, and
- Manage the asset portfolio flexibly to ensure optimum financial performance and service delivery to demonstrate continuous service improvement, to deliver the Five Year Plan and to support the Capital Programme.

The Asset Management Strategy is summarised at Appendix 1 with the mechanisms for achieving the aims and objectives of the AMP set out at Appendix 2 including the consultation processes for adoption of the AMP.

The Asset Management Strategy is formulated and carried out to support the Council's corporate priorities. The property assets are managed both individually and as an entire portfolio to maximise operation, income generation and capital values at all times in accordance with the requirement to achieve best consideration.

The AMP is subject to external and internal influences which are summarised at Appendix 3.

The Property and Estate Team, through the Estates Manager, Major Projects Manager, Building and Projects Manager, the Property, Estates and Development Lead, the Head of Economic Development & Property and the Director of Finance, Policy and Development (S151 Officer), work closely with the Leader of the Council and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance to deliver maximum returns from the Council's existing and varied property asset portfolio, whilst complying with the requirements for commercial sensitivity, economic viability, best consideration and probity. It is delivering a proactive Property Management Service which meets the changing demands of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The AMP will support the Council in the delivery of its corporate priorities through ensuring that the portfolio is dynamically managed with focus directed towards priority areas, and performance being in accordance with the Five Year Plan. This is evidenced by a rationalisation review that has been undertaken of the larger non-operational land assets over the past 5 years, which has successfully disposed of non-performing surplus land assets to generate capital income. Maintenance costs

will be kept to a sustainable level and strategic decisions will be based on delivering services, ensuring best consideration and optimising financial return.

#### 2 The Council's Property Asset Portfolio

The current asset portfolio was valued at £101.73M at 31 March 2018, with an annual rental income of £1.69M (which includes all income from rents, other rents and wayleaves) and had an annual maintenance budget of £948,050 (2018/19). The income to capital value ratio reflects the nature of the portfolio and the fact that it is held in the majority as an operational portfolio to enable the Council to deliver its key priorities.

The portfolio comprises a full range of property uses including commercial, residential, light industrial and retail properties, woodland and community land, and numerous footpaths and pieces of ancillary land. The assets form operational, nonoperational, and investment assets and are held under both freehold and leasehold title. The Asset Register defines the property portfolio within these categories. The Council also holds a separate investment portfolio in which the acquisition of 33 Monson Road is held (the Ask restaurant). The Council also holds a number of leases with Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Limited including the recent acquisition of three apartments in Grove Hill House Tunbridge Wells which are let for residential uses through the holding company. The Council also acquired the I Smile Dental Practice situated in The Lodge, Mount Pleasant Avenue, Tunbridge Wells which has increased further the Council's rental income. In relation to Royal Victoria Place (RVP), the Council acquired a number of freehold properties to regularise the freehold of RVP. As part of the deal, a variation of the long leasehold interest was agreed to include the new freeholds and some de minimis land that the Council already owned in return for an increase in the head rent payable to the Council.

Maintenance across the portfolio is divided between Planned and Responsive currently at an approximate 70/30 split respectively. In addition to the planned and responsive maintenance works is the regular servicing of plant and equipment. The works and servicing requirement is prioritised to ensure that all legislative compliance needs are met followed by maintaining a fitness for purpose and the asset value. The AMP identifies the anticipated maintenance budget requirement over the next ten year period for the property portfolio. This is used to assist in financial planning and to indicate ongoing costs related to the individual assets to inform strategic decisions on their future. A copy of the ten year maintenance plan is contained in Appendix 5.

The Council's Property Asset Portfolio is summarised in the Asset Register at Appendix 6. The current Property Asset Portfolio comprises 66 commercial investments, 157 operational assets of which 13 are allotment sites and 284 non-operational assets. The commercial investment assets comprise those assets that are let to third parties on commercial terms and are therefore subject to the clauses within their leases for opportunities to maximise income or exploit potential development opportunities.

#### 3 Summary of Property Portfolio Asset Management 2018/19

Over the past financial year the Council has negotiated lease renewals, new lettings and rent reviews to an increased value of approximately £39,000 annually on Council property, excluding transfers to the property company. The Council will continue to support the activities of Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Ltd.

All property rentals that are subject to an annual rental increase at the RPI were increased over this financial year, resulting in a rental increase of approximately

£12,000 per annum. These reviews are usually based on the previous years RPI figure which was 3.4% for April 2017/18.

Over the past 12 months, the Council has received a second tranche payment from the sale of Holly Farm of £1.38M (with 2 further staged payments of £1.38M due on 04/05/2019 and 04/05/2020).

Vacant space on the portfolio has been reduced by letting or licensing space to reduce occupation liabilities and to achieve rental income. The Council is continuing with the disposal of surplus land held by the Council, from the review that was commenced last year, continuing to identify and dispose of specific sites for development for residential development.

The Planned Maintenance Programme for the financial year 2018/19 completed works to the value of £593,000 to ensure compliance with statutory requirements and to carry out priority repairs and upgrades to maintain assets and prevent dilapidation.

Capital projects to the value of £4.4m were programmed during 2018/19. Refurbishment and improvements to multi storey car parks have been the primary focus in this expenditure to maintain the asset and significantly reduce energy consumption and having a positive impact on revenue expenditure.

The Council can demonstrate significant contributions to its priorities through property asset management over the last financial year (2018/19). The Council has:

#### **Estate Management**

- Increased rental income from Council property assets by approximately £39,000 per annum.
- Raised the profile of the property assets and worked them to achieve maximum return financially or by delivery for Corporate Priorities. The Council has worked with partners to accommodate business or community needs.
- Structured proactive management of the Royal Victoria Place lease and Meadow Road Car Park.
- Continued to maximise the rental income from the property portfolio by proactively managing rent reviews and exploiting viable opportunities for rental and capital income.
- Provided professional support to Tunbridge Wells Property Holdings Limited in reviewing and updating assured shorthold tenancies (ASTs).

#### **Strategic Asset Management**

- Received a second tranche payment from the sale of Holly Farm of £1.38M (with 2 further staged payments of £1.38M due on 04/05/2019 and 04/05/2020). In addition negotiated a further capital receipt from the disposal of surplus land assets in the sum of £309,000 during 2018/19.
- Worked with Kent County Council to progress the Amelia Scott (formerly known as the Tunbridge Wells Cultural and Learning Hub).

- Provided ongoing support for regeneration of Royal Tunbridge Wells, Cranbrook, Southborough and Paddock Wood Town Centres and worked with land owners and Town and Parish Councils to progress potential opportunities including the provision of new community facilities for Cranbrook and Paddock Wood.
- Continued to monitor changes in compliance legislation relevant to the property portfolio and maintain and manage accordingly.
- Continued the review of published data to meet the Government's transparency objectives on property targets.

#### **Property and Projects**

- Continued the progress of the delivery of the Amelia Scott (Cultural and Learning Hub).
- Continued with a programme of R22 refrigerant gas phase-out on the Council's air conditioning plant.
- Undertaken the refurbishment of the Crescent Road car park.
- Continued to update the compliance information and continued to review and where necessary update the asset compliance risk assessments, management plans and registers and carry out any necessary remedial work identified and plan for future corrective measures to improve health and safety compliance to be in line with current regulations. This has been prioritised to cover Fire Risk, Asbestos, Legionella control, Electrical Safety but will broadly cover all levels of building compliance requirements for all assets.

#### **Development**

- Increased the Development Programme budget to £6.55M for specialist professional advice to undertake initial works facilitating redevelopment and delivery of Council priority projects.
- Progressed the Calverley Square development (formerly the Civic Development Programme) through the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) plan of work to the end of stage 4 having procured a contractor under a 2 stage design and build contract using a framework agreement for procurement.
- Continued to facilitate the development of Southborough Hub.
- Continued to bring forward the delivery of the Amelia Scott.
- Designed an extension to the Crescent Road car park to RIBA Stage 3 and obtained planning permission.

## 4 Forward Projection and Management Strategy for the Property Asset Portfolio 2019/20

 The Council will build on these achievements during 2019/20 in the following areas:

#### **Estate Management**

- Review all rents and licence fees due to be reviewed in 2019/20 to maximise the increase in income due for that financial year.
- Manage all existing leases and grant new leases to maximise the return from rental income and to ensure that proper care, maintenance and use is made of the property assets.
- Identify targets and performance indicators to demonstrate the efficient and
  effective management of the property asset portfolio to ensure maximum
  capital and operational benefit and will present these to Management Board
  and Cabinet where appropriate as part of the Property Transaction Reports.
- Seek viable opportunities to work all assets with local community groups to improve community facilities and encourage localism.

#### **Strategic Asset Management**

- Explore and secure new property investment opportunities within the borough for expansion of the property investment portfolio.
- Review the tenure, existing use, obsolescence and strategy of all operational property assets to identify opportunities for increased income, operational use or asset disposal.
- Manage assets to support the delivery of the corporate priorities and the Five Year Plan. Our Five Year plan includes energy efficiency, reducing our energy needs by ensuring our properties are more energy efficient. Equally, any planned work should also be assessed to include energy efficiency and consider the long term energy needs of a building/service. Ensuring our buildings are sustainable and efficient and contribute towards the national carbon reduction requirements. This would also include exploring opportunities for renewable energy.
- Continue to review the asset base of non-performing land and property assets identifying assets for disposal to realise capital return and finalise disposal of outstanding identified sites. (See Appendix 4 for approach).
- Explore the impact of obsolescence on the Council's operational portfolio and acquire, dispose of and develop the asset portfolio to reflect this.
- Continue to identify refurbishment and development opportunities within the Council's asset portfolio and act on these to achieve the Council's objectives.
- Continue to look to acquire assets to assist in the delivery of the Council's objectives.

- Review and revise the asset management plan in accordance with the results of the Property Performance Indicators.
- Support the implementation of the Sports and Active Recreation Strategy 2016-2021.

#### **Property and Projects**

- Produce a maintenance plan for the financial year 2019/20, in consultation with the respective heads of service and management team, within the agreed planned maintenance budget allocation.
- Continue to work with the contractors to deliver a more efficient and cost
  effective service across both planned and responsive maintenance
  requirements having regard to the future potential obsolescence of identified
  property assets on the estate.
- Procure new property maintenance and servicing contracts to replace the current term contracts which expire in 2019/20, achieving best value and ensuring the current and future maintenance needs to the portfolio can be effectively delivered.
- Progress the development of a maintenance, repair and enhancement programme to Crescent Road Car Park.
- Continue to monitor changes in legislation and put in place the most appropriate action to ensure compliance across the property portfolio in particular the 2015 R22 refrigerant gas phase-out and the 2018 EPC changes.
- Develop the proposal to replace the life-expired buildings on the Benhall Mill Road Depot site.
- Continue to successfully progress the reduction of carbon emissions from local authority operations and managing its property assets to achieve the targets set out in the Carbon Management Plan over the next five years including rolling out the delivery of LED lighting in TWBC multi-storey car parks.
- Ensure that the property strategy and maintenance programmes support the Council's commitment to sustainability within the budgetary constraints.

#### **Development**

- Continue the Calverley Square development through RIBA Stage 4 for Technical Design, progress the site assembly using CPO powers as necessary and progress construction in accordance with the approved project programme. The procurement strategy will also be progressed.
- Advance the Ameila Scott project working with the partners, to bring forward the construction of the hub.
- Progress the potential development of various property assets in the portfolio.

### Appendix A

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Asset Management Plan

- Work with Kent County Council and Southborough Town Council to progress the Southborough Hub.
- Work with the Parish and Town Councils to progress community facility projects in:
  - Cranbrook
  - Paddock Wood
- Progress with acquisition of designated land for recreation use including use of statutory powers if required.
- Work with public and private sector organisations on a number of sites including continuing to build on successful relationships with KCC, Nevill Estate, Targetfollow and AXA PPP to secure objectives within corporate priorities of the borough.
- Support regeneration initiatives in Royal Tunbridge Wells, Cranbrook and Paddock Wood central areas.

#### **Appendix 1 - Property Management Strategy**

Asset Management is significant throughout the public sector, as a means of optimising financial and social returns from property assets whilst, at the same time, creating a leaner estate in a modern environment.

The Council manages the portfolio in accordance with the following principles:

- Ensuring reporting arrangements are in place to enable members to fulfil legal, strategic and service duties;
- Maintaining an up-to-date asset register with complete records;
- Ensuring future property needs are regularly assessed to meet the Council's service requirements and priorities;
- Ensuring that the shape of the asset portfolio is reviewed at least annually; that the shape of its structure and the contribution of its component assets are challenged and that disposal and acquisition strategies are identified and recommended;
- Ensuring that assets that are surplus to requirements are identified as such and disposed of as appropriate;
- Ensuring that assets that would assist in the delivery of the Council's objectives are identified and acquired where appropriate and where funds are available;
- Ensuring opportunities to share property with other bodies are explored;
- Ensuring that opportunities to develop and enhance property assets, including opportunities in partnership with other public and private sector owners are identified, examined and progressed;
- Ensuring office accommodation is reviewed to meet organisation and service needs;
- Ensuring an appropriate maintenance programme based on condition surveys, is developed and implemented, carrying out quinquennial condition and maintenance surveys in a rolling programme;
- Formulating a ten-year maintenance budget projections based on the maintenance of assets for current use and at required standards to inform the Five Year Plan;
- Undertaking option appraisals to ensure optimum use of all assets;
- Ensuring property services focus upon both customers and commercial opportunities;
- Ensuring measurable targets are set and property performance monitored including risk versus reward;

- Maximising income from property having regard to economic, social and environmental policies and property market conditions;
- Ensuring best practice in procurement and project management;
- Ensuring investment and disposal decisions are based on full option appraisals and whole-life costing;
- Ensuring all property assets are managed at operational level to provide accommodation, community and wellbeing facilities;
- Ensuring investments maximise returns from individual properties and from the whole portfolio;
- Ensuring the Council considers the impact of sustainability on the value of its property portfolio, including political, economic, social and technological issues in producing its property management strategy;
- Ensuring that decisions for strategic management of Council owned assets are made on a case-by-case based on comprehensive options' analysis:
  - o Is the property required for the Council's core business?
  - o Is there a robust community need for the property?
  - Are there strategic reasons for retaining/acquiring the property?
  - Is retention/disposal/acquisition of the property likely to have a beneficial effect on a likely future development or investment initiative of the Council?
  - Does the property generate a sustainable good rate of return and if so is this likely to continue for the next ten years in light of any future costs that may be applicable to the premises?
- Ensuring that Property and Estates Service reports to Management Board on portfolio performance as to:
  - o rental income, asset value and maintenance liability;
  - o vacant property and vacancy timescale;
  - o service need and space occupation;
  - o service needs and maintenance liability;
  - o performance of tenants and compliance with lease obligations.
- Maintaining in an appropriate state of repair, based upon any financial constraints;
- Ensuring that the assets are fit for purpose (including accessibility, suitability, statutory compliance, space utilisation); to be efficient and environmentally sustainable (including running costs and CO2 emissions). Our approach will support sustainable improvements, especially in maintenance and new buildings. The Carbon Management Plan will demonstrate our leadership in carbon reduction;
- Working the portfolio to delver the Council's objectives and the five year plan using appropriate legislative powers including compulsory purchase powers if necessary;

### Appendix A

Ensuring that the portfolio is managed in accordance with Council's Equalities
policy, with Equalities Impact Assessments being undertaken as and when
appropriate.

#### Appendix 2 – Mechanisms for Achieving the Aims and Objectives of the AMP

#### **Property & Estates Team**

The Property & Estates Team, comprises estates and property surveyors and officers providing the professional and support expertise to manage, maintain and maximise the Council's property asset portfolio.

#### **Civic Development Team**

The Civic Development Team comprises a specialist team to deliver the project in line with the Council's stated objectives. The team's output is closely monitored and reported upon to ensure openness and transparency.

#### **Management Board**

The Management Board is attended by the Director of Finance, Policy and Development (Section 151 Officer) and includes representatives of the Property and Estates Team for property items as and when required, which demonstrates the commitment of the whole Council to the management of its assets.

#### **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME STRUCTURES**

#### **Programme Management Board**

The Programme Management Board (PMB) manages and monitors the effective prioritisation of the Civic, Development and Transformation Programmes within budgetary and resource constraints in order to optimise Programme delivery.

The PMB will receive information via four main areas Development Programme, Civic Programme, Community and Transformation programmes. Community and Transformation while requiring significant support from the Property and Estates team and others in the Directorate of Finance, Policy and Development (S151 Officer) are structured under the Directorate of Change and Communities.

The overall Development Programme is split into two core elements, the Calverley Square Development Programme and the Development Programme.

The Calverley Square Development Programme includes the following programme, Procurement, Public Realm, New Office, Car Park Extension and New Theatre. These main work streams have a range of work elements beneath them including for example communications and agile working.

#### **DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME**

#### **Development Programme Officers Group (DOG)**

Officers in attendance: Director of Finance, Policy and Development (S151 Officer), Head of Economic Development & Property, the Property, Estate and Development Lead, the Estates Manager and representatives from BDU, Finance and Legal.

The Development Programme Officers Group (DOG) is the primary officers meeting to oversee the delivery of the Development Programme. Scheduled on a monthly cycle this meeting will oversee the programme receiving progress reports on specific projects, oversee the budget, risks, legal aspects and ensure approvals in place. For the purposes of this the DOG will cover the full Development Programme budget which includes Hubs, Sports Facilities and the Calverley Square Programme.

Attendance by other Property & Estates officers and internal services including Communications will be as appropriate and consultants may also be invited as appropriate.

#### **CALVERLEY SQUARE PROGRAMME**

#### **Civic Steering Board**

Officers in attendance: Chief Executive, Director of Change & Communities, Director of Finance, Policy & Development (S151 Officer), Head of Human Resources, Monitoring Officer, Head of Economic Development and Property, the Property, Estates and Development Lead and the Communications Manager.

The Civic Steering Board is the primary officers meeting to oversee the delivery of the Calverley Square Development Programme. Specific meeting cycle is set up on a fortnightly basis to consider the Calverley Square development programme. This meeting will oversee the programme receiving progress reports on specific work streams, oversee the budget, risks, legal aspects and ensure approvals in place. This is to ensure rapid turn around of decisions based on the current timetable.

At least monthly this meeting will receive progress reports on specific projects, oversee the budget, legal aspects and ensure approvals in place.

Attendance by internal services will be as appropriate and consultants may also be invited as appropriate. In addition this Group will need to receive progress reports on the Amelia Scott to ensure the co-ordination of the Amelia Scott project and the Civic Programme as a whole.

A separate Communications Board has been established to oversee the communications and engagement of the Calverley Square development programme.

#### **Calverley Square Civic Project Board (Internal)**

Officers in attendance: Director of Finance, Policy & Development (S151 Officer), Head of Economic Development & Property, and the Property, Estates and Development Lead. Other officers to be invited as required. The Board meets monthly immediately after a TWBC Client Meeting.

#### **Development Advisory Panel**

The Development Advisory Panel is an informal working group established by and chaired by the Leader of the Council to:

- Oversee the Council's programme regenerating the borough and advising on development of key sites in accordance with the Asset Management Plan;
- To receive updates on key sites and recommend the appropriate next steps for the sites;
- To receive updates on the progress of the land asset disposal programme.

The DAP is an informal working group established by Cabinet on 22 May 2013. It has no delegated decision-making powers and its advice and recommendations will be reported to the relevant decision maker (Leader and Portfolio Holder). The Leader of the Council will report back to Cabinet at Cabinet/ Management Board meetings on a regular basis. The constitutional position regarding asset disposal will remain unaltered.

The DAP will have 4 meetings a year scheduled, on going schedule to be established. Other meetings can be arranged on an ad hoc basis when required. All

meetings will be held in private session in view of the informal status of the group with materials available to all Members of the Council on request and on a confidential basis. Visiting Members will be able to attend at the discretion of the Chairman. The request should be made in advance of the meeting.

#### **Cultural Hub Officers Board (CHOB)**

Officers in attendance: Director of Change & Communities, Executives & Heads of Service, Head of Customers & Communities, Project Surveyor, Museum Manager, Property & Estates Manager with support from HR, BDU, Finance and Legal as required.

The CHOB is the officer meeting to oversee the delivery of the Cultural Hubs (and Sports Facilities). The Board will meet on a monthly cycle, before the Programme Management Board in order to oversee the programme receiving progress reports on specific projects, oversee the budget, risks, legal aspects and ensure approvals in place.

The Board does not have decision making authority. All meetings will be minuted. The Property & Estates Manager and the Project Surveyor will act as the link between the DOG and the CHOB.

#### **Estates/Finance Review Meetings**

Senior Finance, Property and Estates officers meet monthly to review projected income against actual income received, and to review a remedial strategy for arrears.

#### **Royal Victoria Place Officer Group**

Senior Finance, Legal, Property and Estates officers meet on a quarterly basis to cover financial, maintenance and property issues relating to the RVP lease.

#### **Empty and Difficult Property Group**

As part of the clean neighbourhood initiative an in-house multi disciplinary group was established, the Empty and Difficult Property Group. The 'Difficult' element being properties that had been dealt with in the past and slight improvements made but permanent outcome not achieved, leading to repeat complaints to one or a number of Council services. The Group meets on an as when needed basis.

#### **Data Management**

The data management approach is informed by the principles of the Council's Data Quality Policy. Data is held as part of the IDOX Uniform Estates Management System, which is linked to the GIS system. The Council is currently reviewing the use and content of its Estate data system to ensure that it is used to its full potential. Dates in respect of ongoing maintenance on Council land and buildings is held on an Access Database System and monitored by Property & Estates. Each building is surveyed on a regular five yearly cycle and the building elements are individually assessed for condition to enable the Ten Year Planned Maintenance Programme to be determined.

Income due and received in respect of Rent and Licence Fees are monitored and collected through the Financial Management System. The Estate Surveyor is responsible for any arrears and will monitor accordingly. By working closely with Finance and Legal teams, Property and Estates assures that rental, service charge and maintenance provisions in leases and licences are observed. Control is maintained on income streams and expenditure in this way.

It is intended to consolidate the systems that hold property and asset related data into one combined system that overcomes gaps or mismatches in the supply of full and accurate information.

The central database held by the UK Government is known as the Electronic Property Information Mapping Service (e-PIMS). The Council's maps are held on the Geographical Information System (GIS) and on e-PIMS, which means the Council is compliant with the annual governance report 2015. By featuring on e-PIMS, the Council's portfolio complies with the Government's One Public Estate initiative.

All data is collected, stored and managed in accordance with GDPR.

#### **Consultation Process**

The Asset Management Plan is considered annually by:

- The Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Projects (the Leader)
- The Management Board
- The Finance and Governance CAB
- The General Public
- Other stakeholders.

#### **Statutory Powers**

The Council will investigate and look to use all statutory powers including Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPO) to achieve the delivery of key priority projects.

#### **Appendix 3 - External and Internal Influences**

#### **National Context**

This statement is produced against the backdrop of what continues to be an extremely challenging time for local government with a combination of demand pressures and reduced resources placing significant pressure on the revenue and capital budgets of local authorities. Most local authorities are seeking to leverage property assets to reduce costs and deliver capital receipts. The Government has established the 'One Public Estate programme' in partnership by the Local Government Association and the Office of Government Property (OGP) within the Cabinet Office with a view to helping in this endeavour. TWBC contributes actively to the programme and has sought funding to assist in a number of its property-related priorities.

#### Regional/County

Kent local authorities work together through a number of forums to discuss and prioritise property-related issues. This includes Kent Leaders and Joint Kent Chief Executive meetings but also includes the Kent Estates Partnership. The Kent Estates Partnership seeks to promote a collaborative approach to estate management across the County and to support a more integrated, flexible and affordable public estate

#### **MKS**

The Mid Kent Services partnership (MKS) between Maidstone Borough Council, Swale Borough Council and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council was set up in 2008 to:

- Improve the quality of service to communities;
- Improve the resilience of service delivery;
- Deliver efficiency savings in the procurement, management and delivery of services:
- Explore opportunities for trading in the medium to long term; and
- Share best practice.

MKS sees staff working from a range of offices across the partnership area and, in time, should lead to the potential to rationalise accommodation. We are working proactively with partners and partnership services such as ICT both to facilitate flexible and mobile working and to help in the longer-term objectives of reducing the cost of our operational estate.

#### **Partnership Working**

The Council works with a range of partners in delivering its priorities and services including Town and Country Housing Group (TCHG), Kent Police and Kent County Council. Through these and other partnerships, the Council will continue to explore, develop and exploit opportunities for collaborative working with public and quasipublic bodies by amalgamating asset knowledge to help promote economies of scale, sustainable levels of occupation and better working practices.

#### Legislation

#### Localism

The Localism Act 2011 meant to offer more opportunity for smaller groups and local governments' lowest tiers to exercise powers locally. The legislation is wide ranging and deals with multiple community issues. One particular change was the introduction of a 'Community Right to Bid' which enables community groups to apply for local buildings or land to be put on a register. Once on the register of Community Assets, an asset cannot be sold without first allowing a community group a period of up to 6 months to raise funds to make an offer based upon its market value.

#### **Local Context**

The Asset Management Plan should be read in conjunction with our Five Year Plan 2017-22 and connected Community Project documents. These documents can be read on the Council website, whose mission is as follows: -

"To encourage investment and sustainable growth and to enhance quality of life for all"

Our Five Year Plan 2017-2022 accounts for issues identified through the community planning process and through regular consultation and surveys with residents. In property terms the Asset Management Plan is a strategy that delivers improvements in all areas and services for the purpose of meeting local community needs. The main aim of the AMP is for Council assets to be recognised as a principal resource, thereby ensuring continuous strengthening in the organisational arrangements set out above.

#### **Sustainability**

The Council provides a leading role on sustainability by addressing its own asset base. Legislation and a number of sustainability initiatives, especially energy and carbon reduction, have been put in place in the past few years. Projects, including maintenance schemes that flow from the AMP, will need to include a sustainability assessment to ensure that the impact of projects are fully understood and that mitigation measures are put in place and support a continued reduction in the carbon emissions.

#### **Economic Position**

Instability in the global economy, where major adjustments continue, is in marked contrast with the local property market. The local effect of global instability converts mainly into a corset upon the growth in property rents and capital values. The national context is of historically low interest rates with weak banks, a gradual removal of quantitative easing, and record investment in the FTSE 250. Uncertainty over the UK's future relationship with the EU will accentuate a general pattern of low growth, and is likely to apply for the whole period of the AMP 2019/20.

The strength and weakness of the UK property market will impact upon the policies and processes that the Council needs for managing its asset portfolio for optimising efficiency and effectiveness.

For surplus property assets with development potential, market conditions will be assessed in deciding the future of each asset. Market shifts will require the Council to maintain a flexible approach in managing the portfolio.

Market impact is anticipated in the following areas:

- Property vacancies (more anticipated);
- Emphasis upon maintenance;
- Obsolescence in building fabric and services;
- Rebalancing of tenants in contractual default;
- · Avoidance of defaulting contractors; and
- Increasing demand upon the supply chain of contractors and consultants,

The Property and Estates Team will review all assets held by the Council to ensure that every opportunity for return is exploited to achieve its wellbeing or financial objectives. This will include:

- A full review of land and assets held and use made of them;
- Short, medium and long term strategic requirement;
- Maximisation through partnership working; and
- Maximisation of easements, licences and rights granted and benefits received.

To work its property assets harder, both financially and in the provision of facilities, the Council will continue to consider and exercise both disposal of surplus assets and acquisition for investment purposes to secure future income streams and to assist the local economy.

#### **Performance Management and Monitoring**

The following performance indicators are reported to Cabinet:

- Total rental income for the financial year;
- Capital income from property asset disposal for financial year;
- 6 monthly property transactions reports completed under delegated authority.

Additional performance indicators are monitored by the Head of Economic Development and Property and Management Board.

#### **Transparency**

The Local Government Transparency Code 2015 provides guidance on the expected minimum level of information made available to the public. This includes how local authorities publish details of all land and assets held by them. The base position is publishing a list of all land and property annually, including a unique property reference number, unique asset identity, name, address and map reference. In addition how the land/building is recorded and set out.

### Appendix A

The Electronic Property Information Management Scheme (e-PIMS) has been populated with data complying with the One Public Estate initiative. Property officers are in contact with counterparts in Kent County Council and with departments of central government to assist in promoting this initiative.

The Council currently publishes the Asset Register within the Asset Management Plan on an annual basis. In addition the Council has identified all its assets geographically within My Neighbourhood on its Website, which is a live system.

#### Appendix 4 – Asset Disposal Programme

The Council reviewed and disposed of various assets listed in previous AMPs during 2014/15, 2015/16, and 2016/17. The Council has completed these reviews of the non-performing land and property assets identified in previous Asset Management Plans. In 2019/20 the Council will process outstanding actions from those reviews, and continue to review all assets towards a leaner and more productive estate.

#### 2019/20 Sites to be Reviewed

The Council will identify sites appropriate for disposal.

Feasibility studies will be undertaken of the assets. Subject to full analysis including the potential for planning permission, a recommendation for lease or sale will be made to the Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board, or the Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Property and Major Projects and the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance.

The feasibility studies will be undertaken in two stages:

#### Stage 1 - Feasibility:

- · Detailed analysis of the land title;
- · Detailed analysis of the physical site;
- Detailed analysis of the planning status and likely grant of planning permission;
- · Marketing and disposal if planning permission is not recommended.

#### Stage 2 - Feasibility:

- · Production of development scheme;
- · Valuation of land;
- Application for planning permission (if appropriate);
- Marketing and disposal of site.

All disposals will be in accordance with the Constitution and local government legislation. Ward members, parish and town councils will be informed of the intention to lease or dispose of these assets.

#### Asset Disposals in 2018/19

The following asset disposals were completed in 2018/19:

Address	Status
Land to the North Side of Newton Road	Sold
(rear of 60 Calverley Road)	
Land at 120 London Road/Holden Park	Sold
Road, Southborough	
Land on the North Side of Blackthorn	Sold
Avenue, Tunbridge Wells	

#### **Appendix 5 – Ten Year Property Maintenance Plan**

The ten year maintenance plan as detailed in the following pages is the result of the rolling programme of quinquennial surveys which produce a projection of the anticipated maintenance cost liability for the individual property asset. It very much represents an 'ideal' programme of maintenance to keep the respective buildings in good condition, for their expected lifetime and maintaining their current use. Some of the works anticipated and included in the schedule can potentially be funded by the capital expenditure programme as the works will bring an enhancement to the asset value.

Periodically the Council undertakes surveys of the entire portfolio. This process will be undertaken and completed in 2019/20. This will include condition surveys of the building fabric, plant and machinery and will also include updated asbestos surveys.

The Ten Year Maintenance plan attached to this Asset Management Plan summarises the plan for key assets where recent surveys or inspections have been undertaken and planned works identified as necessary. Other assets are grouped together and the surveys will identify the priority works to be undertaken in 2019/20 to specific assets within the group. This Property Maintenance plan will evolve as the surveys are undertaken and an updated PMP will be presented in the Asset Management Plan for 2020/21. The figures for the Town Hall and Assembly Hall Theatre have been informed by a recent survey and reflect the Council's commitment to the historic integrity of these buildings.

The schedule includes the full projection for all buildings even where works have been frozen where the future strategy is under consideration. Annually the projected works are reviewed on a case by case basis and reassessed as to viability, taking into consideration anticipated future use, urgency of works and budgetary considerations. The year on year total figures will therefore, in practice, be considerably lower than indicated in the schedule projection.



		Year 1 2019/20	Year 2 2020/21	Year 3 2021/22	Year 4 2022/23	Year 5 2023/24	Year 6-10 2024/30	
A22	Temp Accomodation	£42,500	£42,500	£42,500	£42,500	£42,500	£106,250	
A23	Dowding House	£17,250		£17,250	•			
A24	Properties on Loan	£3,500		£3,500				
A28	Cinderwood Caravan Park	£7,500	,	£7,500				
A40	Investment Property	£105,000		£75,000				
A46	North Farm Depot	£40,000	,	£19,500				
A47	TN2	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000		·	
A49	Wesley Centre	£6,250		£6,250				
B38	Public Conveniences	£40,000	£30,000	£32,500				
B52	TW Cemetery Chapel	£7,500		£5,000	£5,000			
B52	Crematorium Office	£21,100	£1,000	£1,500				
C22	Camden Centre	£12,000		£17,250		·		
A40	Showfields	£7,750		£7,500			-	
C30	Museum & Art Gallery	£8,000		£8,000	£8,000			
A40	Cranbrook Museum	£17,500	£4,000	£500	£500		£24,000	
C41	Rusthall Pavilion	£3,750		£15,000	£750			
C41	Hilbert Old Oast	£8,100		£5,000	£2,000			
C41	Nevill Pavilion	£67,000	£38,500	£25,000	£5,000	£44,500		
C41	Nevill (Bluemantles Stand)	£1,250	£50,000	£1,250	£1,000	£1,250	£7,500	
C41	Colebrook Rec	£12,500	£11,500	£1,000	£1,500	£1,500	£19,000	
C41	St Johns - Groundkeepers Mess	£5,500	£0	£1,000	£1,500	£1,500	£5,000	
C41	Cadogan Rec Pavilion	£6,800	£3,500	£5,750	£1,500	£1,500	£14,250	
C46	Dunorlan Park - Paths	£7,000	£5,000	£5,000	£7,000	£6,000	£30,000	
C60	Putlands Sports Centre	£40,000	£40,000	£40,000	£40,000	£40,000	£135,000	
C61	Tunbridge Wells Sports Centre	£142,000	£170,000	£135,000	£145,000	£145,000	£702,000	
C65	The Weald Sports Centre	£60,000	£60,000	£110,000	£60,000	£60,000	£240,000	
C74	Chalybeate Spring	£1,500		£1,500		£1,500	£3,750	
C91	Assembly Hall	£198,000		£140,000				
G10	Surface Car Parks	£27,500		£27,500	£27,500		£68,750	
G11	Crescent Road Car Park	£7,000	£7,000	£7,000	£7,000			
G12	Great Hall Car Park	£8,000	£0	£0				
G14	Torrington Car Park	£80,000	£15,000	£15,000	£15,000		£37,500	
K60	Tunbridge Wells Town Hall	£120,000	-	£120,000				
K64	9&10 Calverley Terrace	£137,500		£12,500				
K65	Gateway	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	,			
K67	Weald Information Centre	£500		£500	£500		·	
	Planned maintenance admin	£17,000	£17,000	£17,000	-			
	management of responsive repairs	£5,500	-	£5,500	£5,500			
	asbestos management	£11,000	-	£11,000	£11,000			
	legionella management parks,spaces,walls, memorials	£5,000 £50,000	£5,000 £50,000	£5,000 £50,000	£5,000 £110,000			
	roads fpaths lighting, sewers	£27,000	-	£50,000 £27,000	,			
	planned maintenance contingency	£22,000		£27,000	£27,000 £22,000			
	Manned maintenance contingency	122,000	122,000	Year 3	122,000	122,000	1110,000	
		Year 1 2019/20	Year 2 2020/21	2021/22			Year 6-10 2024/30	
	Total	£1,437,250	£1,319,500	£1,079,250	£776,250	£841,250	£3,061,225	

# Appendix C

## Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Asset Register - **Investment**

Report Generated: 04-01-2019

Asset Grouping								
Investment Commercial	Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
	1 19 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/545	E001	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54398	560361	142091
	2 11 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/537	E001	F	Industrial Unit.	0100086 63649	560383	142127
Ð	3 9 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/535	E001 01	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54340	560372	142122
Page 53	4 10 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/536	E001 02	F	Industrial Unit.	0100086 63649	560383	142127
ω	5 12 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/538	E001 03	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54341	560391	142107
	6 13 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/539	E001 04	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54342	560388	142104
	7 14 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/540	E001 05	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54343	560384	142101
	8 15 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/541	E001 06	F	Industrial Unit.	0100000 65603	560379	142100
	9 17 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/543	E001 07	F	Industrial unit	0100000 65604	560373	142098
	10 16 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	EM/542	E001 07	F	Industrial Unit.	0100000 69146	560375	142100

Investment 11 18 Colebrook Industrial Estate Royal EM/544 E001  Commercial Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3DG	E001 08	F	Industrial Unit.	1000625 54408	560367	142092		
	12 30 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/277	E002	F	Retail. End of Terrace. Victorian Building.	1000625 42698	558723	139461
	13 31 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/278	E003	F	Retail. Mid Terrace Victorian Shop. Vacant.	1000625 42699	558726	139464
	14 33 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/280	E004	F	Retail. End of Terrace. Victorian building. Vacant.	1000625 42700	558734	139470
	15 35 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/282	E005	F	Retail. Mid Terrace. Victorian Building.	1000612 00263	558741	139477
	16 36 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/283	E006	F	Retail. End Of Terrace. Victorian Building. Vacant.	1000612 00264	558744	139479
Page	17 The Wesley Centre Commercial Road Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent TN12 6DS	EM/731	E007	F	Community. Single Storey Community Hall	0100086 64390	566957	144946
ge 54	18 27 Monson Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1LS	EM/233	E010	F	Offices. Mid Terrace House	0100086 60655	558597	139530
	19 29-31 Monson Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1LS	EM/234	E011/E01 2	F	Offices. End of Terrace.	0100086 69927	558592	139526
	20 Rowan Tree Surgery Rowan Tree Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5PX	EM/339	E014 01	F	Doctors Surgery. Single Storey. End of Terrace Building.	0100000 70905	557459	138229
	21 3A Rowan Tree Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5PX	EM/336	E014 03	F	Residential. Mid Terrace. 1st and 2nd Floor Maisonette. Leased to housing association. Let on AST.	1000612 11622	557478	138225
	22 4A Rowan Tree Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5PX	EM/338	E014 04	F	Residential. End of Terrace. 1st and 2nd Floor Maisonette. Leased to housing association. Let on AST.	1000612 11623	557471	138227

Investment Commercial	23 Shopping Centre Car Park Market Square Ely Court And Common Areas Royal Victoria Place Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2SS	EM/224	E015	F	Major retail shopping centre including acquistion of some adjoining freehold interests incorporated into head lease for additional rental payment. Sold on long lease. Various sub-leases.	0100000 68616	558625	139781
	<ul><li>24 The Garden Hall Club Wood Street</li><li>Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1</li><li>2QS</li></ul>	EM/229	E018	F	Community. Single Storey Structure	1000625 43376	558896	139856
	25 The Forum The Common Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8YU	EM/306	E024	F	Recreation. 1930's Detached Building	0100086 60484	558126	138850
	26 65 St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	17/00433/ASSET	E027	F	Retail unit. Single storey	0100241 39326	558186	140440
	27 67 St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	17/00434/ASSET	E028	F	Retail unit. Single storey.	0100241 39327	558187	140439
Page	28 ASK 33 Monson Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1LS	17/00442/ASSET	E030	F	Restaurant. Single storey unit with conservatory frontage.	1000625 42205	558587	139550
je 55	29 69 St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	17/00435/ASSET	E030	F	Retail unit. Single storey. Vacant.	0100241 39328	558186	140444
	30 Apartment 10 Grove Hill House 21 - 27 Grove Hill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1SA	18/00461/ASSET	H0018 01	LLH	Residential Apartment within former office block converted to residential. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	0100000 67144	558548	139166
	31 Apartment 18 Grove Hill House 21 - 27 Grove Hill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1SA	18/00462/ASSET	H0018 02	LLH	Residential Apartment within former office block converted to residential. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	0100000 67152	558548	139166
	32 Apartment 13 Grove Hill House 21 - 27 Grove Hill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1SA	18/00463/ASSET	H0018 03	LLH	Residential Apartment within former office block converted to residential. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	0100000 67147	558544	139127
	33 32 Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LZ	EM/279	H002	F	Residential. Mid Terrace Victorian Building. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	0100086 61029	558730	139467

Investment Commercial

I	34 25 Monson Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1LS	EM/232	H004	F	Residential. Mid Terrace House. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	1000612 08358	558601	139533
	35 North Farm House Dowding Way Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3UY	EM/552	H005	F	Residential. Detached House formerly known as Nightstop.	1000625 54309	559653	141740
	36 Packs In The Wood Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3SE	EM/105	H008	F	Residential. Detached House With Garden.	0100086 63213		
	37 59A B &C St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	12/00301/ASSET	H009	F	Retail and residential. Shop and Flats.	0100086 61742	558191	140412
	38 59A St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	EM/140	H009 01	F	Retail. End of Terrace. L/U Shop. Return Frontage. Shop sold on long lease. TWBC retain freehold.	0100086 61675	558190	140418
	39 59B St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	EM/141	H009 02	F	Residential. First Floor Flat. Flat sold on long lease. TWBC retain freehold.	0100086 61604	558191	140412
	40 59C St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	EM/142	H009 03	F	Residential. Second Floor Flat. Flat sold on long lease. TWBC retain freehold.	0100000 65874	558191	140412
	41 57A The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5TE	EM/311	H010 02	F	Residential. Ground Floor Flat. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.		558076	138675
	42 10 Sussex Mews Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5QJ	EM/312	H010 03	F	Residential. Lower Ground Floor Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC retain freehold.	1000612 15150	558082	138670
	43 Land And Builidings Including 57- 61 The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5TE	12/00302/ASSET	H010 H011 H012	F	Residential. Properties in the Pantiles including Corn Exchange.	1000625 55056	558076	138675
	44 59 The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5TE	EM/313	H011 01	F	Residential. Occupies First And Second Floor Maisonette. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	1000612 15743	558072	138668
	45 59A The Pantiles Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5TE	EM/314	H011 02	F	Residential. Ground Floor Flat. Flat sold on long lease.	0100086 71534	558072	138668

Investment Commercial

EM/547	H011 03	F	Residential. Lower Ground Floor Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.	1000612 15151	558069	138663
EM/315	H012	F	Retail. Ground Floor Rooms Let to Art Society.	1000625 55097	558064	138664
EM/316	H012 01	F	Residential. First Floor Flat. Flat sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.	0100000 66979	558064	138664
EM/548	H012 03	F	Residential. Lower Ground Floor Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.	1000612 15152	558065	138660
EM/219	H016	F	Residential. End Terrace House divided into 4 flats. Leased to TWPH Limited. Each flat sub-let on an AST.	0100086 61285	558419	139613
17/00436/ASSET	H044	F	Residential. Common parts. Leased to TWPH Limited.	0100241 39383	558183	140438
17/00437/ASSET	H044 01	F	•		558186	140444
17/00438/ASSET	H044 02	F	•		558191	140435
17/00439/ASSET	H044 03	F	•		558186	140443
17/00440/ASSET	H044 04	F	•		558188	140434
17/00441/ASSET	H044 05	F	•		558185	140438
EM/369	L001	F	Residential. Semi detached House. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	1000611 96363		
EM/370	L002 02	F	Residential. Detached Gothic Style Building. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.	1000611 96362	559279	137801
	EM/315  EM/316  EM/548  EM/219  17/00436/ASSET  17/00437/ASSET  17/00438/ASSET  17/00440/ASSET  17/00441/ASSET  EM/369	EM/315 H012  EM/316 H012 01  EM/548 H012 03  EM/219 H016  17/00436/ASSET H044  17/00437/ASSET H044 01  17/00438/ASSET H044 02  17/00440/ASSET H044 03  EM/369 L001	EM/315 H012 F  EM/316 H012 01 F  EM/548 H012 03 F  EM/219 H016 F  17/00436/ASSET H044 01 F  17/00438/ASSET H044 02 F  17/00439/ASSET H044 04 F  17/00440/ASSET H044 04 F  EM/369 L001 F	Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.  EM/315 H012 F Retail. Ground Floor Rooms Let to Art Society.  EM/316 H012 01 F Residential. First Floor Flat. Flat sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.  EM/548 H012 03 F Residential. Lower Ground Floor Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC retain the freehold.  EM/219 H016 F Residential. End Terrace House divided into 4 flats. Leased to TWPH Limited. Each flat sub-let on an AST.  17/00436/ASSET H044 F Residential. Common parts. Leased to TWPH Limited.  17/00437/ASSET H044 01 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  17/00438/ASSET H044 02 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  17/00439/ASSET H044 03 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  17/00440/ASSET H044 04 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  17/00441/ASSET H044 05 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  EM/369 L001 F Residential apartment. Leased to TWPH Limited. Sub-let on an AST.  EM/370 L002 02 F Residential. Detached Gothic Style Building. Leased to TWPH	Flat. Property sold on long lease.   15151	Flat. Property sold on long lease. T5151   TWBC retain the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TWBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC the freehold.   Flat. Property sold on long lease. TwBC t

# Appendix D

## Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Asset Register - **Operational**

Report Generated: 04-01-2019

Asset Grouping								
Operational Allotments	Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
	1 Allotments Sandhurst Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	EM/89	M001	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 68636	559690	141023
77	2 Allotments Southwood Road Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/124	M003	F	Allotments. Cultivated Allotment Gardens. Transferred to Rusthall Parish Council.	0100000 68637	555802	140204
Page (	3 Ferrars Allotments Cornford Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	EM/258	M006	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 68638	560498	139884
59	4 Allotments Eridge Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/364	M007	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments.	0100000 68631	557235	137820
	5 Hawkenbury Allotments Halls Hole Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4TU	EM/302	M008	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 65217	560029	139009
	6 Allotments Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1	EM/107	M010	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 68641	559521	140318
-	7 Charity Farm Allotments King George V Hill Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	EM/171	M011	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 68634	559335	140333
	8 Allotments Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1	EM/175	M012	F	Allotments. Functional Allotments	0100000 68641	559521	140318
	9 Allotments Reynolds Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/94	M013	F	Allotments. Functional allotments	0100000 68635	557881	140697

Appendix D

Operational Car Parks	22 Car Park The Tanyard Cranbrook Kent TN17 3HU	EM/400	C008	F	Car Park. Free Public Car Park. Leased to Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council.	0100086 67859	577766	135968
	23 Car Park Beech Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2RU	EM/169	C010	F	Car Park. Tarmac Pay And Display Car Park	0100000 68611	558843	140008
	24 Car Park Adjacent 23 Stone Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QU	EM/655	C011	F	Car Park. Permit Holders only.	0100000 68617	558924	139943
	25 Car Park Between 24 And 28 Stone Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QT	EM/227	C011 02	F	Car Park. Permit Holders only.	0100000 68618	558940	139901
	26 Car Park Camden Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QZ	EM/170	C012	F	Car Park. Tarmac. Short Stay Pay And Display Car Park.	0100000 68614	558933	139992
	27 Car Park Warwick Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1YL	EM/308	C013	F	Car Park. Permit Holders only.	0100086 70495	558386	138926
Page	28 Car Park Little Mount Sion Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1	04/00007/EM	C014	F	Car Park. Pay and display car park.	0100000 66513	558375	138885
e 61	29 Car Park Warwick Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1YL	EM/309	C014	F	Car Park. Pay And Display Public Car Park.	0100086 70495	558386	138926
	30 Car Park Adjacent To White House High Street Brenchley Tonbridge Kent TN12 7NQ	EM/723	C015	F	Car Park. Free Car Park.	0100086 69397	567894	141764
	31 Public Car Park Adjacent 47 High Brooms Road Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/63	C017	F	Car Park. Permit Holders only.	0100000 67848	559064	141583
	32 Car Park Yew Tree Road Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 0BA	EM/57	C018	F	Car Park. Pay and Display Car Park.	0100000 64850	558204	141963
	33 Regal Car Park High Street Cranbrook Kent TN17 3DN	EM/661	C019	F	Car Park. Free Public Car Park. Leased to Cranbrook and Sissinghurst Parish Council.	0100000 68625	577464	135867
	34 Part Of Regal Car Park High Street Cranbrook Kent TN17 3DN	11/00003/TEN	C019	L	Car Park. Part of Regal Car Park.	0100000 68625	577464	135867

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35 Car Park Northgrove Road

EM/379

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Car Park. Free Public Car Park

Car Park. Public Pay And Display

Car Park. Free Public Car Park.

Car Park. Leased Car Park To PPP.

Pay and Display Parking For the

Leased to Cranbrook and

Sissinghurst Parish Council.

Car Park. Public Pay & Display Car 0100086 566969

Car Park

Park

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0100000 567035

0100086 577766

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**Operational** 

Appendix D

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Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4

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Residential. Victorian Conversion

Flat

Wells Kent TN2 3QB

Operational Housing	96 80 Greggs Wood Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3JH	14/00371/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG	1000612 04016	560085	140871
	97 30 Greggs Wood Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3JH	14/00369/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG.	1000612 03966	560030	140791
	98 40 Greggs Wood Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3JH	14/00370/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG	1000612 03976	560056	140813
	99 60 Greggs Wood Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3JH	14/00372/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG	1000612 03996	560053	140849
	100 29 Willow Tree Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5PU	14/00373/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG	1000612 17272	557470	138366
	101 Flat 5 3 Molyneux Park Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8DG	14/00374/TEN	XX	L	Residential. Property leased from TCHG	0100086 59885	557896	139557
Operational Offic <del>ep</del>	Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
age 67	102 9 - 10 Calverley Terrace Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2LU	04/00008/EM	A001	F	Offices. Detached structure with basement and 3 upper floors.	1000625 42960	558594	139466
7	103 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Town Hall Mount Pleasant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1RS	EM/265	A003	F	Civic Building. Part Of Town Hall Civic Building Complex	0100086 60629	558497	139473
	104 8 Grosvenor Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2AB	07/00001/EM	A004	F	Offices. Gateway - One stop shop providing Council and other public and voluntary sector services	1000625 43130	558494	139727
	105 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Council Depot North Farm Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3EE	12/00331/ASSET	E021	F	Depot. Council depot, offices and access road.	0100000 65729	560333	142668
Operational Parks	Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
	106 Reynolds Lane Wildlife Site Reynolds Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	14/00380/ASSET	B123	F	Land. Leisure/Woodland open space	0100086 68748	557734	141101

Operational Parks	118	Hilbert Recreation Ground Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1	EM/108	L012	F	Recreation. Public Recreation Ground, Football Pitches.	0100000 67728	559310	140785
	119	Land Lying To South Side Of Addison Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3GG	14/00368/ASSET	L012 04	F	Recreation. Amenity land adjacent to Hilbert Recreation Ground	0100241 35279	559312	140939
	120	St Johns Recreation Ground Beltring Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9RG	EM/95	L014/00/ 01/02/03 /04/05/0 6	F	Recreation. Public Recreation Grnd, with bowls club and Sports Facilities.Road fronting recreation ground is adopted highway and footpath either side of rec is Public Right of Way WBX5.Kiosk subject to lease.	0100000 67727	557926	140722
	121	St Marks Recreation Ground Frant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5LS	EM/444	L015	F	Recreation. Recreation Ground With Rugby Pitches	0100000 64461	558370	137448
	122	The Hunters Play Area (Showfields) Hunters Way Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5QD	EM/721	L035 02	F	Recreation. Land To Be Used As Public Open Space	0100000 68657	557600	138061
Oper ional		Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
Convenience s	123	Public Conveniences Crescent Road Multi Story Car Park Crescent Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2UL	04/00006/EM	C001	F	Public Convenience. Single storey purpose built toilet block	0100000 69609	558655	139523
	124	Public Conveniences High Street Brenchley Tonbridge Kent TN12 7NQ	EM/633	C015 03	F	Public Convenience. Single Storey Detached Building	0100086 69396	567892	141777
	125	Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Public Conveniences Car Park East Commercial Road Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent TN12 6EN	EM/632	C021	F	Public Convenience. Single Storey Detached Building	0100000 69611	567020	145056
	126	Public Conveniences Tunbridge Wells Borough Cemetery Benhall Mill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5JJ	EM/628	L002 03	F	Public Convenience. Single Storey Building Attached To Crem.	0100000 67971	559198	137630
	127	Public Conveniences Tunbridge Wells Borough Cemetery Benhall Mill Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5JJ	EM/373	L002 03	F	Public Convenience. Detached Single Storey Structure	0100000 67971	559198	137630

<b>Operationa</b>
Sports
Facility

Property		Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
Playing Fie	ning Access To Cadogan elds St Johns Road Royal Wells Kent TN4 9PH	EM/903	B021	F	Land. Small strip of land giving part access to playing field	0100000 68648	558384	141242
Ground U	rosvenor Recreation oper Grosvenor Road bridge Wells Kent TN1 2JB	EM/101	L006 06	F	Recreation. Semi Derelict Corrugated Metal Shed	0100000 69403	559215	141094
	evill Ground Nevill Gate bridge Wells Kent TN2	EM/354	L007	F	Recreation. Detached Pavillion	0100086 69845	558844	138336
Athletic G	le Stand Nevill Cricket & round Nevill Gate Royal Wells Kent TN2 5ES	04/00013/EM	L007 02	F	Recreation. New spectator's stand	0100086 69845	558844	138336
	und Nevill Gate Royal Wells Kent TN2 5ES	EM/353	L007 05/06	F	Recreation. Public Recreation Ground With Hockey Pitch and Grandstand	0100086 69845	558844	138336
	n Ground Bayham Road bridge Wells Kent TN2	04/00017/EM	L008 01	F	Recreation. Changing Room/Shed at Recreation Ground	0100000 65263	559120	137458
_	Playing Fields St Johns al Tunbridge Wells Kent	EM/74	L009	F	Recreation. Playing Field Marked As Football Pitch with toilets	0100000 68648	558384	141242
	adogan Playing Fields St d Royal Tunbridge Wells 9UY	EM/902	L009 01	F	Recreation. Sports pavilion	0100000 69596	558407	141169
	Pavilion Apple Tree Lane bridge Wells Kent TN2	04/00003/EM	L010	F	Recreation. Single storey pavilion	0100000 67719	559851	141571
Hawkenbı Hawkenbı	ury Pavilion And Car Park ury Recreation Ground ury Road Royal Tunbridge t TN2 5BW	04/00010/EM	L011 01	F	Recreation. Single storey pavilion	0100241 35237	560065	138439
	ury Recreation Ground ury Road Royal Tunbridge t TN2 5AP	EM/324	L011 06	F	Recreation. Public Park, Football/Bowling Facilities	0100000 67122	559781	138571
Ground H	Rooms Hilbert Recreation ilbert Road Royal Wells Kent TN1	EM/106	L012 01	F	Recreation. Detached Single Storey Building	0100000 67728	559310	140785

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# Appendix E

# Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Asset Register - **Non Operational**

Report Generated: 04-01-2019

Asset Grouping								
Non- Operational	Property	Est Ref	File Ref	Council Tenure	Description	UPRN	Map Ref GEOX	Map Ref GEOY
Land	1 Land At Corner Of Liptraps Lane And Apple Tree Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	EM/70	B006	F	Land. Odd Bit Of Land Within Fence	0100000 64545	559740	141117
Page 73	2 Land To Rear Of Capel Scrap Yard Sychem Lane Five Oak Green Tonbridge Kent TN12 6TT	EM/485	B010	F	Land. Area Of Land Accessed By Dirt Track. Declared Surplus.	0100000 66160	564116	144381
	3 Land On Corner Of Chestnut Lane And Birch Close Matfield Tonbridge Kent TN12 7JL	EM/483	B015	F	Land. Area of land on corner of Chestnut Lane and Birch Close.	1000625 45794	565972	142189
	4 Land Adjacent To 1 Brendon Close Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3NP	14/00376/ASSET	B019 05	F	Land. Area of land adjacent to car port of 1 Brendon Close.	0100000 64362	559758	140143
	5 Road Salomons Road Rusthall Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8PG	EM/210	B071	F	Land. Piece Of Waste Land Adjacent To No 11. Road is adopted highway.Waste land transferred to Rusthall Parish Council 13.08.2015.	0100000 64303	556357	139754
	6 Foothpath Fremlin Close Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/204	B075	F	Footpath to Bowen Road.	0100900 55090	555828	139936
-	7 Land Adjacent To 15 Parsonage Road Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8TA	14/00387/ASSET	B122	F	Land. Grass and path.	0100086 69385	555968	140061
	8 Pumping Station Cleeve Avenue Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4TY	14/00401/ASSET	B127	F	Land. Pumping Station.	0100241 37196	560007	138797

Non- Operational Land	9 Land Adjacent To Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar School St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9XB	14/00403/ASSET	B129	F	Land adjacent to TW Boys Grammar School.	0100086 62060	558237	141497
	10 Land To Rear Of St Stephens Court Stanley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	15/00415/ASSET	B132	F	Small parcel of land to the rear of St Stephens Court and St Barnaby's Church.	0100086 61401	558844	140201
	11 Land Along Langton Road Langton Green Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	15/00417/ASSET	B134	F	Two small pieces of land. One at Rusthall Common the second on the corner of Langton Road and Tea Garden Lane.	0100086 68385	554747	139163
	12 Kevin Lynes Site North Farm Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3EE	14/00366/ASSET	B136	F	Land. Former travellers site.	0100086 63648	560264	142609
Page 74	13 Road At Wickham Gardens Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	EM/672	C025	F	Road. Maintainable at public expense.	0100086 68840	556545	140042
	14 Footpath Between 31and 48 Oakfield Road Matfield Tonbridge Kent TN12 7LB	EM/498	F006	F	Footpath. Track Used As Vehicle Access To Houses plus an area of land that is landlocked by the adjoining owners and farmer. Road is adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	1000611 93650	565998	141535
	15 Grass And Paved Areas At Showfields Showfields Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5PR	EM/340	F013	F	Land. Large Amenity Area, Grass/Concrete Slabs	0100241 35465	557440	138210
	16 Footpath Between 21 And 23 Bowen Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 8SU	14/00358/ASSET	F036	F	Footpath. Footpath between 21 and 23 Bowen Road and Fremlin Close	0100086 70132	555837	140064
	17 Footpath Buckingham Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 1TQ	14/00393/ASSET	F038	F	Footpath. Part of the footpath adjacent to The Grove.	0100000 64397	558601	138907
	18 Footpath Adjacent To Orchard Lodge Dorothy Avenue Cranbrook Kent TN17	14/00396/ASSET	F039	F	Footpath. Footath adjacent to and to the rear of Orchard Lodge leading to Kirby Close.	0100000 64014	578057	135754
	19 Land At North Farm Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	14/00398/ASSET	F040	F	Road. Part of road and paths.	0100086 68110	559449	141538

Non- Operational Land	20 Land Lying To The East Henwood Green Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	14/00399/ASSET	F041	F	Land. Two pieces of land between Henwood Green Road and Beagles Wood Road.	0100086 68239	563120	140647
	21 Land At Barnetts Way Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	15/00406/ASSET	F042	F	Part of grass verge and road.	0100086 68821	559213	141939
	22 Footpath To Rear Of 25 Kirkdale Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2SB	14/00420/ASSET	F044	F	Footpath to rear of 25 Kirkdale Road.	1000612 06515	558780	139919
	23 Cinder Hill Wood Five Wents Matfield Tonbridge Kent TN12 7EF	EM/481	H017	F	Woodland. Large Area Of Woodland	0100000 71767	565361	142511
	24 Parking Area Fronting 1-6 Cinder Hill Wood Five Wents Matfield Tonbridge Kent TN12 7ED	EM/484	H017 03	F	Land. Rough Parking Area With Trees/Grass	0100000 65153	565431	142450
Page	25 Cinder Hill Lane Five Wents Matfield Tonbridge Kent TN17	08/00345/ASSET	H017 05	F	Road. Lane leading to Caravan Site and Woodland.	0100000 65153	565431	142450
	26 27 Wood Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QS	14/00364/ASSET	H033	F	Land.	1000612 17568	558928	139874
e 75	27 Land Adjacent To Clifton Cottages Clifton Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3AS	14/00357/ASSET	L010 03	F	Land. Land adjacent to Clifton Cottages and North Farm Lane. Part of Colebrook Recreation Ground but under separate Title.	0100086 63277	559540	141582
	28 Access Road Leading To The Museum Carriers Road Cranbrook Kent TN17 3JX	12/00337/ASSET	L026 02	F	Road. Access road from Carriers Road to the museum.	0100000 64005	577597	136281
	29 Land At 44 Hunters Way Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5QF	EM/350	L035 01	F	Car Park. Concrete/Tarmac Car Park	1000612 06131		
	30 Grass Area Rear Of 42 -60 Hawkenbury Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5BW	EM/360	L038	F	Land. Tarmac Parking, Grass Area With Swings	1000612 04757	559757	138388
	31 Recreation Ground Forest Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5DP	EM/357	L042	F	Recreation. Public Recreation Ground	0100000 64334	558349	137600
	32 Julian Hewitt Recreation Ground Cavendish Drive Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	EM/321	L043	F	Residential. Grass Recreation Area With Play Equipmnt	0100000 68615	558995	138566

Non- Operational Land	33 Play Area To Rear Of 37 Huntleys Park Culverden Down Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TD	EM/755	L047	F	Recreation. Recreation area.	1000612 00556	557665	140497
	34 Land On West Side Of Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1	12/00336/ASSET	M010 01	F	Land. Land between allotments and Hilbert Road registered as a separate title to K925824.	0100086 68393	559426	140333
	35 Land To Rear Of Grange Road Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	EM/129	M015	F	Land. Large overgrown area of Uncultivated Woodland to the rear of Grange Road.	0100000 64304	556759	139937
	36 Land At 5-10 Southfields Speldhurst Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 0PD	10/00033/EM	R019	F	Road. Part of road and footpaths from 5-10 Southfields. Road is adopted highway.	0100086 59463	555066	141442
	37 Vale Avenue Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	EM/269	R038	F	Road. Tarmac Road. Adopted highway. Maintained by KCC.	0100000 63929	558299	139196
Page	38 Road And Footpath Kirby Close Cranbrook Kent TN17 3DE	14/00397/ASSET	R047	F	Footpath. Road and part of the footpath/parking area of Kirby Close	0100000 63945	577859	135598
	39 Barnetts Close Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	15/00423/ASSET	R051	F	Road and parking areas.	0100086 68061	559254	142047
76	40 Land Adjacent To Public Conveniences Crane Lane Cranbrook Kent TN17 3DG	14/00362/ASSET	T001 01	F	Land. Strip of land adjacent to the public conveniences in Cranbrook.	0100086 67858	577601	135977
	41 Land At Snipe Wood Romford Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4BA	EM/462	W001 01	F	Woodland. Area Of Woodland	0100000 72227	564091	141628
	42 Part Of Snipe Wood Romford Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4BA	EM/460	W001 02	F	Woodland. Isolated Area Of Woodland	0100000 72227	564091	141628
	43 Land At Snipe Wood Romford Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4BA	EM/461	W001 03	F	Woodland. Isolated Area Of Woodland	0100000 72227	564091	141628
	44 Land - Part Of High Wood High Woods Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 9AA	EM/445	W003	F	Woodland. Area Of Woodland	0100000 66401	560579	138595
	45 Barnetts Wood Blackthorn Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YG	EM/66	W004	F	Woodland. Area Of Woodland. Part Licenced for Grazing	0100086 69808	559615	142180

Appendix E

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Non- Operational De Minimus Land	56 Footpath At 20 Newton Gardens Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent TN12 6AJ	EM/511	B004 02	F	Footpath. Footpath and road. Footpath between 24 and 26 Newton Gardens was transferred to TCHG. Road is adopted highway.	1000611 93457	566703	145070
	57 Footpath At Newton Gardens Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent TN12	EM/509	B004 03	F	Footpath. Tarmac Footpath	0100086 68565	566629	145095
	58 Land Between 16 And 17 St Georges Park Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5NT	EM/366	B007	F	Land. Garden area of Land. Now forms part of the adopted highway system, maintainable at public expense by Kent Highway Services.	0100086 59813	557931	137572
	59 Access Road Between 24 And 25 Sychem Place Five Oak Green Tonbridge Kent TN12 6TR	12/00335/ASSET	B010 01	F	Road. Land to rear of sub station between 24 and 25 Sychem Place. Declared Surplus.		564285	144969
Page 78	60 Land Adjacent To The Boundary Of 39 Maidstone Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4DB	10/00007/EM	B011	F	Land. Area of land adjacent to boundary of 39 Maidstone Road.	1000612 07714	563040	141937
	61 Parking And Turning Area Belfield Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	10/00009/EM	B012	F	Road. Parking/turning area at the end of the road.	0100086 68230	562866	140742
ω	62 Land Rear Of Car Park Adjacent To 76 Blackthorn Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YG	12/00309/ASSET	B013	F	Land. Small area of shrubs to rear of car park adjacent to the footpath.	1000611 96866	559568	142079
	63 Land Between 17 And 27 Blackthorn Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YA	EM/698	B013 01	F	Land. Grass Area. Proposed sale area declared surplus. Part sold by auction. Completion due on 17th December 2018.	0100086 68058	559397	142068
	64 Grass Area Adjacent 32 Blackthorn Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YG	EM/697	B013 02	F	Land. Grass Area with footpath. Proposed sale area declared surplus.	0100086 68058	559397	142068
	65 Car Park Area Between 45-47 Blackthorn Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YD	EM/700	B013 04	F	Car Park. Small residential car park	1000611 96838	559477	142078
	66 Land Adjacent 37-43 Bright Ridge Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 0JN	EM/45	B018 01	F	Land. Area Paved With Concrete Slabs. Declared Surplus.	1000611 97345	557285	141739

Non- Operational De Minimus Land	91 Grass Area Corner Speldhurst Road Fronting 102 Speldhurst Road Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 0JD	EM/56	B032 07	F	Land. Grass Amentiy Area	1000612 13631	557583	141729
	92 Milkhouse Cottages Sissinghurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 2JT	10/00038/EM	B034	F	Road. Road is adopted highway.	0100000 64307	579170	137649
	93 Land At Pullington Cottages Benenden Cranbrook Kent TN17 4EG	EM/682	B035	F	Land. Grass Area with road and parking. Part of the road has been adopted and is maintained by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 64912	581318	132699
	94 Town Meadow Frythe Way Cranbrook Kent TN17 3AU	EM/684	B036	F	Land. Grass Area. Part unregistered.	0100086 66167	577834	135711
Page	95 Grass Area Fronting 9-15 St Dunstans Walk Cranbrook Kent TN17	EM/677	B037	F	Land. Grass Area. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 63943	577616	135748
	96 Road, Footpath And Parking Area Adjacent 6 Cleavers Sissinghurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 2JU	10/00053/EM	B039	F	Road, part of parking area and footpath adjacent to 6 Cleavers Close. Part adopted highway.	1000611 87738	579148	137707
ge 81	97 Grass Area Between 1 And 15 Boundary Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5BH	EM/703	B040 01	F	Road. Grass Area and road. Road is adopted highway.	0100086 62510	559554	138461
	98 Footpath Between 14 And 16 Hawkenbury Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5BJ	10/00061/EM	B040 02	F	Footpath. Footpath between numbers 14 and 16.	1000612 04743	559613	138512
	99 Footpath Between 105 And 107 Forest Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5BG	10/00062/EM	B040 03	F	Footpath. Footpath between 105 and 107 and front drive between 101 and 103 Forest Road	1000612 02534	559557	138510
	100 Land On Corner Of Calverley Road And 5 Decimus Place, Calverley Park Gardens Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2JX	EM/294	B042	F	Land. Grass Area	0100000 63179	558878	139500
	101 Land Adjacent To 11 Hilbert Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3SA	EM/670	B043	F	Land. Woodland area currently maintained by the local Bee keepers.	0100000 69565	559406	140268
	102 Land Adjacent 10 Aspen Way Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9YB	EM/695	B044	F	Land. Grass and parking area.	1000611 95644	559482	142116

Kent TN2 3NG

Non- Operational De Minimus Land	126 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Land To Rear Of 48 Clifton Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3AT	10/00025/EM	B055 01	F	Footpath. Path between 48-50 Clifton Road and land to rear of properties.	0100241 35199	559477	141358
Page	127 Verge Fronting 4-8 Twysden Cottages Bodiam Road Sandhurst Cranbrook Kent TN18 5LF	10/00083/EM	B057 02	F	Footpath. Verge fronting 4-8.	0100086 66624	579221	127888
	128 Land At Front Of 175 Hastings Road Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4JY	10/00005/EM	B058	F	Road. Area of land between the front garden and pavement.	1000612 04657	563446	140430
	129 Verge Fronting 8 Brampton Bank Five Oak Green Road Tudeley Tonbridge Kent TN11 0PN	10/00024/EM	B059	F	Land. Verge fronting no. 8.	0100086 64000	563165	144876
	130 Land Between Front Gardens Of 9 And 10 Spring Lane Bidborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 0UE	10/00012/EM	B061	F	Land. Small plot of land between the front gardens of nos. 9 and 10 adjacent to roadway.	1000612 13663	556689	143113
	131 Land To Rear Of 20-35 Hornbeam Avenue Southborough Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9XT	12/00305/ASSET	B062	F	Land. Declared Surplus.	0100086 68054	559687	142134
je 84	132 Land Adjacent To 65 South View Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9BU	EM/77	B068	F	Land. Open Grass Area between South View Road and Montgomery Road.	0100241 35762	558999	141403
	133 Roads And Footpaths Around Bankfield Way Goudhurst Cranbrook Kent TN17 1EG	10/00073/EM	B069	F	Footpath. Roads and footpaths. Road and footpath adopted.	0100086 68076	572017	137435
	134 Grass Verge Angley Road Cranbrook Kent TN17	10/00063/EM	B070	F	Land. Verge adjacent to service road off Angley Road. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100086 68483	576924	136111
	135 Angley Road Cranbrook Kent TN17	10/00064/EM	B070	F	Road. Part verge and road. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100086 68483	576924	136111
	136 Grass Area Fronting Grounds Of Angley School Angley Road Cranbrook Kent TN17 2PJ	EM/419	B070 01	F	Land. Part Of Grass Bank	0100000 72817	577594	136686
	137 Grass Area Fronting St Annes To Brooklands Angley Road Cranbrook Kent TN17 2PG	EM/420	B070 02	F	Footpath. Tarmac/Grass Verge	1000611 87264	576959	136126

Non- Operational De Minimus Land	150 Land At Grange Road Rusthall Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4	10/00027/EM	B099	F	Road. Road, footpaths, circular verge and parking. The road and footpaths form part of the adopted highway. The circular verge is owned by TWBC.	0100000 64304	556759	139937
	151 Land Adjacent To 39 Albert Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QH	10/00002/EM	B100	F	Land. Verge adjacent to 39 Albert Street and four small pieces of land.	1000611 95034	558746	139887
	152 Land Adjacent To 39 Albert Street Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2QH	11/00300/ASSET	B100	F	Land. Grass strip of land adjacent to 39 Albert Street.	1000611 95034	558746	139887
	153 Strip Of Land Adjacent To The Firs Langton Road Langton Green Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 0BA	12/00325/ASSET	B104 04	F	Land. Strip of land along Langton Road between The Firs and Dornden.	1000612 06784	555715	139214
Page	154 Land Opposite 49 Birling Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	12/00332/ASSET	B105	F	Land. Triangle of land maintainable as verge by TWBC.	0100086 68189	558344	137795
	155 Land At 1 Brook Cottages Town Hill Lamberhurst Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 8EN	10/00057/EM	B106	F	Land. Triangle of land fronting number 1 Brook Cottages.	0100000 69097	567423	136073
ge 86	156 Land To Rear Of 18 Redleaf Close Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 3UD	10/00092/EM	B107	F	Land. Large area of land with trees and culvert.	1000612 11092	559658	140737
	157 Grass Area At Herons Way Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	EM/458	B108	F	Grass Verge With Tree Stump. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100086 68411	563142	141762
	158 Grass Area Fronting 41 Herons Way Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4DW	EM/456	B108 01	F	Land. Grass Area With Trees, Divided By Drives. Adopted highway, maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	1000612 05116	563186	141819
	159 Grass Area Fronting 51 Herons Way Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4DW	EM/457	B108 02	F	Land. Grass Area With Trees, Divided By Drives. Adopted highway, maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	1000612 05125	563196	141779
	160 Area Of Land Fronting 10-12 Banner Farm Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5EA	EM/320	B109	F	Part Highway/Footpath/Grass Verge. Land is adopted highway. Maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	1000611 95800	558973	138720

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Non- Operational De Minimus Land	203 Land Fronting 59 St Johns Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9TT	15/00428/ASSET	F045	F	Footpath fronting property.	0100086 61742	558191	140412
	204 Land Lying To The South Of Mount Pleasant Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent	14/00430/ASSET	F046	F	4 small pieces of footpath	0100086 68564	566782	145047
	205 Land Adjacent Hopping Hooden Horse Church Road Paddock Wood Tonbridge Tonbridge Kent TN12 6HB	EM/522	H001	F	Footpath. Part Of Tarmac Footpath	0100086 70776		
	206 Parking Area Hunters Way Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	13/00354/ASSET	L035	F	Car Park. Parking area adjacent to 44 Hunters Way and fronting recreation ground	0100086 68434	557559	138167
	207 16 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	12/00307/ASSET	L041	F	Land. Land at rear licensed as garden land.	1000612 08702	559665	138620
	208 14 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/327	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extension.	1000612 08700	559660	138619
	209 20 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/553	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extension.	1000612 08706	559675	138624
91	210 24 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/554	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extn.	1000612 08710	559683	138627
	211 26 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/555	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extn.	1000612 08712	559687	138628
	212 28 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/556	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extn.	1000612 08714	559694	138629
	213 30 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/557	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extn.	1000612 08716	559698	138630
	214 34 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/558	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extension.	1000612 08720	559707	138632
	215 32 Napier Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 5AT	EM/722	L041	F	Land. Area Of Land Licensed As Garden Extension	1000612 08718	559703	138632

al IS	239	Land Fronting Half Acre Southfields Speldhurst Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN3 0PD	10/00032/EM	R019	F	Land. Triangle of land fronting property ' Half Acre'.	0100086 59350	554996	141317
	240	Footpaths And Road At Falmouth Place Five Oak Green Tonbridge Kent TN12 6RD	10/00022/EM	R021	F	Road. Road, footpaths and layby. Road adopted highway.	0100086 68862	565015	145266
	241	Access Road And Car Park Fronting The Co-op High Street Cranbrook Kent TN17 3DQ	10/00029/EM	R022	F	Road. Access road, car park fronting the Co-op.	0100086 67634	577404	135880
	242	Right Of Way From Hastings Road Pembury Through Chalket Lane Pembury Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2 4AA	EM/453	R025	ROW	Footpath. Vehicle Acc. Over A21/Path Through Fields. Right of Way only.	0100086 68165	562386	139979
	243	Courthope Paddock Wood Tonbridge Kent TN12	13/00340/ASSET	R026	F	Road. Part of road adjacent to MacDonald Court. Remainder of road is adopted highway	0100086 68579	567164	144846
	244	Site Of Swifts View, Quaker Drive And Angley Walk Cranbrook Kent TN17	10/00036/EM	R027	F	Road. Roads and footpath with steps. Majority of Title is adopted highway.	0100000 64003	577860	136774
	245	Sandhurst Close Sandhurst Cranbrook Kent TN18	10/00084/EM	R029	F	Road. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 66340	579128	127831
	246	Caley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	10/00039/EM	R031	F	Road. Part of Caley Road adjoining Liptraps Lane. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 64324	559701	141512
	247	Wiltshire Way Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	10/00041/EM	R032	F	Road. Part of the road at Wiltshire Way. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100086 68113	559796	141351
	248	STREET RECORD Liptraps Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent	10/00042/EM	R033	F	Road. Rectangular piece of land fronting the access to 46-48 Liptraps Lane. Adopted highway maintainable by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 64545	559740	141117
	249	Land At Broadwater Lane Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN2	10/00058/EM	R034	F	Road. Part road and footpath fronting Cobbetts Ride and footpath to the rear of number 31. Adopted highway maintainable at public expense.	0100086 68441	557661	138306

Appendix E

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Non- operational	282 Footpath To Rear Of 38 Goods Station Road Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2DB	14/00407/ASSET	В077	F	Footpath at rear of 38 Goods Station Road only. TWBC has a right of way over the rest of the footpath.	1000612 03298	558649	139862
	283 Calverley Church 1 Market Square Royal Victoria Place Royal Tunbridge Wells Kent TN1 2SW	05/00001/EM	E016 02	F	Church. Church building	0100086 61124	558743	139800
	284 STREET RECORD Frythe Close Cranbrook Kent	15/00426/ASSET	R053	F	Road, footpath and verge. Part adopted by Kent Highway Services.	0100000 63934	577895	135673

# **Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board**

# 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

# \* Council Tax Long Term Empty Premium

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council		
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Reilly – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance		
Lead Director	Stephen McGinnes – Director of Mid Kent Services		
Head of Service	Sheila Coburn – Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership		
Lead Officer/Author	Sheila Coburn – Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership		
Classification	Non-exempt		
Wards affected	All		

# This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the revised Council Tax premium be implemented, as set out in the Policy at Appendix A to the report, for the financial years beginning on 1 April 2019, 1 April 2020 and 1 April 2021.

# **Explain how this report relates to the Corporate Priorities in the Five Year Plan:**

To support a prosperous borough

Timetable						
Meeting	Date					
Management Board	19 December 2018					
Discussion with Portfolio Holder	7 January 2019					
Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019					
Cabinet	7 February 2019					
Council	27 February 2019					

Tunbridge Wells Committee Report, version: June 2018

# \* Council Tax Long Term Empty Premium

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council currently charges a 50% Council Tax Premium on properties that have been unoccupied for more than 2 years.
- 1.2 New regulations have been introduced to allow authorities to vary the percentage of Council Tax premium that is charged over the next 3 years for 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- 1.3 The purpose of this report is to seek approval to introduce the new changes for each of these financial years.

### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In April 2013 the Council introduced a premium of 50% on properties that have been empty for a period of more than 2 years.
- 2.2 The definition of an empty property for Council Tax purposes is one that is unoccupied and is substantially unfurnished.
- 2.3 New regulations have been introduced to allow authorities to vary the percentage of premium that is charged.
- 2.4 From 1 April 2019 councils may charge a 100% premium for properties that have been empty for more than 2 years.
- 2.5 From 1 April 2020 councils may charge a 100% premium for properties that have been empty less than 5 years and 200% for properties empty for over 5 years.
- 2.6 From 1 April 2021 councils may charge a 100% premium for properties that have been empty less than 5 years, 200% for properties that have been empty between 5 and 10 years, and 300% for properties that have been empty for over 10 years.
- 2.7 Any adjustment of the premium will be reflected in the Council Tax Base, increasing the amount of Council Tax to be generated by the Borough Council, Kent County Council, Police, Fire & Rescue and Parish Councils in line with their individual proportion of the overall council tax set.
- 2.8 In making that decision, the following considerations were taken into account:
  - Increasing pressures on housing and local government finance
  - Providing greater incentive for empty properties to be returned to use
  - Providing an important tool to encourage the use of empty properties

- 2.9 Council Tax is not charged on the basis that residents or non resident owners will use every service and many services such as planning, highways, street cleaning, local policing and fire services are essential in maintaining the local environment for both residents and non resident owners. Those services do not stop or become cheaper when a property becomes empty with the cost of awarding discounts currently subsidised by the wider Council Tax payer.
- 2.10 The Secretary of State has through regulations prescribed classes of property for which a premium cannot be charged:
  - A dwelling which is the sole or main residence of a member of the armed forces, who is absent from the property as a result of such service.
  - An annexe deemed unoccupied because it is being treated by the occupier of the main dwelling, as part of the main dwelling.
- 2.11 Although there is nothing prescribed in regulations, councils are expected to consider whether they wish to charge a premium for properties that are being actively marketed for sale.
- 2.12 Using the current position for properties that have been empty for more than 2 years, the additional income is shown below for 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22:

	Current numbers of Long Term Empty Premium Cases	Additional premium to be charged at 100% from 1 April 2019	Additional premium to charged April 2020		Additional premium to be charged April 2021		
100%	103	£165,376	51	£81,885	51	£81,885	
200%			52	£166,982	36	£115,602	
300%			·		16	£77,068	
Total		£165,376	·	£248,867		£274,555	

### 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- 3.1 Option 1 Do nothing. Do not implement any changes and leave the Long Term Empty premium as it currently is at 50%. This would mean there is no additional incentive for owners to bring back empty properties into use or further income generated.
- 3.2 Option 2 Implement the changes, except for those owners who are actively marketing their property for sale. This option would require investigation as to how long properties have been on the market and a judgement as to whether the sale price and steps taken to sell the property were reasonable.
- 3.3 Option 3 Implement the changes outlined in 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6 by introducing the addition premiums on 1 April 2019, 1 April 2020 and 1 April 2021.

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# 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The preferred option is Option 3. By introducing the changes, owners will be encouraged to bring empty homes back into use.

### 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 No consultation is necessary for these changes to take effect. However, a consultation that took place in 2012 as a wider review of Council Tax discounts supported the introduction to introduce a premium for empty properties.

# 6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Information will be made available on the Council's website and with the Council Tax bills that will be sent in March each year. We will also write to those owners where their properties will have been empty for 2 years in advance of the next financial year to advise them of the changes.

# 7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Sections 1 – 3 of the Rating (Property in Common Occupation) and Council Tax (Empty Properties) Act 2018, which came into force on 1 November 2018, amends the provisions in Section 11B of the local Government Finance Act 1992, to increase the maximum amounts local authorities can charge for empty properties to the amount of the premiums set out in this report.	Estelle Culligan Principal Solicitor 2/1/19
Finance and other resources		
Staffing establishment	No impact	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Risk management	Behavioural change – owners changing the way they leave properties empty	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership

Data Protection	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Environment and sustainability	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Community safety	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Health and Safety	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Health and wellbeing	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Equalities	Equalities have been considered and no impact has been identified.	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership

# 8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

Appendix A – Council Tax Empty Property Policy – TO FOLLOW

# 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None





# **COUNCIL TAX**

# EMPTY PROPERTY POLICY

# 1. Introduction and background

The Local Government Finance Act 1992 as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 2012, The Council Tax (Exempt Dwellings) Order 1992, The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) Regulations 2003, The Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 allow for Council Tax discounts and exemptions to be awarded for empty properties.

# The statutory exemptions are:

- Property owned by charity (maximum 6 months)
- Property where the liable person has died and awaiting probate/transfer to beneficiaries
- Property where occupation is prohibited by law (e.g. Planning/Housing/Environmental Health reasons)
- o Property that is held empty for minister of religion to take up residence
- Property that is left unoccupied by a student
- o Property where the mortgagee is in possession
- Property that has been left empty by a bankrupt
- Property where the unoccupied annexe cannot be let separately due to planning restrictions
- o Property left empty by a person in prison
- o Property left empty by a person living in a hospital/care home
- Property left empty by a person who needs personal care elsewhere
- o Property left empty by a person who is providing care elsewhere
- An empty caravan pitch or empty boat
- A dwelling left empty because an individual is living in another dwelling provided for the purposes of armed forces accommodation

# 2. Discretionary Discounts

In addition to the above exemptions, the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2012 amended discretionary discounts for unoccupied properties

- 1. Where a property becomes unoccupied and substantially unfurnished
- 2. Where a property is requiring or undergoing major repairs or structural alterations to render it habitable

In the case of 1, any discount is applicable for a maximum continuous period of 6 months. The billing authority may set the discount of between 100% and 0%. In the case of 2, any discount is applicable for a maximum continuous period of 12 months. The billing authority may set the discount of between 100% and 0%.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has decided the discount for properties in 1 and 2 will be 0% effective from 1 April 2017.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council will only consider a discount of 25% where a property is uninhabitable because of a natural disaster, flooding, fire or malicious damage which can be substantiated by a police report number.

# 3. Long Term Empty Premium

Changes were introduced that allowed authorities to charge a 50% Council Tax premium on properties that have been unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for more than 2 years.

From 1 April 2013, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council adopted this change.

New regulations have been passed which allow councils to charge additional premiums from 1 April 2019 as follows:

- 1 April 2019 properties that have been empty for more than 2 years 100% premium
- 1 April 2020 properties that have been empty for more than 5 years 200% premium
- 1 April 2021 properties that have been empty for more than 10 years 300% premium

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council adopted these changes to take effect from 1 April 2019 and subsequent years.

### 4. Appeal rights

If a person feels they have not been awarded an exemption or discount to which they should be entitled, there is a right of appeal.

In the first instance an appeal should be made to the Council for the decision to be reconsidered.

If the original decision is not changed, the Council will advise you of how to appeal to an independent Valuation Tribunal.



# **Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board**

# 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

# \* Business Rates Retail Relief

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Reilly - Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Stephen McGinnes – Director of Mid Kent Services
Head of Service	Sheila Coburn – Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Lead Officer/Author	Sheila Coburn – Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Classification	Non-exempt
Wards affected	All

# This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the award of business rates retail relief through the Council's discretionary powers to grant relief, in accordance with the guidance on the Business Rates Retail Discount scheme provided by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), be agreed.

## **Explain how this report relates to the Corporate Priorities in the Five Year Plan:**

To support a prosperous borough

Timetable	
Meeting	Date
Management Board	19 December 2018
Discussion with Portfolio Holder	7 January 2019
Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019
Cabinet	7 February 2019
Council	27 February 2019

Tunbridge Wells Committee Report, version: June 2018

# \* Business Rates Retail Relief

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Government announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018 that it will provide a Business Rates Retail Discount scheme for occupied retail properties with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in each of the years 2019-20 and 2020-21.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to approve a Policy for awarding relief with effect from 1 April 2019 in line with the guidance issued by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG).

#### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Government recognises that changing consumer behaviour presents a significant challenge for retailers in our town centres and is taking action to help the high street evolve.
- 2.2 The Government announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018 that it will provide a Business Rates Retail Discount scheme for occupied retail properties with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in each of the years 2019-20 and 2020-21.
- 2.3 Retail properties are described as those that are wholly or mainly used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments.
- 2.4 As this is a measure for 2019-20 and 2020-21 only, the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to properties.
- 2.5 Whilst the relief is to be awarded at the discretion of the council, the Government expects local authorities to include details of the relief to be provided to eligible ratepayers for 2019-20 in their bills for the beginning of that year.
- 2.6 The value of the relief will be one third of the net Business Rates bill, after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs have been applied.
- 2.7 The eligibility criteria is set out in the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) guidance as attached in Appendix 1, together with the type of businesses that would/would not be eligible for relief.
- 2.8 Authorities should determine for themselves whether particular properties are eligible for the relief.
- 2.9 It is estimated up to xxxx business would be eligible for the relief, the cost of which will be fully reimbursed by Central Government.

2.10 Ratepayers that occupy more than one property will be entitled to relief for each of their eligible properties, subject to State Aid De Minimis limits.

#### 3 AVAILABLE OPTIONS

- 3.1 Option 1 do nothing option. This option would not assist those businesses that the Government intends should benefit from relief.
- 3.2 Option 2 The council could restrict the scheme to only apply in certain parts of the borough, fewer categories of properties or provide a lower level of reduction. In doing so it would limit the level of central government funding that is being brought into the borough to support retailers.
- 3.3 Option 3 The council could extend the scheme to include those retailers the government is not recommending for relief, but the additional cost would need to be met by the borough council.
- 3.4 Option 4 Award relief as described in the MHCLG guidance issued.

#### 4 PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 Option 4 is the preferred option as the council will be fully compensated for any relief given.
- 4.2 Applying Option 4 will mean the relief is awarded in line with the intentions of central government to assist retailers.

### 5 CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 No consultation necessary

# 6 NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Details of the relief will be made available on the Council's website and issued with Business Rates bills.

## 7 CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
<b>Legal</b> including Human Rights Act	MHCLG has explained in a recent guidance note that local authorities should use their existing powers to issue discretionary relief under Section 47 of the local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), in	Estelle Culligan Principal Solicitor 2/1/19

# Agenda Item 9

Community safety	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Environment and sustainability	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Data Protection	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
	To mitigate this risk, an explanatory note will be issued to those businesses that qualify for relief	
Risk management	In introducing a scheme which is limited for 2 years, the council risks ratepayers perceiving a disproportionate increase in their rate liability when the scheme ends.  The restrictions on state aid are complex and are likely to be unfamiliar to many small businesses, resulting in an increase in enquiries.	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Staffing establishment	Relief will be awarded using existing resources	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Finance and other resources	None as the amount of relief awarded will be fully met by Central Government	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
	MHCLG also recognises that there may be additional costs on local authorities as a result of these measures and has therefore stated there will be an assessment of the additional administrative costs and a decision on extra funding will be made under the New Burdens doctrine	
	accordance with the relevant eligibility criteria.	

# Agenda Item 9

Health and Safety	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Health and wellbeing	No impact identified	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership
Equalities	There is no apparent equality impact on end users.	Sheila Coburn Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership

## **8 REPORT APPENDICES**

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: MHCLG Retail Relief guidelines
- Appendix B: Retail Relief Policy

## 9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

None





# **Business Rates**

Retail Discount - Guidance



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# Appendix A

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# About this guidance

- 1. This guidance is intended to support local authorities in administering the "Retail Discount" announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018. This Guidance applies to England only.
- 2. This guidance sets out the criteria which central Government considers for this purpose to be retail and eligible for this discount. The guidance does not replace existing legislation.
- 3. Enquiries on this measure should be addressed to: ndr@communities.gov.uk

# Introduction

- 4. The Government recognises that changing consumer behaviour presents a significant challenge for retailers in our town centres and is taking action to help the high street evolve.
- 5. The Government announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018 that it will provide a business rates Retail Discount scheme for occupied retail properties with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in each of the years 2019-20 and 2020-21. The value of discount should be one third of the bill, and must be applied after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants have been applied. Where an authority applies a locally funded relief, for instance a hardship fund, under section 47 this is must be applied after the Retail Discount.
- 6. This document provides guidance to authorities about the operation and delivery of the policy. The Government anticipates that local authorities will include details of the relief to be provided to eligible ratepayers for 2019-20 in their bills for the beginning of that year.

# Retail Discount

## How will the relief be provided?

7. As this is a measure for 2019-20 and 2020-21 only, the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to properties. Instead the Government will, in line with the eligibility criteria set out in this guidance, reimburse local authorities that use their discretionary relief powers, introduced by the Localism Act (under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended) to grant relief. It will be for individual local billing authorities to adopt a local scheme and determine in each individual case when, having regard to this guidance, to grant relief under section 47. Central government will fully reimburse local authorities for the local share of the discretionary relief (using a grant under section 31 of the Local Government Act 2003). The Government expects local government to apply and grant relief to qualifying ratepayers from the start of the 2019/20 billing cycle.

- 8. Central government will reimburse billing authorities and those major precepting authorities for the actual cost to them under the rates retention scheme of the relief that falls within the definitions in this guidance. Local authorities will be asked to provide an estimate of their likely total cost for providing the relief in their National Non-Domestic Rate Return 1 (NNDR1) for 2019-20 and 2020-21. Central government will provide payments to authorities to cover the local share, as per the usual process.
- 9. Local authorities will also be asked to provide outturn data on the actual total cost for providing the relief, as per the usual process via the National Non-Domestic Rate 3 (NNDR3) forms for 2019-20 and 2020-21. Any required reconciliations will then be conducted at these points.<sup>1</sup>

## Which properties will benefit from relief?

- 10. Properties that will benefit from the relief will be occupied hereditaments with a rateable value of less than £51,000, that are wholly or mainly being used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments.
- 11. We consider shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments to mean:
  - i. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public:
    - Shops (such as: florists, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off licences, chemists, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)
    - Charity shops
    - Opticians
    - Post offices
    - Furnishing shops/ display rooms (such as: carpet shops, double glazing, garage doors)
    - Car/ caravan show rooms
    - Second hand car lots
    - Markets
    - Petrol stations
    - Garden centres
    - Art galleries (where art is for sale/hire)
  - ii. Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:
    - Hair and beauty services (such as: hair dressers, nail bars, beauty salons, tanning shops, etc)

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> As required in the NNDR3 guidance notes, the former categories of discretionary relief prior to the localism act (i.e. charitable/CASC/rural etc. top up and not for profit) should be applied first in the sequence of discretionary reliefs and, therefore, before the retail discount.

- Shoe repairs/ key cutting
- Travel agents
- Ticket offices e.g. for theatre
- Dry cleaners
- Launderettes
- PC/ TV/ domestic appliance repair
- Funeral directors
- Photo processing
- Tool hire
- Car hire

# iii. Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of food and/ or drink to visiting members of the public:

- Restaurants
- Takeaways
- Sandwich shops
- Coffee shops
- Pubs
- Bars
- 12. To qualify for the relief the hereditament should be wholly or mainly being used as a shop, restaurant, cafe or drinking establishment. In a similar way to other reliefs (such as charity relief), this is a test on use rather than occupation. Therefore, hereditaments which are occupied but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose will not qualify for the relief.
- 13. The list set out above is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list the many and varied retail uses that exist. There will also be mixed uses. However, it is intended to be a guide for authorities as to the types of uses that Government considers for this purpose to be retail. Authorities should determine for themselves whether particular properties not listed are broadly similar in nature to those above and, if so, to consider them eligible for the relief. Conversely, properties that are not broadly similar in nature to those listed above should not be eligible for the relief.
- 14. The list below sets out the types of uses that the Government does not consider to be retail use for the purpose of this relief. Again, it is for local authorities to determine for themselves whether particular properties are broadly similar in nature to those below and, if so, to consider them not eligible for the relief under their local scheme.
  - i. Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:
    - Financial services (e.g. banks, building societies, cash points, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)
    - Other services (e.g. estate agents, letting agents, employment agencies)
    - Medical services (e.g. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)

- Professional services (e.g. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents/ financial advisers, tutors)
- Post office sorting offices

# ii. Hereditaments that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public

15. Generally speaking, the government also does not consider other assembly or leisure uses beyond those listed at paragraph 11 to be retail uses for the purpose of the discount. For example, cinemas, theatres and museums are outside the scope of the scheme, as are nightclubs and music venues which are not similar in nature to the hereditaments described at paragraph 11(iii) above. Hereditaments used for sport or physical recreation (e.g. gyms) are also outside the scope of the discount. Where there is doubt, the local authority should exercise their discretion with reference to the above and knowledge of their local tax base.

### How much relief will be available?

- 16. The total amount of government-funded relief available for each property for 2019-20 and 2020/21 under this scheme is one third of the bill, after mandatory reliefs and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grants have been applied, excluding those where local authorities have used their discretionary relief powers introduced by the Localism Act which are not funded by section 31 grants<sup>2</sup>. There is no relief available under this scheme for properties with a rateable value of £51,000 or more. Of course, councils may use their discretionary powers to offer further discounts outside this scheme. However, where an authority applies a locally funded relief, sometimes referred to as a hardship fund, under section 47 this is must be applied after the Retail Discount.
- 17. The eligibility for the relief and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis. The following formula should be used to determine the amount of relief to be granted for a chargeable day for particular hereditament in the financial year 2019-20:

Amount of relief to be granted =

<u>V</u> where 3

V is the daily charge for the hereditament for the chargeable day after the application of any mandatory relief and any other discretionary reliefs, excluding those where local authorities have used their discretionary relief

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> As required in the NNDR3 guidance notes, the former categories of discretionary relief prior to the localism act (i.e. charitable/CASC/rural etc. top up and not for profit) should be applied first in the sequence of discretionary reliefs and, therefore, before the retail discount.

powers introduced by the Localism Act which are not funded by section 31 grants<sup>3</sup>.

- 18. This should be calculated ignoring any prior year adjustments in liabilities which fall to be liable on the day.
- 19. Ratepayers that occupy more than one property will be entitled to relief for each of their eligible properties, subject to State Aid De Minimis limits.

### State Aid

- 20. State Aid law is the means by which the European Union regulates state funded support to businesses. Providing discretionary relief to ratepayers is likely to amount to State Aid. However Retail Relief will be State Aid compliant where it is provided in accordance with the De Minimis Regulations (1407/2013)<sup>4</sup>.
- 21. The De Minimis Regulations allow an undertaking to receive up to €200,000 of De Minimis aid in a three year period (consisting of the current financial year and the two previous financial years). Local authorities should familiarise themselves with the terms of this State Aid exemption, in particular the types of undertaking that are excluded from receiving De Minimis aid (Article 1), the relevant definition of undertaking (Article 2(2)<sup>5</sup>) and the requirement to convert the aid into Euros<sup>6</sup>.
- 22. To administer De Minimis it is necessary for the local authority to establish that the award of aid will not result in the undertaking having received more than €200,000 of De Minimis aid. Note that the threshold only relates to aid provided under the De Minimis Regulations (aid under other exemptions or outside the scope of State Aid is not relevant to the De Minimis calculation). Annex B of this guidance contains a sample De Minimis declaration which local authorities may wish to use, to discharge this responsibility. Where local authorities have further questions about De Minimis or other aspects of State Aid law, they should seek advice from their legal department in the first instance<sup>7</sup>.
- 23. The UK is scheduled to leave the EU on 29 March 2019. If there is an Implementation Period, the State Aid rules will continue to apply as now and will be subject to control by the EU Commission as at present. If the UK leaves the EU without a negotiated Withdrawal Agreement, the Government has announced its intention to transpose EU State Aid rules into UK domestic legislation, with only technical modifications to correct deficiencies with the transposed EU law to ensure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As required in the NNDR3 guidance notes, the former categories of discretionary relief prior to the localism act (i.e. charitable/CASC/rural etc. top up and not for profit) should be applied first in the sequence of discretionary reliefs and, therefore, before the retail discount.

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2013:352:0001:0008:EN:PDF

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The 'New SME Definition user guide and model declaration' provides further guidance: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/files/sme definition/sme user guide en.pdf">http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sme/files/sme definition/sme user guide en.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts\_grants/info\_contracts/inforeuro/inforeuro\_en.cfm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Detailed State Aid guidance can also be found at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/15277/National\_State\_Aid\_Law Requirements.pdf

# Appendix A

the regime operates effectively in a domestic context<sup>8</sup>. Local authorities should therefore continue to apply State Aid rules, including De Minimis, to the relief for 2019/20 and 2020/21.

## Splits, mergers, and changes to existing hereditaments

24. The relief should be applied on a day to day basis using the formula set out above. A new hereditament created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use, should be considered afresh for the relief on that day.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-aid-if-theres-no-brexit-deal/sta</u>

# Annex A: Calculation examples for 2019/20

The retail discount (one third) is always calculated after mandatory relief and other discretionary reliefs funded by section 31 grant.

## Example 1: An occupied shop with a rateable value of £40,000

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £40,000 x 0.491	= £19,640
Retail discount (1/3):	= -£6,547
Rates due (after retail discount):	=£13,093

## Example 2: An occupied charity shop with a rateable value of £40,000

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £40,000 x 0.491	= £19,640
Net rates after charity relief:	=£3,928
Retail discount (1/3):	= -£1,309
Rates due (after charity relief and retail discount):	=£2,619

# Example 3: An occupied shop with a rateable value of £13,500 eligible for Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR)

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £13,500 x 0.491	= £6,629
Net rates after SBRR (50%):	<u>= £3,314</u>
Retail discount (1/3):	= -£1,105
Rates due (after SBRR and retail discount):	=£2,210

# Example 4: An occupied shop with a rateable value of £10,000 eligible for Small Business Rate Relief (SBRR)

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £10,000 x 0.491	= £4,910
Net rates after SBRR (100%):	= £nil
Rates bill is nil and, therefore, no retail discount applies	

# Example 5: An occupied shop with a rateable value of £40,000 eligible for Transitional Relief (TR) and receiving Revaluation Discretionary Relief

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £40,000 x 0.491	=£19,640
Transitional Relief (say):	= -£1,500
Net rates after Transitional Relief:	=£18,140
Net rates after Revaluation Discretionary Relief (say):	=£15,140
Retail discount (1/3):	= -£5,047
Rates due (after TR, revaluation relief and retail discount):	=£10,093

# Example 6: An occupied shop with a rateable value of £18,000 previously paying nothing prior to revaluation 2017 and eligible for Supporting Small Businesses Relief (SSB)

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £18,000 x 0.491	=£8,838
Supporting Small Businesses Relief (say):	= -£7,038

# Appendix A

Net rates after SSB: = £1,800Retail discount (1/3): = -£600Rates due (after SSB and retail discount): = £1,200

# Example 7: A shop with a rateable value of £40,000 (example 1) but only occupied until 30 September 2019

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £40,000 x 0.491 = £19,640 Retail discount (1/3): = -£6,547 Rates due p.a. (after retail discount): = £13,093

Daily charge while occupied (leap year): = £35.77 per day

Occupied charge 1/4/19 to 30/9/19 (183 days): = £6,547

Unoccupied property relief (1/10/19 to 1/1/20): = £nil

Unoccupied property rates (1/1/20 to 31/3/20),

£19,640 x 91/366 = £4,883

Rates due for the year (after retail relief): = £11,430

# Example 8: A shop with a rateable value of £40,000 (example 1) with a rateable value increase to £60,000 with effect from 1 October 2019

Gross rates (before any reliefs) = £40,000 x 0.491 = £19,640 Retail discount (1/3): = -£6,547 Rates due p.a. (after retail discount): = £13,093

Daily charge while occupied (leap year): = £35.77 per day

Charge 1/4/19 to 30/9/19 (183 days): = £6,547

Daily charge on standard multiplier (1/10/19 to 1/1/20):

 $(£60,000 \times 0.504)/366$  = £82.62 per day

Charge 1/10/19 to 31/3/20 (183 days): = £15,120

Rates due for the year (after retail relief): = £21,667

# Annex B: Sample paragraphs that could be included in letters to ratepayers about Retail Discount for 2019/20 and 2020/21

At Autumn Budget 2018, the Chancellor announced that eligible retailers will receive a one third discount on their business rates bills for two years from April 2019.

Relief will be provided to eligible occupied retail properties with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in 2019/20 and 2020/21. Your current rates bill includes this Retail Discount.

Awards such as Retail Discount are required to comply with the EU law on State Aid<sup>9</sup>. In this case, this involves returning the attached declaration to this authority if you have received any other *de minimis* State Aid, including any other Retail Discount you are being granted for premises other than the one to which this bill and letter relates, and confirming that the award of Retail Discount does not exceed the €200,000 an undertaking<sup>10</sup> can receive under the *de minimis* Regulations EC 1407/2013.

Please complete the declaration and return it to the address above. In terms of declaring previous *de minimis* aid, we are only interested in public support which is *de minimis* aid (State Aid received under other exemptions or public support which is not State Aid does not need to be declared).

If you have not received any other *de minimis* State Aid, including any other Retail Discount you are being granted for premises other than the one to which this bill and letter relates, you do not need to complete or return the declaration.

If you wish to refuse to receive the Retail Discount granted in relation to the premises to which this bill and letter relates, please complete the attached form and return it to the address above. You do not need to complete the declaration. This may be particularly relevant to those premises that are part of a large retail chain, where the cumulative total of Retail Discount received could exceed €200,000.

Under the European Commission rules, you must retain this letter for three years from the date on this letter and produce it on any request by the UK public authorities or the European Commission. (You may need to keep this letter longer than three years for other purposes). Furthermore, information on this aid must be supplied to any other public authority or agency asking for information on 'de minimis' aid for the next three years.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>.Further information on State Aid law can be found at https://www.gov.uk/state-aid

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> An undertaking is an entity which is engaged in economic activity. This means that it puts goods or services on a given market. The important thing is what the entity does, not its status. Therefore, a charity or not for profit company can be undertakings if they are involved in economic activities. A single undertaking will normally encompass the business group rather than a single company within a group. Article 2.2 of the de minimis Regulations (Commission Regulation EC/ 1407/2013) defines the meaning of 'single undertaking'.

Appendix A

# 'De minimis' declaration

Dear []				
NON-DOMESTIC RATES ACCOUNT NUMBER:				
The value of the non-domestic rates Retail Discount to be provided to [name of undertaking] by [name of local authority] is $\pounds$ [ ] (Euros [ ]).				
award, [name of under aid within the current fi Regulations 1407/2013 24.12.2013) can be fou	taking] shall not receive nancial year or the pre 3 (as published in the C and at:	State Aid on the basis the more than €200,000 invious two financial year Dfficial Journal of the Eu=OJ:L:2013:352:0001:0008	in total of <i>De minimis</i> rs). The <i>de minimis</i> uropean Union L352	
Amount of de minimis aid	Date of aid	Organisation providing aid	Nature of aid	
I confirm that:				
1) I am authorised to sign on behalf of[name of undertaking]; and				
2) by accepting this Retai		g] shall not exceed its	De minimis threshold	
SIGNATURE: NAME: POSITION: BUSINESS: ADDRESS: DATE:				

# **Refusal of Retail Discount form**

Name and address of premises	Non-domestic rates account number	Amount of Retail Discount			
I confirm that I wish to refuse Retail Discount in relation to the above premises.					
I confirm that I am authorised to sign on behalf of [name of undertaking].					
SIGNATURE: NAME: POSITION: BUSINESS: ADDRESS: DATE:					



# **Business Rates**

# **Retail Relief Policy**

### 1. Introduction and Purpose

The Government announced in the Budget on 29 October 2018 that it will provide a Business Rates Retail Discount scheme for occupied retail properties with a rateable value of less than £51,000 in each of the years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

This document provides guidance about the operation and delivery of the policy, including:

Factors that should be considered when making a decision to award or refuse relief;

Arrangements to delegate authority to award relief in appropriate circumstances:

Appeals procedure for customers dissatisfied with the Council's decision;

If you would like further advice on application of the scheme please contact the Business Rates section at <a href="mailto:businessrates@midkent.gov.uk">businessrates@midkent.gov.uk</a>

## 2. How the relief will be provided

As this is a measure for 2019-20 and 2020-21 only, the Government is not changing the legislation around the reliefs available to properties. Instead the Government will, in line with the eligibility criteria set out in this guidance, reimburse the Council where it uses its discretionary relief powers, introduced by the Localism Act (under section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988, as amended) to grant relief.

It is for the Council to decide on the scheme which they chose to adopt and decide in each individual case when to grant relief under section 47.

## 3. Which properties will benefit from the relief

Properties that will benefit from the relief will be occupied properties listed for rating (a hereditament) with a rateable value of less than £51,000 that are wholly or mainly being used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments.

We consider shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments to mean:

Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of goods to visiting members of the public:

Shops (such as: florist, bakers, butchers, grocers, greengrocers, jewellers, stationers, off licences, chemists, newsagents, hardware stores, supermarkets, etc)

Charity shops
Opticians
Post offices
Furnishing shops/ display rooms (such as: carpet shops, double glazing, garage doors)
Car/ caravan show rooms
Second hard car lots
Markets
Petrol stations
Garden centres
Art galleries (where art is for sale/hire)
Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:
Hair and beauty services (such as: hairdressers, nail bars, beauty salons, tanning shops, etc)
Shoe repairs/ key cutting
Travel agents
Ticket offices e.g. for theatre
Dry cleaners
Launderettes
PC/ TV/ domestic appliance repair
Funeral directors
Photo processing
Tool hire
Car hire

Hereditaments that are being used for the sale of food and/ or drink to visiting members of the public:

Restaurants

Takeaways

Sandwich shops

Coffee shops

**Pubs** 

Bars

To qualify for the relief the hereditament should be wholly or mainly being used as a shop, restaurant, cafe or drinking establishment. In a similar way to other reliefs (such as charity relief), this is a test on use rather than occupation.

Hereditaments which are occupied but not wholly or mainly used for the qualifying purpose will not qualify for the relief.

The list set out above is not intended to be exhaustive as it would be impossible to list the many and varied retail uses that exist. There will also be mixed uses.

The list is intended to be a guide as to the types of uses that the Council considers for this purpose to be retail.

The Council will determine whether particular properties not listed are broadly similar in nature to those above and, if so, to consider them eligible for the relief.

Conversely, properties that are not broadly similar in nature to those listed above should not be eligible for the relief.

## 4. Properties that will NOT qualify for relief

The list below sets out the types of uses that the Council does not consider to be retail use for the purpose of this relief. Again, the Council will determine whether particular properties are broadly similar in nature to those below and, if so, to consider them not eligible for the relief under their local scheme.

Hereditaments that are being used for the provision of the following services to visiting members of the public:

Appendix B

Financial services (e.g. banks, building societies, cash points, bureaux de change, payday lenders, betting shops, pawn brokers)

Other services (e.g. estate agents, letting agents, employment agencies)

Medical services (e.g. vets, dentists, doctors, osteopaths, chiropractors)

Professional services (e.g. solicitors, accountants, insurance agents/ financial advisers, tutors)

Post office sorting offices

Hereditaments that are not reasonably accessible to visiting members of the public:

Cinemas

Theatres

Museums

**Nightclubs** 

Music venues

Gyms

### 5. How much relief will be available

The total amount of retail relief available for each property for each of the years under this scheme is  $1/3^{rd}$  of the net Business Rates payable.

There is no relief available under this scheme for properties with a rateable value of £51,000 or more.

The eligibility for the relief and the relief itself will be assessed and calculated on a daily basis. A new hereditament created as a result of a split or merger during the financial year, or where there is a change of use, should be considered afresh for the relief on that day.

The following formula should be used to determine the amount of relief to be granted for a particular hereditament in the financial year:

Amount of relief to be granted =

٧

3 where

V is the daily charge for the hereditament for the chargeable day after the application of any mandatory relief and any other discretionary reliefs.

The relief will be applied against the net bill after all other reliefs.

This will be calculated ignoring any prior year adjustments in liabilities which fall to be liable on the day.

Ratepayers that occupy more than one property will be entitled to relief for each of their eligible properties, subject to State Aid de minimis limits.

#### 6. State Aid

State Aid law is the means by which the European Union regulates state funded support to businesses. Providing discretionary relief to ratepayers is likely to amount to State Aid.

Retail Relief will be State Aid compliant where it is provided in accordance with the De Minimis Regulations (1407/2013).

The De Minimis Regulations allow an undertaking to receive up to €200,000 of De Minimis aid in a three year period (consisting of the current financial year and the two previous financial years).

To administer De Minimis it is necessary for the local authority to establish that the award of aid will not result in the undertaking having received more than €200,000 of De Minimis aid.

Where the Council makes an award based on an assumption that the undertaking will not been in receipt of more than €200,000 of De Minimis aid, an explanatory note will be provided and the undertaking requested to contact the Council where they believe they have may or have reached the De Minimis threshold. In such instances the council reserves the right to withdraw.

## 7. Period of Award and Backdating

This is a measure for 2019-20 and 2020-21 only. Where the Council has reason to believe (based on the information held) that the criteria for relief has been met, it will make an annual award at the start of each financial year 2019-20 and 2020-21.

Where liability starts, ends or changes part way through a year entitlement to relief will be reviewed in line with the guidance set out above.

The council will not accept any backdated requests for relief beyond the end of financial year for which relief is being claimed.

### 8. Decision making and appeals

Where the Council has reason to believe (based on the information held) that the criteria for relief has been met, it will award relief without the need for an application.

In all other circumstances an application will be required in writing setting out how the criteria for relief have been met.

In the interests of efficiency, the authority to consider applications is delegated to the Revenues Manager, who will ensure that a decision is notified in writing within 21 days of receipt of application or as soon as is reasonably practical thereafter.

Any appeal against the decision to award or not award relief or against the level of relief must be made in writing within four weeks of notification of the decision.

Authority to consider appeals is delegated to the Head of Revenues and Benefits Partnership who will notify the applicant of the final decision in writing within 10 days as to whether an appeal is refused or accepted, with a full explanation of the reasons for the decision.



# Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board

# 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

# \* Budget 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Reilly, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Head of Service	Jane Fineman – Head of Finance and Procurement
Lead Officer/Author	Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Classification	Non-exempt
Wards affected	All

### This report makes the following recommendation to the final decision-maker:

- 1. That Council approves the changes to the base budget along with the assumptions and approach set out throughout the report;
- 2. That Council approves the responses to the budget consultation (to be inserted after the consultation closes) in Appendix C;
- 3. That Council approves the rolling forward of the capital programme including additional gross funding of £2,643,340 for new schemes listed within the report;
- 4. That Council approves the 2019/20 Pay Policy Statement set out in Appendix D; and
- 5. That Council approves an increase in the 'Basic Amount' of Council Tax of £5.19 for a Band D property.

## This report relates to the following Five Year Plan Key Objectives:

- A Prosperous Borough
- A Green Borough
- A Confident Borough

The Council's budget involves the allocation of financial resources to deliver the Council's Key Objectives.

# Agenda Item 10

Timetable				
Meeting	Date			
Management Board	19 December 2018			
Discussion with Portfolio Holder	10 December 2018			
Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019			
Cabinet	7 February 2019			
Full Council	27 February 2019			

# \* Budget 2019/20 and Medium Term Financial Strategy Update

## 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report outlines the assumptions that have been built into the proposed budget for 2019/20.
- 1.2 Cabinet have proposed that this budget be adopted by full Council which includes the following main headlines:
  - Another year of zero Revenue Support Grant.
  - The Year 9 New Homes Bonus of £221,525 to be placed into the Grant Volatility Reserve.
  - No major reductions to services.
  - An increase in the amount of Basic Council Tax of £5.19 for a Band D property.
  - No use of the general fund in balancing the budget.
- 1.3 The draft budget has been subject to public consultation and awareness has been made to groups representing communities in both the town and rural parts of the Borough.

Members are reminded that section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 applies to any meeting where consideration is given to matters relating to, or which might affect, the calculation of Council Tax.

Any Member of a Local Authority, who is liable to pay Council Tax, and who has any unpaid Council Tax amount overdue for at least two months, even if there is an arrangement to pay off the arrears, must declare the fact that he/she is in arrears and must not cast their vote on anything related to TWBC's Budget or Council Tax.

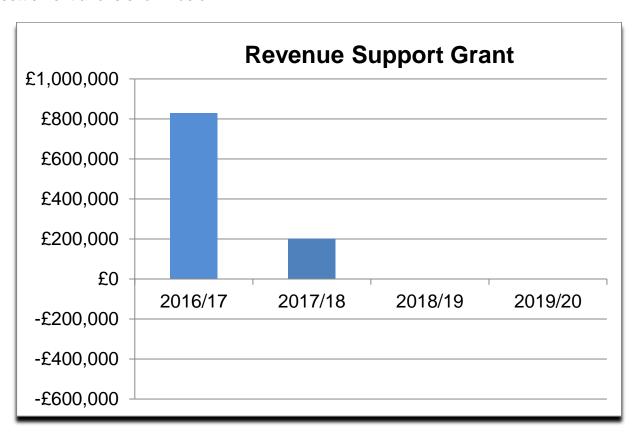
### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

2.1 Cabinet received the first report leading to the setting of the 2019/20 budget at the meeting on 2 August 2018 entitled Budget Projection and Strategy which had also been considered by the Finance & Governance Cabinet Advisory Board. This was followed by a Budget Update report on 2 October 2018 and the Draft Budget on 6 December 2018.

#### **Provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2019/20**

2.2 On 13 December 2018, the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government made a statement to Parliament on the provisional local government finance settlement 2019/20.

2.3 The settlement will once again result in no Revenue Support Grant (RSG) for this Council to help fund local services. This is actually a significant improvement on the £606,000 of negative RSG for which taxpayers in this borough were scheduled to pay to government and to other parts of the country. It has taken four years of persuasive argument to get the government to remove negative RSG which has now been achieved with the cost being funded at a national level through foregone business rates. This marks the final year of the settlement and is shown below.



- 2.4 Other main changes announced as part of the 2019/20 provisional settlement are set out below.
  - Future of Business Rates Retention The government is aiming to increase
    the level of business rates retention for all councils from the current 50 per
    cent to 75 per cent from April 2020. The government is also intending to
    implement reforms to the business rates retention system to ensure local
    councils have the levers and incentives they need to grow their local
    economies.
  - The government has published a technical consultation paper as part of the Business Rates Retention scheme "Sharing risk and reward, managing volatility and setting up the reformed system". The paper proposes a change in how the system is administered to mitigate the volatility business rates appeals have on local authorities' income and to help minimise complexity in the system.
  - Kent & Medway has been accepted as a business rates pool for 2019/20.

- Fair Funding Review The government has published a further consultation paper "A Review of Local Authorities' Relative Needs and Resources". This contines the government's work to address concerns about the fairness of current funding distributions by determining a robust and effective formula. However, a revised distribution model can only be effective if sufficient funding is provided by government with which to distribute.
- Council Tax 'Cap' The Government will continue to set a 'cap' of 3 per cent which will provide more income for those areas with already high levels of council tax and widen the gap with those areas of low taxation such as this Council. The government decided not to increase the £5 de-minimis 'cap' for shire district councils, despite widespread calls to do so. The 'cap' has again been raised significantly for Police and Crime Commissioners who can increase Council Tax by £24 and there will be no 'cap' for parish and town councils. The Government says this strikes the right balance between local authorities having the power to raise income while protecting council tax payers from excessive rises.
- New Homes Bonus There have been no further changes to the deadweight threshold (at 0.4 per cent) or the eligibility of properties to qualify for the funding.

#### **New Homes Bonus**

- 2.5 The New Homes Bonus (NHB) scheme was introduced in 2011 as a financial incentive for local authorities to facilitate housing growth and to sit alongside the existing planning system. In particular the scheme was designed in line with the following key principles:
  - Powerful the grant will be payable for the following six years. Those authorities which respond to the incentive and embrace housing growth will reap the benefits.
  - Simple for each additional home local authorities will receive six years of grant based on the council tax.
  - Transparent it will be easy for councillors, the community and developers to calculate and see the early benefits of growth.
  - Predictable the scheme is intended to be a permanent feature of local government funding and will therefore continue beyond the six-year cycle.
  - Flexible local authorities will be able to decide how to spend the funding in line with local community wishes. This will enable local councillors to lead a more mature debate with local people about the benefits of growth, not just costs.
- 2.6 This Council accepted its responsibility to help deliver housing growth in a managed way with regard to planning policy against the backdrop of the principles of the NHB scheme.
- 2.7 However, in 2016 the Government decided to make changes to the scheme to divert funding away from rewarding housing growth to instead be used for adult social care. The main changes were as follows:

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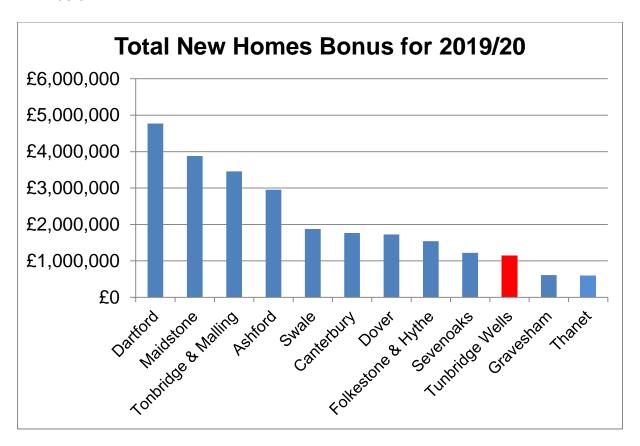
- A reduction of the number of years NHB payments are made from six to four years; and
- The introduction of a national baseline for housing growth of 0.4 per cent of council tax base, below which NHB will not be paid (equates to 155 homes for this borough).
- 2.8 The above changes to the NHB scheme not only confuse the financial incentive for delivering more houses with the funding of social care but they also reaffirm the centralised system of funding for local services in England. There can be little confidence remaining that the NHB will not be diluted further which undermines strategic financial planning.
- 2.9 The only positive to take from these changes to government policy is that this Council has a relatively low exposure to the NHB scheme as it receives one of the lowest amounts of NHB in Kent.

## **New Homes Bonus Strategy**

2.10 In the 2018/19 budget the Council used all £1.056 million of NHB in the base budget. The provisional NHB allocations for 2019/20 have been announced with £1.143 million for this Council but due to the fickle nature of the NHB it is prudent to transfer the Year 9 allocation of £221,525 to the Grant Volatility Reserve. The impact of these changes is shown below:

	<b>16/17</b> £000s	<b>17/18</b> £000s	<b>18/19</b> £000s	<b>19/20</b> £000s	<b>20/21</b> £000s	<b>21/22</b> £000s	<b>22/23</b> £000s	<b>23/24</b> £000s
Year 10 - Net					TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Year 9 - Net				222	222	222	222	
Year 8 - Net	_		184	184	184	184		
Year 7 - Net		183	183	183	183			
Year 6	554	554	554	554				
Year 5	135	135	135					
Year 4	96	96						
Year 3	390	390						
Year 2	339							
Year 1	259							
NHB Allocation	1,773	1,358	1,056	1,143				
NHB in Budget	1,773	1,358	1,056	921				
NHB to Reserves	0	0	0	222				
Total	1,773	1,358	1,056	1,143				

2.11 The total New Homes Bonus for 2019/20 across Kent authorities is shown below.



2.12 Income from NHB varies widely across Kent with some councils receiving more in their Year 9 allocation alone than this Council receives in its four-year total. The annual difference between the NHB received by Tonbridge & Malling and TWBC is around £2.5 million and with the scheme now in year nine this indicates a difference of £22.5 million in total NHB proceeds.

## Revenue Budget 2019/20

2.13 The budget provides the financial resources to deliver the Council's priorities and statutory responsibilities. The major changes over the current year are summarised in the table below.

	£000s
Negative Government Grant (Under review)	606
Removal of Negative Government Grant	(606)
Reduction in Administration Grants	10
Reduction in New Burdens Grant	10
Reduction in Universal Credit Grant	80
Employment costs	50
Reduction in transport costs from using Skype	(10)
Software Licences	25

Counsel Fees	12
New Cleaning Contract	45
Business Rates on TWBC Properties	32
Bank Charges	13
Planning Policy	22
Building Control	36
Private Sector Housing	36
Environmental Protection	15
Reduction in Car Parking Income	156
Additional Income from Fees and Charges	(290)
Additional Council Tax Income	(314)
No surplus in the Collection Fund	68
Other costs	4
Use of Reserves	0
Balanced Net Revenue Budget	0

2.14 The budget is forecast to be balanced for 2019/20. If any of the expected savings or efficiencies fail to be delivered and are not replaced with alternatives then a budget gap would occur requiring the use of reserves. However, the use of general reserves is unsustainable over the longer term which led Cabinet in 2012 to set a definition of a balanced budget as follows:

"Where ongoing expenditure is met from fees, charges, government grant and council tax with only the use of earmarked reserves being used to meet one-off priority expenditure."

2.15 If this strategy is to be met then tight financial control will continue to be required to adhere to the budget agreed and action implemented where variances are identified. The alternative is to temporarily use the general fund to balance the revenue budget.

### **Employee Costs**

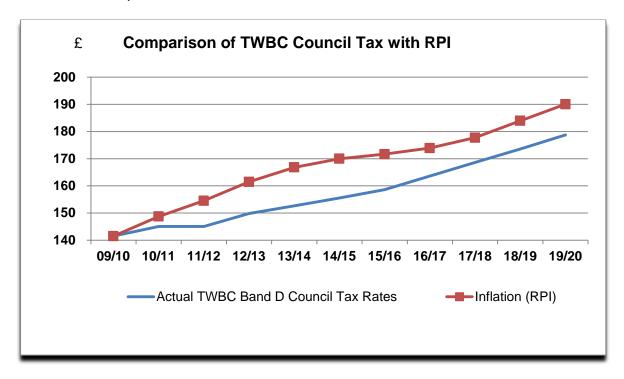
2.16 Increased partnership working, efficiencies and the move to local pay and allowances enabled the Council to continue to reduce the pay bill and the number of staff it employs. The exceptions to this are the additional internal resources to deliver the Development Programme, bringing the Planning Support Service back in-house and this Council becoming the single employer for the Mid-Kent Environmental Health Partnership.

Year	Total Salary Budget	Full Time Equivalents	
	£		
2010/11	11,334,700	384.45	
2011/12	10,971,260	360.32	
2012/13	10,829,520	347.86	
2013/14	10,257,180	334.66	
2014/15	9,330,620	306.47	
2015/16	9,018,920	282.55	

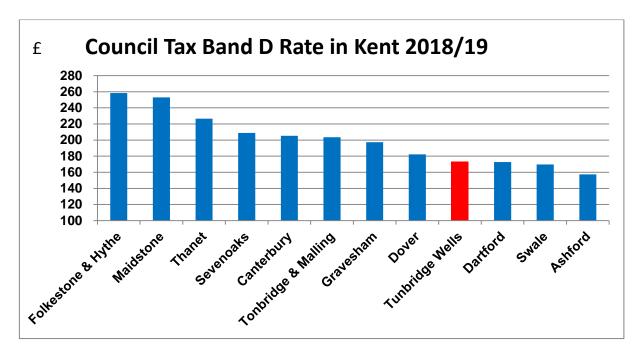
2016/17	9,569,480	293.52
2017/18	9,786,990	297.26
2018/19	10,440,940	306.82
2019/20	10,131,480	307.44

# **Council Tax Strategy**

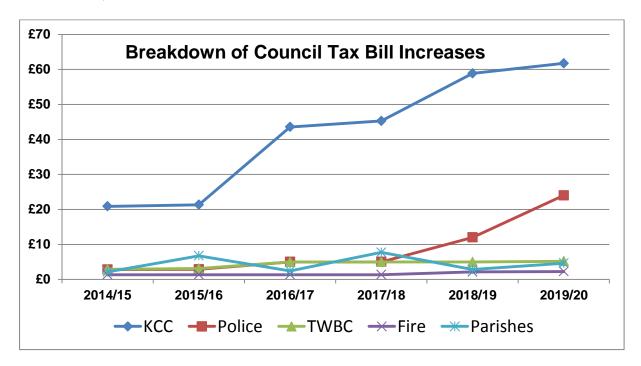
- 2.17 One source of funding for the provision of local services is council tax. This Council has historically had a policy of very low council tax levels and the strategy is for council tax to increase up to the referendum threshold set by the Secretary of State. The cost of triggering a referendum for this Borough would be £100,000.
- 2.18 The following graph shows that since 2009/10 council tax has been cut in real terms compared to inflation and was frozen in 2011/12.



2.19 The graph below shows the comparison across Kent of the average council tax rates for 2018/19. By way of example if Sevenoaks and Maidstone councils freeze their council tax every year and this Council agrees an increase of £5 every year then it would take 8 years and 16 years respectively for the TWBC rate to reach the level charged by these councils.



- 2.20 It should be appreciated that each area is different and not all councils provide the same range and level of services. This is especially important when discretionary services are provided which require a subsidy such as a museum or theatre.
- 2.21 The past couple of years have seen significant changes to the Council Tax 'cap' set by government to different types of authorities that form part of the annual Council Tax bill. Kent County Council who account for the largest portion of the Council Tax bill are allowed to again increase their rate by 5 per cent. The Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) used to have the same 'cap' as TWBC at around £5 but last year the PCCs were allowed to increase by £12 and this is set to rise further to £24 in 2019/20 The impact of these increases is shown below;



2.22 The level of council tax will be decided by Full Council on 27 February 2019. This final budget has been updated on the assumption that the headline level of council tax will be £178.76 (49 pence per day) which is an increase of £5.19 over the current rate. The Government has assumed in their 'spending power' calculations that this Council will increase council tax by 3 per cent.

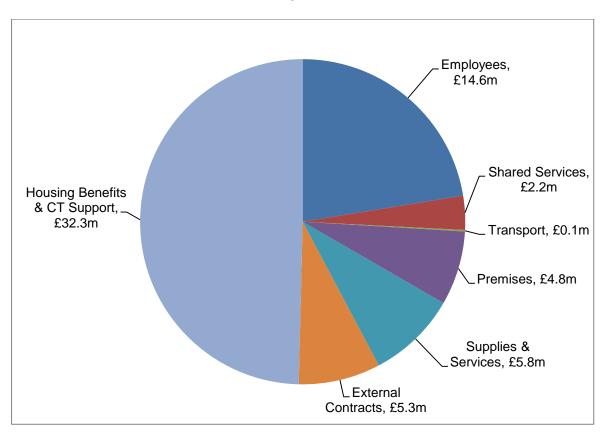
# 'User Pays' Principle

- 2.23 With operating costs driving up expenditure it will be necessary to recover these costs from the user of those services rather than all council tax payers. The Council has used feedback over the years to keep council tax low and to pass on costs to the users of optional services through higher fees and charges.
- 2.24 In November 2018, Cabinet agreed the 'fees and charges' report for areas which are not dictated by central government. The budget assumes that the total income from the charges set out in these reports is achieved.

# **Budget Breakdown**

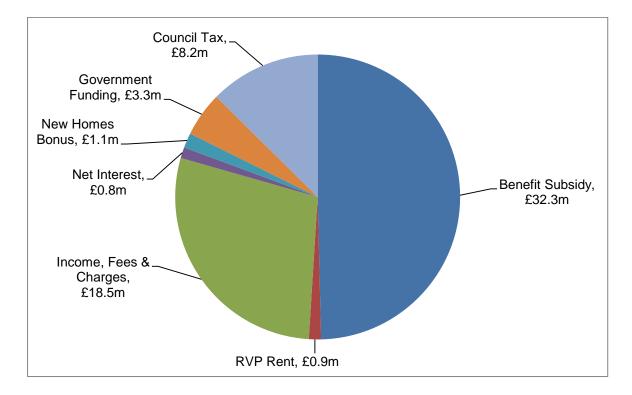
2.25 The Council provides a diverse range of services across the Borough which are budgeted to cost £65.1 million. The following pie charts summarise the revenue expenditure and how this is funded.

# Revenue Expenditure 2019/20



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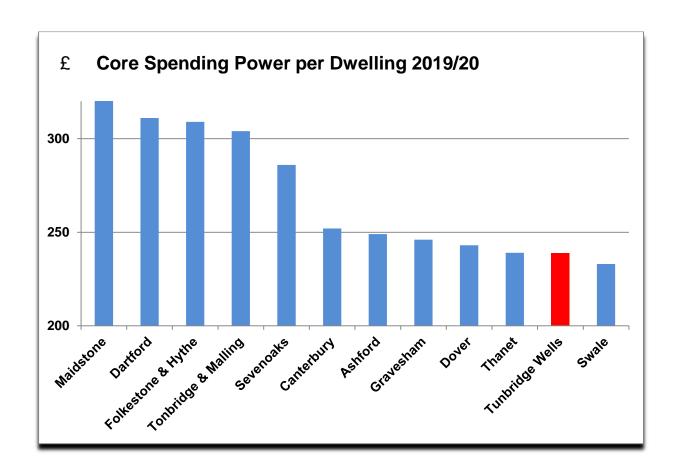
# Revenue Income 2019/20



A further subjective breakdown of the budget per cost centre will be available on the Council's website.

# **Spending Power**

2.26 The Government has developed a universal benchmarking indicator called 'Spending Power' to enable comparisons between councils of the income they receive from national and local tax payers. This indicator appears to be the best available for identifying how much funding each council receives per household to provide local services. The graph below shows that using the Government's own calculation TWBC has by far the lowest spending power in Kent at just £239 per household (£230 in 2018/19).



2.27 This graph explains why despite being very efficient (as evidenced by the external auditor's clean Annual Audit Letters) and delivering excellent value for money (2015 Residents' Survey) this Council still faces financial challenges to set a balanced budget. In addition any budget gap will widen as more services that generate an income are nationalised (Local Land Charges) and those that cost money are localised (business rate appeals).

# **Digital Transformation**

2.28 It is not possible to keep working harder and faster with fewer resources and still provide safe, effective services. The Council will need to find new ways of working smarter and deliver services in a more digitally efficient form which meets with the way the public now interact with service providers. The Council has a Digital Services and Transformation Team in place to improve operational delivery and transform the way that services are provided. Details of these projects are reported quarterly to Cabinet and the resulting efficiencies will be incorporated in the budget setting process.

# **Budget Calculations and Adequacy of Reserves**

- 2.29 When the budget is set in February the Council's Section 151 Officer must give his view on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves.
- 2.30 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2017/18 to 2021/22 was agreed by Full Council on 22 February 2017 and projected the financial impact of the Council's current and proposed policies in the short and medium term.

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This report and the projections in Appendix A will form an update to the current MTFS.

2.31 It is important to recognise that there are a number of factors that can affect some budgets and where variances could be significant requiring closer budget management; these areas include:

Risk Area	Management
Planning Inquiry Costs	Whilst the primacy of planning is paramount, decisions taken by the Planning Committee can lead to formal planning inquiries which have the potential for substantial costs to arise which are not budgeted for.
Business Rates Retention Scheme	Part of the Council's government grant is now linked to the amount of business rates in the Borough. However, the Government has also transferred the liability for business rate appeals already in the system. To help mitigate the impact of appeals the Council maintains a Grant Volatility Reserve and is part of a Kent & Medway Business Rate Pool/Pilot.
Economic Conditions	The majority of the Council's income is derived from sources which are subject to the prevailing economic conditions.  Economic conditions can also alter the demand for Council services and those provided by partners and the voluntary sector.
Employee Costs	The move to local pay offers some protection but a watching brief is still required especially regarding the vacancy factor. Changes to pensions, national insurance and the introduction of an apprenticeship levy have been included where known but similar further changes can have a significant cost. Demand for some professionals exceeds supply and this is exacerbated by the higher salaries available in London and parts of the private sector.
Welfare Reform	Dependant on rent levels, unemployment rates and the huge uncertainty surrounding much of the legislative changes from Welfare Reform.
Parking Income	Dependant on usage and the economic environment.
Planning and Building Control Income	Dependant on the economy and the impact of legislative changes which limit the full recovery of the cost of providing these services.
Crematorium Income	Dependant on mortality rates.
Contracts	Dependant on inflation indices and a competitive market.
Utilities	Global supply and demand plus above inflation price rises.
Land Charges	The Infrastructure Act will see Local Land Charges centralised into a single computer system. No details of timeframe or how the Land Registry will provide the service have been released.

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Investment Returns	New cash deposits are dependent on interest rates and levels of balances. Property investments are dependent on the type of asset and rental demands.
Targeted Options to Reduce Net Expenditure	Assumes that savings identified are delivered and there are no unintended consequences.
Capital Receipts	Capital is tied up in non-operational assets which if released will help to reduce the use of cash reserves to fund the capital programme.
Capital Programme	Major capital schemes carry a significant risk and are managed through the Council's Strategic Risk Register.
Government Policy and Announcements by Ministers	There has been a significant increase in the volume of legislation and announcements which can undermine strategic planning and compromise budget assumptions.

# **Capital and Revenue Reserves**

2.32 The Medium Term Financial Strategy maintains the following as an adequate level of reserves:

	Minimum
General Reserves (Revenue)	£2.0 million
Capital Reserves	£2.0 million

- 2.33 The reserves and balances are currently forecast to meet the above levels although maintaining this position relies on delivering not just a balanced budget in 2019/20 but a sustainable budget for the future.
- 2.34 In addition to the revenue and capital budget, the Council has earmarked reserves which form part of the Budget and Policy Framework and are available to fund the specific purpose of the reserve in accordance with the virement procedure rules. The projected balances of these reserves are shown below:-

Reserves	Opening Balance 1/4/2018	Movements in Reserves 2018/19	Forecast Closing Balance 31/03/2019
	£000's	£000's	£000's
General Fund	4,000	0	4,000
Earmarked Reserves	12,437	6,466	5,971
Calverley Square Reserve	316	-735	1,051
Capital Grants & Contributions	1,383	0	1,383
Capital Receipts Reserve	2,025	1,025	1,000

Amelia Scott Reserve	1,750	1,012	738
Total Reserves	21,911	7,768	14,143

# **Capital Programme**

- 2.35 At the Full Council meeting on 21 February 2018 the capital programme for 2018/19 to 2021/22 was approved.
- 2.36 Over the course of the past year the Council has made significant efforts to dispose of surplus land and property identified in the Asset Management Plan (AMP) with a view both to deliver capital receipts and to reduce operational running costs. The AMP provides a framework for further such work over the coming year and this work will be funded from a proportion of the capital receipts received (subject to the necessary approvals).
- 2.37 The four-year capital programme will be rolled forward for another year. Any subsequent additions will be considered using the formal application approval process throughout the year.
- 2.38 Below is a summary of new applications to the capital programme which will require Full Council to agree the additional gross funding of £2,643,340.

New Capital Schemes	Gross Cost £000s	Funding £000s	Net TWBC Funding £000s
Replacement of Benhall Mill Depot to enable land disposal	688,000	0	688,000
Permanent Power Supply for Ice Rink in Calverley Grounds	176,000	(176,000)	0
Refurbishment of Packs in the Woods (residential house)	105,800	0	105,800
Town Hall New Fire Alarm	88,000	(29,000)	59,000
Video Conferencing Equipment	12,000	(12,000)	0
Southwood Road Play Area Refurbishment	41,860	(41,860)	0
Calverley Grounds Tennis Courts & Outdoor Gym Equipment	42,680	(42,680)	0
Street Lighting Columns	150,000	0	150,000
Acquisition of Access Land at Hornbeam Avenue	216,000	0	216,000
Asset Management Software	40,000	0	40,000
Acquisition of 3 sites as part of the sports strategy	1,083,000	(397,660)	685,340
Gross Cost of Capital Schemes	2,643,340	(699,200)	1,944,140
Asset Disposals		(2,000,000)	(2,000,000)
Net Funding Requirement of Capital Schemes	2,643,340	(2,699,200)	(55,860)

2.39 The table below shows the forecast impact on reserves at the end of each financial year of delivering the revenue budget and capital programme.

	31-Mar- 18 Actual	31-Mar- 19 Forecast	31-Mar- 20 Forecast	31-Mar- 21 Forecast	31-Mar- 22 Forecast	31-Mar- 23 Forecast
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
General Fund	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Earmarked Reserves	12,437	5,971	4,162	5,496	4,881	4,446
Calverley Square Reserve	316	1,051	856	1,184	924	924
Capital Grants & Contributions	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383
Capital Receipts Reserve	2,025	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Amelia Scott Reserve	1,750	738	2,025	0	0	0
Total Reserves	21,911	14,143	13,426	13,063	12,188	11,753
Outstanding Financing						
33 Monson Road	-1,710	-1,639	-1,568	-1,497	-1,426	-1,355
Dowding House	-2,227	-2,138	-2,049	-1,960	-1,871	-1,782
Calverley Square	0	-5,000	-13,000	-58,000	-77,000	-75,460
Royal Victoria Place	0	-1,050	-1,008	-966	-924	-882
Waste Bins & Caddies	0	-680	-612	-544	-476	-408
Total Outstanding Financing	-3,937	-10,507	-18,237	-62,967	-81,697	-79,887

Note: Schemes not funded from reserves need to be charged to revenue and this repayment is reflected in the reduction in financing over the life of the asset.

- 2.40 Any major new capital scheme will need to be funded from a corresponding new capital receipt or borrowing if the minimum level of reserve balances is to be maintained.
- 2.41 In accordance with section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 the Chief Financial Officer is required to report formally to the Council on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves. It should be noted that section 26 of the Act gives the Secretary of State power to set a minimum level of reserves for which an authority must provide in setting its budget.
- 2.42 At the time of writing this report, I am satisfied with the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves.

Lee M Colyer CPFA

De Melge

Director of Finance, Policy and Development (s151 Officer)

## 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 The budget-setting process is well rehearsed and has largely been successful in delivering a balanced budget and engaging with the public. There may be other alternatives but ultimately the Council must produce a budget which meets its statutory responsibilities.

## 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To agree the content and recommendations of the report to set a balanced budget that will meet the Council's priorities.

## 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

- 5.1 This is the fourth report in the process of setting the 2019/20 budget and builds on the previous views and recommendations of the Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board and Cabinet.
- 5.2 A well-rehearsed process of public engagement has been used.

  Communication has occurred with the Town Forum, Parishes and the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to encourage engagement and feedback.
- 5.3 The draft budget was placed on the Council's consultation portal with a closing date of 16 January 2019. The comments and responses will be included in Appendix C.

# 6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Following the decision by Full Council the budget will be placed onto the Council's website.

# 7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	The Five Year Plan and budget form part of the Council's Policy Framework.	Head of Legal Partnership
Finance and other resources	This report forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.	Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Staffing establishment	Where savings proposals impact on staff then this will be managed in accordance with Human Resources policies.	Head of HR, Customer Service & Culture
Risk management  An assessment of the risk factors underpinning the budget accompanies the final budget report. The Strategic Risk Register also includes a risk on funding streams which is being monitored by Cabinet and the Audit and Governance Committee.		Head of Audit Partnership
Environment and sustainability	The budget has regard to the environmental sustainability priorities within the Five Year Plan.	Sustainability Manager

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Community safety	The budget has regard to the community safety priorities within the Five Year Plan.	Community Safety Manager
Health and Safety	obligations and priorities within the Five Year Plan.	
Health and wellbeing  The budget has regard to the health and wellbeing priorities within the Five Year Plan.		Healthy Lifestyles Co-ordinator
Equalities	Changes to service delivery may impact on equalities; however heads of service will ensure that an equality assessment is in place where this has been identified.	Corporate Governance Officer

# 8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- Appendix A: MTFS Update: Five Year Budget projections
- Appendix B: Net budget cost per service
- Appendix C: Summary of consultation responses (when consultation has closed)
- Appendix D: Pay Policy Statement

# 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None



# Appendix A

# **5 YEAR BUDGET PROJECTIONS**

Year		Annual (Surplus) / Deficit	Explanation
0	2019/20	£000s -	Balanced without use of the General Fund
1	2020/21	191	Fair Funding Review
2	2021/22	140	Inflationary pressures
3	2022/23	245	Inflationary pressures
4	2023/24	268	Inflationary pressures
5	2024/25	288	Inflationary pressures
NET 5 Y	EAR (SURPLUS)/ DEFICIT	1,132	IMPACT ON THE GENERAL FUND

## **Major Assumptions**

- 1 These projections assume Council Tax increases by 3 per cent a year.
- 2 Fees and Charges income is forecast to increase by 3 per cent each year.
- 3 No year on year increase in car parking income.
- 4 Employment costs increase by 2.5 per cent each year.
- 5 Inflationary pressures on contracts of 4 per cent each year.
- 6 Fair funding review reduces the retained business rates baseline by £200,000



# Appendix B

# **BUDGET PER SERVICE**

Budget Code	Description	2018/19 Budget 1	2019/20 Budget 1	Variance
		£	£	£
5001	Chief Executive	150,300	169,290	18,990
5002	Director of Finance, Policy & Development	151,820	145,370	(6,450)
5003	Director of Change & Communities	123,210	126,140	2,930
5010	Head of Finance & Procurement	(1,207,910)	(1,273,110)	(65,200)
5011	Mid Kent Client Services	1,692,240	1,670,560	(21,680)
5012	Head of HR, Customer Service & Culture	931,480	1,707,290	775,810
5013	Head of Housing, Health & Environment	4,403,340	5,639,500	1,236,160
5014	Head of Community Hubs	793,950	0	(793,950)
5018	Head of Economic Development & Property	385,670	248,920	(136,750)
5020	Head of Planning	704,370	884,800	180,430
5022	Head of Communities & Engagement	1,520,620	0	(1,520,620)
5024	Head of Policy & Governance	1,132,070	1,271,660	139,590
5025	Head of Facilities & Community Hubs	1,285,300	1,176,750	(108,550)
5026	Head of Digital Services & Communications	713,620	733,380	19,760
	Budget sub-total per Service	12,780,080	12,500,550	(279,530)
5032	Capital Adjustments	0	200,310	200,310
5035-7	Net Investment Income	(685,440)	(794,850)	(109,410)
5046/9	Transfer (from) to reserves	204,030	692,440	488,410
	Net Budget Requirement	12,298,670	12,598,450	299,780
5040	Retained Business Rates & Government Grants	(4,376,620)	(4,430,150)	(53,530)
5042	Council Tax	(7,854,400)	(8,168,300)	(313,900)
5043	Collection Fund (Surplus)/Deficit	(67,650)	0	67,650
	Revenue Budget	0	0	0



# Appendix C

# **Consultation Responses**

The public consultation closes on 16 January 2019. Full details will be reported to Cabinet and Full Council.



# Pay Policy Statement 2019/20

# **Purpose**

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council believes strongly in transparency and accountability. In addition to publishing the huge range of information we are required to provide by statute, we have always sought to provide additional information in an accessible fashion. In respect of pay, we have always included a table within our statement of accounts that sets out senior officer salaries in bands comparing pay with previous years. From April 2012 all councils are required under Section 38 (1) of the Localism Act 2011 to provide an annual pay policy statement.

The Act specifies that the following must be included in the statement:

- The level and elements of remuneration for each chief officer
- The policy on the remuneration of chief officers upon recruitment
- Any increases and additions to their remuneration including performancerelated pay, bonuses, charges, fees, allowances, benefits in kind and termination payments
- A definition of the 'lowest paid employees' and the policy on the remuneration of this group
- The policy on the relationship between the remuneration of its chief officers and other officers

The purpose of this statement is to enable local taxpayers to take an informed view of whether local decisions on all aspects of remuneration are fair and make best use of public funds.

### **Chief Officers**

This term is defined as including both statutory and non-statutory chief officers and their deputies. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has interpreted this as meaning the following roles:

- Chief Executive (Head of the Paid Service)
- Director of Change and Communities
- Director of Finance, Policy and Development (Section 151 Officer)
- Mid Kent Services Director, is a partnership employee, employed by Maidstone Borough Council and information regarding their pay is published by Maidstone Borough Council
- Heads of Service
- The Head of Legal Services (Monitoring Officer) is a partnership employee, employed by Swale Borough Council and therefore information regarding their pay is published by Swale Borough Council

# **Remuneration of Chief Officers**

Chief Officer	Grade	Market Median (salary at 100% of the grade) £pa	Bonus	Additional benefits and allowances
Chief Executive	CEX	120,000	0	Election fees as Returning Officer
Director of Change and Communities	DIR	92,000	0	
Director of Finance, Policy and Development (Section 151 Officer)	DIR	92,000	0	Retention allowance £10,000
Head of Housing, Health & Environment	SM1	77,300	0	
Head of Economic Development & Property	SM1	77,300	0	Retention allowance £15,000
Head of Planning	SM1	77,300	0	
Head of HR, Customer Service & Culture	SM1	77,300	0	
Head of Finance & Procurement (Deputy S151 Officer)	SM2	66,500	0	Retention allowance £4,936; £1,000 Deputy S151 Officer
Head of Digital Services & Communications	SM2	66,500	0	
Head of Policy & Governance	SM3	57,400	0	
Head of Facilities & Community Hubs	SM3	57,400	0	

The above are effective from 1 April 2019.

### Salaries on recruitment

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is committed to the principles of contribution pay (as set out in a report to the General Purposes Committee on 19 April 2010), and appoints all new starters to the entry zone of the grade (95 per cent) with one exception. The same principle applies to posts that are re-graded to a higher grade through the job evaluation process.

# Lowest paid employees

This term is defined as meaning those employed on the lowest pay scale in the Council's pay structure. The lowest pay scale is Grade B. Following a review of

salaries and a desire to keep pace with the living wage from 1 April 2019, Grade B will start at 100 per cent of the grade, £17,360, and not at 95 per cent.

# Pay determination and pay progression

The Council's contribution pay scheme and severance policies apply equally to all staff, as does the career average pension scheme. Salary ranges are based on the South East Public and Not for Profit sector (excluding London). With the exception of Grade B, each grade runs from 95 -105 per cent, where 100 per cent is the market median and progression along the scale is based solely on contribution and the achievement of agreed objectives. A formal review of pay benchmarking took place in October 2017 and necessitated a cost of living upgrade across all grades from April 2018. The Council reviews its pay scales annually and undertakes a formal benchmarking exercise at least every 3 years, and will continue to do so. There will be no cost of living increase in April 2019.

# Pay multiplier

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has calculated the mean and median salaries of its staff, and the ratios between those and the highest paid member of staff as follows:

Mean Salary 2019/20 = £31,826

Median Salary 2019/20 = £28,405

Chief Executive as a ratio to Mean Salary = 3.96

Chief Executive as a ratio to Median Salary = 4.44

Chief Executive as a ratio to Grade B 100% Salary = 7.25

This Council believes that, as a general principle, the Chief Executive's salary should be no more than ten times that of the lowest paid member of staff.

### **Grade determination**

The Council uses the HAY job evaluation scheme to evaluate the grades of all its jobs from the lowest to the highest paid. The scheme was introduced in 2001. In 2010, the Council commissioned a review of its grading structure and pegged its pay to the market median for the South East Public and Not for Profit sector (excluding London). It was also agreed that the Council would consider on an annual basis whether or not it should re-commission a benchmarking exercise to ensure that the Council remains aligned to the market mid-point of the South East Public and Not for Profit sector (excluding London). This was approved by the General Purposes Committee on 19 April 2010. The Council's benchmarked position was reviewed for the first time in 2014 and again in 2017. The method for this was to adjust individual grades to reflect their market rate. This, together with some adjustment of grades to remove overlaps, and the deletion of the lowest grade ensured that salaries are above the National Living Wage.

# Market supplements/ Retention allowance

Where the evaluated grade of a particular job results in a salary which is below the market mean for that specific role, there is provision for the salary to be increased by the addition of a market supplement or a retention allowance. Market supplements and retention allowances are reviewed at regular intervals as agreed by Management Board and may be withdrawn by giving appropriate notice.

## Leave

Senior Staff listed in this pay statement are entitled to 32 days annual leave, with three further days after five years' continuous local government service and an additional 5 days after 30 years' continuous local government service.

### **Benefits and Allowances**

The Council's benefits and allowances apply equally to all staff, regardless of grade. Benefits for Senior Staff listed in this policy include (in common with all staff): career average pension scheme; salary sacrifice schemes for childcare vouchers; a cycle to work scheme; car loans; a day off a year for volunteering activities within the borough (either individually or as a team-building event); discounted membership of local sports centres and an Employee Assistance Programme giving access to up to six free counselling sessions free of charge. Staff that are required to hold membership of professional bodies as a result of their employment are entitled to reimbursement of their membership fees. Normally this is confined to membership of one professional body only.

Details of allowances currently paid to staff are set out in a report to the General Purposes Committee on 19 April 2010. In respect of elections, the Chief Executive has been appointed as Returning Officer under Section 35 of the Representation of the People Act 1983. This is a personal appointment separate from his other duties and the Returning Officer fee is calculated in accordance with an agreed Kent Scale of Fees. All Council employees are able to volunteer to carry out additional duties associated with elections and will be paid separately for this in accordance with the Kent Scale.

# **National Living Wage**

From 1 April 2016 it became a legal requirement for all workers over the age of 25 to be paid the National Living Wage and the Council is compliant with this requirement. From 1 April 2019 workers over the age of 25 will be paid £8.21 per hour and casual workers under the age of 25 will be paid £7.70 per hour.

# Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board

# 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

# \* Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Reilly – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Head of Service	Jane Fineman – Head of Finance and Procurement
Lead Officer/Author	Clare Hazard – Accountancy Manager
Classification	Non-exempt
Wards affected	All

# This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

# This report relates to the following Five Year Plan Key Objectives:

- A Prosperous Borough
- A Green Borough
- A Confident Borough

This report supports all of the key objectives. The security of the Council's cash and effective cash flow management is vital in order to support all the services provided by the Council. The interest received from the Council's investments is an important source of income in helping the Council set a balanced budget.

Timetable				
Meeting	Date			
Management Board	19 December 2018			
Discussion with Portfolio Holder	10 December 2018			
Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019			
Cabinet	7 February 2019			
Council	27 February 2019			

# \* Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20

# 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20 and recommends that Cabinet proposes that it is adopted by Full Council.
- 1.2 The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy forms part of the Council's financial management arrangements, ensuring a framework for decisions is in place to help maintain the Council's financial position, and support the Council in delivering its priorities.
- 1.3 The Prudential Indicators, Treasury Indicators and Treasury Management Targets included within this strategy help monitor the Council's position throughout the year.

## 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 A requirement under the Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) Treasury Management Code is to prepare a Treasury Management Policy and Strategy setting out the Council's policies for managing investments and borrowing.
- 2.2 Under CIPFA's Prudential Code 2017 the Council should set out Prudential Indicators for the next three years to ensure that the Council's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable.
- 2.3 The suggested Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20 is presented in **Appendix A** to this report.
- 2.4 As well as this annual strategy, the CIPFA Treasury Management Code requires the Council reports as a minimum, a mid year report and an annual treasury report.
- 2.5 This Council meets this requirement by presenting a treasury management monitoring report to Cabinet quarterly with the fourth quarter taking the form of an annual report for the year.

### 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 The Council must prepare a Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for approval by Cabinet and Full Council.

# Agenda Item 11

# 4. PREFERRED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 To agree the content of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy.

# 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 The Council takes advice from Link Asset Services on treasury management activities including investments, borrowing and capital financing.

# 6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Once the adoption of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy has been approved by Full Council it will be put into place commencing 1 April 2019.

# 7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 (LGA 1972) the Section 151 Officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority, including securing effective arrangements for treasury management.	Patricia Narebor, Head of Legal Partnership
Finance and other resources	The net investment interest is an important source of income for the Council's revenue budget.	Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy & Development
Staffing establishment	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Risk management	The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy sets out how the Council aims to control the risks associated with treasury management. The security of the Council's investments is the top priority when making investments and is always considered before yield.	Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy & Development
Environment and sustainability	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Community safety	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager

# Agenda Item 11

Health and Safety	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Health and wellbeing	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Equalities	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager

# 8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

Appendix A: Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2019/20

# 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

# Appendix A



# Treasury Management Policy and Strategy

2019/20

# **CONTENTS**

- 1. INTRODUCTION
- 2. CIPFA REQUIREMENTS
- 3. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT
- 4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES
- 5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
  - 5.1 Current Investment Position
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- 6. ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY
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- 7. MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY
- 8. ROLE OF THE SECTION 151 OFFICER IN TREASURY MANAGEMENT

## 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.1 Background

The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy is one of the Council's key financial strategy documents and sets out the Council's approach to the management of its treasury management activities.

The Council is required to operate a balanced budget, which broadly means that cash raised during the year will meet cash expenditure. Part of treasury management is to ensure that this cash flow is adequately planned, with cash being available when it is needed. Surplus monies are invested in low risk counterparties or instruments, commensurate with the Council's low risk appetite, providing adequate liquidity initially before considering investment return.

The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital programme. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially the longer-term cash flow planning, to ensure that the Council can meet its capital spending obligations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short term loans, or using longer-term cash flow surpluses. On occasion, when it is prudent and economic, any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives.

The contribution the treasury management function makes to the authority is critical, as the balance of debt and investment operations ensure liquidity or the ability to meet spending commitments as they fall due, either on day-to-day revenue or for larger capital projects. The treasury operations will see a balance of the interest costs of debt and the investment income arising from cash deposits affecting the available budget. Since cash balances generally result from reserves and balances, it is paramount to ensure adequate security of the sums invested, as a loss of principal will in effect result in a loss to the General Fund.

Whilst any commercial initiatives or loans to third parties will impact on the treasury function, these activities are generally classed as non-treasury activities, arising usually from capital expenditure, and are separate from the day to day treasury management activities.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) defines treasury management as:

'the management of the authority's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks'.

Revised reporting is required for the 2019/20 reporting cycle due to revisions of the MHCLG Investment Guidance, the MHCLG Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Guidance, the CIPFA Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code. The

# Appendix A

primary reporting changes include the introduction of a capital strategy, to provide a longer term focus to capital plans, and greater reporting requirements surrounding any commercial activity undertaken under the Localism Act 2011. The Capital Strategy is being reported separately.

## 1.2 Reporting Requirements

The Council is currently required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main treasury reports each year, which incorporate a variety of policies, estimates and actuals.

- 1 Prudential and treasury indicators and treasury strategy (this report) this report is forward looking and covers:
  - the capital plans (including prudential indicators)
  - a minimum revenue provision policy (MRP) showing how capital expenditure is charged to revenue over time
  - the treasury management strategy showing how investments and borrowings are to be organised, including treasury indicators
  - an investment strategy showing the parameters on how investments are to be managed
- 2 A mid year management report this is primarily a progress report and will update Members on the capital position, amending any prudential indicators as necessary and whether any policies require revision. This Council additionally provides quarterly report updates.
- 3 An annual treasury report this is a backward looking review document and provides details of a selection of actual prudential and treasury indicators and actual treasury operations compared to the estimates within the strategy. This Council produces this as the fourth quarter monitoring report.

## 2. CIPFA REQUIREMENTS

The Council has adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management Code.

The primary requirements of the Code are as follows:

- Creation and maintenance of a Treasury Management Policy Statement stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of the Council's treasury management activities (Section 3).
- Creation and maintenance of suitable Treasury Management Practices which set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives, and prescribing how it will manage and control those activities (Section 4).
- Receipt by Full Council of an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement (Section 5) including the Annual Investment Strategy (Section 6) and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy (Section 7) for the year ahead.
- Production of a mid year review report and an annual report covering activities during the previous year (this Council presents a quarterly monitoring report to Cabinet with the fourth quarter taking the form of an annual review).
- Delegation by the Council of responsibilities for implementing and regular monitoring of its treasury management polices and practices and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions (this Council delegates responsibility for implementation and monitoring treasury management to Cabinet and responsibility for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Section 151 Officer. The role of the Section 151 Officer in treasury management is described in Section 8).
- Delegation by the Council of the role of scrutiny for treasury management strategy and policies to a specific named body (this Council delegates this responsibility to the Audit and Governance Committee).

## 3. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The policies and objectives of the Council's treasury management activities are as follows:

1. This Council defines its treasury management activities as

'The management of the authority's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks'.

- 2. This Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the Council, and any financial instruments entered into to manage these risks.
- 3. This Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable comprehensive performance management techniques, within the context of effective risk management.

## 4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The Council has created and maintains the following Treasury Management Practices (TMPs). These TMPs set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve its policies and objectives and how it will manage and control these activities.

- TMP 1: Risk Management
- TMP 2: Performance Management
- TMP 3: Decision making and analysis
- TMP 4: Approved instruments, methods and techniques
- TMP 5: Organisation, clarity and segregation of responsibilities, and dealing arrangements
- TMP 6: Reporting requirements and management information arrangements
- TMP 7: Budgeting, accounting and audit arrangements
- TMP 8: Cash and cash flow management
- TMP 9: Money laundering
- TMP 10: Training and qualifications
- TMP 11: Use of external service providers
- TMP 12: Corporate governance

The Treasury Management Practices are regularly updated and further details of these can be found within the Finance Section.

## 5. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

#### 5.1 Current Portfolio Position

As at 30 November 2018 the Council had £37.8 million within its investments and bank account monies. The forecast equated principal for 2018/19 is estimated to be £40.1 million. The forecast average interest rate to be earned in 2018/19 is estimated at 1.73%. This compares to the current base rate of 0.75% and will earn the Council approximately £693,000 in interest. All the Council's investments are held within the United Kingdom.

As at 30 November 2018 the Council had borrowed funds of £4.0 million from the Public Works Loans Board. This was borrowed in July 2010 and has been used for property purchases.

## 5.2 Prospects for Interest Rates

The Council has appointed Link Asset Services as treasury advisor and part of their service is to assist the Council to formulate a view on interest rates. The following table gives their central view:

	Forecast
Dec 2018	0.75%
Mar 2019	0.75%
Jun 2019	1.00%
Sep 2019	1.00%
Dec 2019	1.00%
Mar 2020	1.25%
Jun 2020	1.25%
Sep 2020	1.25%
Dec 2020	1.50%
Mar 2021	1.50%
Jun 2021	1.75%
Sep 2021	1.75%
Dec 2021	1.75%
Mar 2022	2.00%

These forecasts have been reflected in the Council's interest budget calculations.

The flow of generally positive economic statistics after the quarter ended 30 June meant that that the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) came to a decision on 2 August to make the first increase in Bank Rate above 0.50% since the financial crash, from 0.50% to 0.75%. Growth has been healthy since that meeting, but is expected to weaken during the last quarter of 2018. At their November meeting, the MPC left Bank Rate unchanged, but expressed some concern at the Chancellor's fiscal stimulus in his Budget, which could increase inflationary pressures. However, it is unlikely that the MPC would increase Bank Rate in February 2019, ahead of the deadline in March for Brexit. The next increase in

Bank Rate is therefore forecast to be in May 2019, followed by increases in February and November 2020, before ending up at 2.0% in February 2022.

Investment returns are likely to remain low during 2019/20 but to be on a gently rising trend over the next few years. Borrowing interest rates have been volatile so far in 2018/19 and have increased modestly since summer.

# 5.3 Borrowing Strategy

The Council borrowed £20 million in July 2010 for funding property investment. As at the 1 April 2019 there will be a balance of £3 million outstanding, of which £2 million will be repaid during the financial year 2019/20.

The Council is currently maintaining an under-borrowed position. This means that the capital borrowing need (the CFR) has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This strategy is prudent as investment returns are low and counterparty risk is still an issue that needs to be considered. Against this background, and the risks within the economic forecast, caution will be adopted with the 2019/20 treasury operations. The Director of Finance, Policy & Development will monitor interest rates in financial markets and adopt a pragmatic approach to changing circumstances.

Link Asset Services forecast for the PWLB borrowing rates is as follows:

	5 year	10 year	25 year	50 year
Current	1.72%	1.85%	2.46%	2.59%
Dec 2018	2.00%	2.50%	2.90%	2.70%
Mar 2019	2.10%	2.50%	2.90%	2.70%
Jun 2019	2.20%	2.60%	3.00%	2.80%
Sep 2019	2.20%	2.60%	3.10%	2.90%
Dec 2019	2.30%	2.70%	3.10%	2.90%
Mar 2020	2.30%	2.80%	3.20%	3.00%
Jun 2020	2.40%	2.90%	3.30%	3.10%
Sep 2020	2.50%	2.90%	3.30%	3.10%
Dec 2020	2.50%	3.00%	3.40%	3.20%
Mar 2021	2.60%	3.00%	3.40%	3.20%

These rates include a Government reduction of 0.20% which is given to authorities who provide information on their plans for long term borrowing and associated capital spend.

The Council will consider borrowing from the following:

- Temporary Borrowing from the money markets or other local authorities
- Public Works Loans Board (PWLB)
- Long term fixed rate market loans at rates significantly below PWLB rates

The Council will not borrow more than or in advance of its needs purely in order to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed. Any decision to borrow in advance will be within forward approved Capital Financing Requirement estimates, and will be considered carefully to ensure that value for money can be demonstrated and that the Council can ensure the security of such funds.

The Council will continue to take a flexible approach with regards to the funding of capital acquisitions. These schemes may involve the use of borrowing where it is considered to be advantageous and such decisions will be taken by the Director of Finance, Policy and Development in accordance with market conditions at that time.

### 5.4 Prudential Indicators 2019/20 to 2021/22

The Council's capital expenditure plans are a key driver of treasury management activities. The output of the capital expenditure plans is reflected in the prudential indicators, which are designed to assist Member's overview and confirm capital expenditure plans.

The Prudential Indicators for 2019/20 to 2021/22 are set out below:

## - Capital Expenditure

This prudential indicator is a summary of the Council's capital expenditure plans, both those agreed previously, and those forming part of this budget cycle.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Actual £000's	Estimate £000's	Estimate £000's	Estimate £000's	Estimate £000's
	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Capital Expenditure	2,998	19,279	15,617	52,606	28,914

The table below summarises the above capital expenditure plans and how these plans are being financed by capital or revenue resources. Any shortfall results in a funding borrowing need.

	2017/18 Actual £000's	2018/19 Estimate £000's	2019/20 Estimate £000's	2020/21 Estimate £000's	2021/22 Estimate £000's
Capital Receipts	683	3,425	0	0	9,000
External Contributions	1,908	4,413	4,424	2,624	824
Earmarked Reserves	407	7,441	2,513	4,982	90
Net Financing Need	0	4,000	8,680	45,000	19,000

### - The Council's Borrowing Need

This prudential indicator is the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for either

from revenue or capital resources. It is essentially a measure of the Council's indebtedness and so its underlying borrowing need. Any capital expenditure above, which has not immediately been paid for through a revenue or capital resource, will increase the CFR.

The CFR does not increase indefinitely, as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the indebtedness in line with each assets life, and so charges the economic consumption of capital assets as they are used.

	2017/18 Actual £000's	2018/19 Estimate £000's	2019/20 Estimate £000's	2020/21 Estimate £000's	2021/22 Estimate £000's
Capital Financing	2000 0	2000 0	2000 0	2000 0	2000 0
Requirement					
Total CFR	3,936	7,776	16,296	61,068	79,840
Movement in CFR	0	3,840	8,520	44,772	18,772
Movement in CFR					
represented by					
Net financing for year	0	4,000	8,680	45,000	19,000
Less MRP	0	-160	-160	-228	-228
Movement in CFR	0	3,840	8,520	44,772	18,772

#### - Core Funds and Expected Investment Balances

The application of resources to either finance capital expenditure or other budget decisions to support the revenue budget will have an ongoing impact on investments unless resources are supplemented each year from new sources. Detailed below are estimates of the year end balances for each resource and anticipated day-to-day cash flow balances.

	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Actual	Estimate	Estimate	<b>Estimate</b>	Estimate
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Reserve balances	16,753	11,362	8,729	10,114	9,549
Capital receipts	3,775	1,738	3,025	1,000	1,000
Other	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383	1,383
Total Core Funds	21,911	14,483	13,137	12,497	11,932
Working Capital	5,089	7,517	6,863	5,503	4,068
Investments Estimate	27,000	22,000	20,000	18,000	16,000

#### - Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital, borrowing and long term obligation costs net of investment income, against net revenue stream

	2017/18 Actual £000's	2018/19 Estimate £000's	2019/20 Estimate £000's	2020/21 Estimate £000's	2021/22 Estimate £000's
Net Cost of Services	14,372	13,858	12,493	12,528	12,891
Borrowing Costs	145	98	50	2,113	2,092
Percentage	1.0%	0.7%	0.4%	16.9%	16.2%

#### 5.5 Treasury Indicators 2019/20 to 2021/22

The Treasury Management Code requires that Local Authorities set a number of indicators for treasury performance in addition to the Prudential Indicators which fall under the Prudential Code.

The Treasury Indicators for 2019/20 to 2021/22 are set out below:

#### - Limits to Borrowing Activity

The operational boundary is the limit beyond which external debt is not normally expected to exceed. In most cases this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual debt and the ability to fund under borrowing by other cash resources.

	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Operational Boundary	97,000	97,000	97,000	97,000

The authorised limit for external debt represents a control on the maximum level of borrowing. It represents a legal limit beyond which external debt is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by Full Council. It reflects the level of external debt which, whilst not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term.

	2018/19 Estimate £000's	2019/20 Estimate £000's	2020/21 Estimate £000's	2021/22 Estimate £000's
Authorised Limit for				
External Debt	97,000	97,000	97,000	97,000

#### - Maturity Structure of Borrowing

These gross limits are set to reduce the Council's exposure to large fixed sums falling due for refinancing, and are required for upper and lower limits.

#### 6. ANNUAL INVESTMENT STRATEGY

#### 6.1 Investment Policy

The Council's investment policy has regard to the following:

- MHCLG's Guidance on Local Government Investments
- CIPFA Treasury Management in Public Services Code of Practice and Cross Sectoral Guidance Notes
- CIPFA Treasury Management Guidance Notes 2018

The Council's investment priorities will be:

- (a) the security of capital and
- (b) the liquidity of its investments
- (c) return

The Council aims to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity. The risk appetite of this Council is low in order to give priority to security of its investments.

The above guidance from the MHCLG and CIPFA places a high priority on the management of risk. This authority has adopted a prudent approach to managing risk and defines its risk appetite by the following means:

- minimum acceptable credit criteria are applied in order to generate a list of high creditworthy counterparties. This also enables diversification and thus avoidance of concentration risk. The key ratings used to monitor counterparties are the short term and long term ratings.
- Ratings will not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution. It is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector on both a micro and macro basis and in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutions operate. The assessment will also take account of information that reflects the opinion of the markets. To achieve this consideration the Council will engage with its advisors to maintain a monitor on market pricing and overlay that information on top of the credit ratings.

In accordance with guidance from the DCLG and CIPFA, and in order to minimise the risk to investments, the Council stipulates the minimum acceptable credit quality of counterparties for inclusion on the lending list. Furthermore, the Council recognises that ratings should not be the sole determinant of the quality of an institution and that it is important to continually assess and monitor the financial sector in relation to the economic and political environments in which institutes operate.

The Council will invest in property within the borough that is strategically important for the economic vitality of the borough and in doing so improves the longer term revenue and capital position of the Council.

The Council recognises that investment in other financial assets and property primarily for financial return, taken for non-treasury management purposes requires careful investment management. Such activity includes loans supporting service outcomes, investments in subsidiaries, and investment property portfolios.

The Council will ensure that all the organisation's investments are covered in the capital programme and investment strategy and will set out, where relevant, the organisation's risk appetite and specific policies and arrangements for non-treasury investments. It will be recognised that the risk appetite for these activities may differ from that for treasury management.

The organisation will maintain a schedule setting out a summary of existing material investments, subsidiaries, joint ventures and liabilities including financial guarantees and the organisation's risk exposure.

The borrowing of monies purely to invest or on-lend and make a return is unlawful and this Council will not engage in such activity.

#### 6.2 Creditworthiness Policy

The primary principle governing the Council's investment criteria is the security of its investments, although the yield or return on the investment is also a key consideration. After this main principle the Council will ensure that:

- It maintains a policy covering the categories of investment types it will invest in, criteria for choosing investment counterparties with adequate security, and monitoring their security.
- It has sufficient liquidity in its investments. For this purpose it will set out procedures for determining the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed. These procedures also apply to the Council's prudential indicators covering the maximum principal sums invested.

The Director of Finance, Policy and Development will maintain a counterparty list in compliance with the following criteria and will revise the criteria and submit them to Cabinet for approval as necessary.

This Council uses Fitch as its main agency but also monitors ratings from the other agencies, Moodys and Standard and Poors. In line with Link Asset Services the Council focuses on the short and long term ratings of an institution. These are defined as follows:

Long Term Long-term ratings consider periods of longer than 13 months and are a benchmark measure of the probability of default.

Short Term Short-term ratings place greater emphasis on the liquidity necessary to meet financial commitments in a timely manner.

Link Asset Services provides the Council with information on Credit Default Swap spreads, which give an early warning of likely changes in credit ratings, which the Council also takes into account.

All credit ratings are monitored weekly and the Council is alerted to changes in ratings through its use of the Link Asset Services creditworthiness service. If a downgrade results in the counterparty no longer meeting the Council's minimum criteria, its further use as a new investment will be withdrawn immediately.

#### **6.3** Proposed Limits 2019/20

The proposed investment criteria and limits for 2019/20 are:

 Banks – the Council will only use banks which are UK banks or are non-UK and domiciled in a country which has a minimum sovereign long term rating of AAA and have the following Fitch credit rating:

Long	Short	Maximum	Maximum
Term	Term	Investment	Duration
AA+ AA AA-	F1+	£20 million	5 years
A+ A A-	F1	£10 million	3 years

- Part Nationalised UK Banks Royal Bank of Scotland.
   This can be included provided it continues to be part nationalised or it meets the criteria in the Banks category above.
- The Council's own banker Lloyds Banking Group The Council has its bank account with Lloyds who as well as providing banking services accept Treasury Management Deposits. Having accepted that Lloyds is sufficiently secure to undertake our banking arrangements it is proposed to include them within the same top rating as banks. This will ensure that deposits and overnight current balances do not breach the current Treasury Management Policy.

Maximum	Maximum
Investment	Duration
£20 million	5 years

It is proposed that the limit applies to investment deposits and is in addition to the amount held in the Lloyds current account. This is because the Council has negotiated an advantageous rate of interest paid by Lloyds for its current account balances which is often more favourable than placing a longer term investment.

- Bank subsidiary and treasury operation the Council will use these where the parent bank has provided an appropriate guarantee or has the necessary ratings outlined above.
- Building Societies the Council will use all societies which meet the ratings for banks outlined above.
- Money Market Funds (rated AAA) a maximum investment per body of £5 million up to a maximum duration of 5 years
- Local Authorities a maximum investment per body of £5 million up to a maximum duration of 5 years
- UK Government DMADF account a maximum investment of £30 million up to a maximum duration of 5 years.
- UK Government Gilts and treasury bills a maximum investment of £10 million up to a maximum duration of 5 years.
- Bonds issued by multilateral development banks (AAA rated) a maximum investment of £5 million up to a maximum duration of 1 year.
- Collective Investment Schemes (Pooled Funds) on advice from Link Asset Services up to a maximum of £10 million.
- Investment in organisations for the purposes of improving the Council's Assets –
  following a satisfactory external credit report. A maximum investment of £5 million
  per body up to a maximum duration of 5 years.

The Director of Finance, Policy and Development will continue to consider all investment decisions on an individual basis and investments will not be made based only on satisfying the criteria set out above.

#### 6.4 Interest Budget 2019/20

The interest income included in the 2018/19 budget was £623,000 and it is expected this will be over achieved by an additional £70,000. The interest cost from the current PWLB loan is budgeted at £97,710.

The estimated average funds available for investment in 2019/20 are £39.5 million. This includes money that it is expected is kept in the Council's bank account throughout the year rather than invested. The Council's existing investments in 2019/20 equate to £1.2 million of this at a rate of 1.00% resulting in interest of £12,000.

The Council currently has £9 million worth of units in The Local Authorities' Property Fund which pays a dividend to the Council on a quarterly basis. It is expected that the Council will keep the £9 million of units with the Fund during the course of 2019/20. An average rate, net of fees, of 4.86% has been applied which results in interest of £437,000.

It is estimated that, on average, a rate of 0.81% will be achieved on the remaining funds of £29.3 million resulting in interest of £238,000. The rate is low compared to the rest of the portfolio as much of this money will need to be kept short term to meet the Council's cash flow requirements. This, along with the £12,000 from existing investments and £437,000 from the Property Fund, brings the total interest budget to £687,000, an overall average rate of interest of 1.74%.

The interest to be charged on the existing PWLB loan for 2019/20 is £50,000.

In summary the estimated position is as follows:

 Interest Received
 £687,000

 Interest Cost
 £50,000

 Net Interest
 £637,000

#### 6.5 Treasury Management Targets 2019/20

The Treasury Management targets for 2019/20 are:

- 1 To achieve an average investment rate of 1.74% in 2019/20;
- 2 Longer term investment decisions (in excess of one year) to be made in the context of a minimum investment rate of 0.75% in 2019/20, 1.00% in 2020/21 and 1.25% in 2021/22; and
- Overall cash flow will be managed to achieve a nil borrowing requirement although borrowing will be considered an option where it is prudent to do so.

The annual strategy and targets will need to take into account changing market conditions. Therefore the Director of Finance, Policy and Development will make investment decisions in accordance with market conditions prevailing at the time. Changes to the general strategy position will be reported to the next appropriate Cabinet.

#### 7. MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION POLICY

Where a Local Authority finances capital expenditure by debt, it must put aside resources to repay that debt in later years. This amount is charged to the revenue budget for the repayment of debt and is known as Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). It is also allowed to undertake additional voluntary payments if required, Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

MHCLG regulations have been issued which require the Full Council to approve an MRP statement in advance of each year. The Councils can choose its method for calculating MRP long as there is a prudent provision.

The proposed Policy Statement for 2019/20 is below:

#### **Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement**

From 1 April 2008 for all unsupported borrowing (not supported by the Revenue Support Grant) there are two options for calculating MRP. They are:

- Asset Life Method MRP will be based on the estimated life of the assets, in accordance with the regulations
- Depreciation Method MRP will follow standard depreciation accounting procedures

For capital expenditure financed from borrowing or credit arrangements, the MRP for this Council will be Asset Life Method, with the asset life determined from the outset and MRP charged in the year following the one in which the expenditure occurred. Where expenditure is incurred over more than one year, then the MRP shall commence in the year following the year in which the asset becomes operational. If no life can be reasonably attributed to an asset, such as freehold land, the life should be taken to be a maximum of 50 years.

It is thought that this is the most appropriate method as this provides for the Council to make revenue provision over the estimated life of the asset for which the borrowing is undertaken. In effect, the charge to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure account will be the amount borrowed in respect of the asset, divided by the number of years of estimated life of the asset, and will result in an equal annual amount being charged as MRP.

The regulations require Full Council approval in advance of the year to which the MRP applies. The Council can change the method of calculating MRP on an annual basis but once a method has been approved for a particular year, any assets purchased through borrowing that year must continue to have MRP charged in the same way. The Council cannot change the method of calculating MRP on individual assets.

#### **MRP Overpayments**

A change introduced by the revised MHCLG MRP Guidance was the allowance that any charges made over the statutory minimum revenue provision (MRP), voluntary provision or overpayments can, if needed, be reclaimed in later years if deemed necessary or prudent. In order for these sums to be reclaimed for use in the budget, this policy must disclose the cumulative overpayment made each year. Up until 31 March 2018 the total VRP overpayments have been nil.

#### 8. ROLE OF THE SECTION 151 OFFICER IN TREASURY MANAGEMENT

The Section 151 officer has the following role in treasury management:

- Recommending clauses, treasury management policy/practices for approval, reviewing the same regularly, and monitoring compliance
- Submitting regular treasury management policy reports
- Submitting budgets and budget variations
- Receiving and reviewing management information reports
- Reviewing the performance of the treasury management function
- Ensuring the adequacy of treasury management resources and skills, and the effective division of responsibilities within the treasury management function
- Ensuring the adequacy of internal audit, and liaising with external audit
- Recommending the appointment of external service providers
- Preparation of a capital strategy ton include capital expenditure, capital financing, non-financial investments and treasury management, with a long term timeframe
- Ensuring that the capital strategy is prudent, sustainable, affordable and prudent in the long term and provides value for money
- Ensuring that due diligence has been carried out on all treasury and non-financial investments and is in accordance with the risk appetite of the authority
- Ensure that the authority has appropriate legal powers to undertake expenditure on non-financial assets and their financing
- Ensuring the proportionality of all investments so that the authority does not undertake a level of investing which exposes the authority to an excessive level of risk compared to its financial resources
- Ensuring that an adequate governance process is in place for the approval, monitoring and ongoing risk management of all non-financial investments and long term liabilities
- Provision to members of a schedule of all non-treasury investments including material investments in subsidiaries, joint ventures, loans and financial guarantees
- Ensuring that members are adequately informed and understand the risk exposures taken on by an authority
- Ensuring that the authority has adequate expertise, either in house or externally provided, to carry out the above

• Creation of Treasury Management Practices which specifically deal with how non treasury investments will be carried out and managed

# **Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board**

### 15 January 2019

Is the final decision on the recommendations in this report to be made at this meeting?

No

# \* Capital Strategy 2019/20

Final Decision-Maker	Full Council
Portfolio Holder(s)	Councillor David Reilly – Portfolio Holder for Finance and Governance
Lead Director	Lee Colyer – Director of Finance, Policy and Development
Head of Service	Jane Fineman – Head of Finance and Procurement
Lead Officer/Author	Clare Hazard – Accountancy Manager
Classification	Non-exempt
Wards affected	All

#### This report makes the following recommendations to the final decision-maker:

That the Capital Strategy 2019/20, as set out at Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

#### This report relates to the following Five Year Plan Key Objectives:

- A Prosperous Borough
- A Green Borough
- A Confident Borough

The Council's capital budget involves the allocation of financial resources to deliver the Council's key objectives.

Timetable	
Meeting	Date
Management Board	19 December 2018
Discussion with Portfolio Holder	10 December 2018
Cabinet Advisory Board	15 January 2019
Cabinet	24 January 2019
Council	27 February 2019

## \* Capital Strategy 2019/20

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents the Capital Strategy 2019/20 and recommends that Cabinet proposes that it is adopted by Full Council.
- 1.2 The Capital Strategy forms part of the Council's policy and strategy documents, providing guidance on the Council's capital programme and the use of its capital resources. Its aim is to ensure that all elected Members fully understand the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting capital strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite.
- 1.3 The guidance in this strategy complements and supplements the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) revised 2017 Prudential Code and Treasury Management Codes require, for 2019/20 onwards, all local authorities to prepare an additional report, a Capital Strategy report which will provide the following:
  - a high level long term overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services
  - an overview of how the associated risk is managed
  - the implications for future financial sustainability
- 2.2 The Capital Strategy informs the Capital Programme and gives an indication of the likely factors that will have an impact in the budget setting process. The Capital Programme and its financing play an important role in shaping future budget considerations.
- 2.3 The suggested Capital Strategy 2019/20 is presented in **Appendix A** to this report.

#### 3. AVAILABLE OPTIONS

3.1 The Council must prepare a Capital Strategy for approval by Cabinet and Full Council.

#### 4. PREFERED OPTION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

4.1 To agree the content of the Capital Strategy.

#### 5. CONSULTATION RESULTS AND PREVIOUS COMMITTEE FEEDBACK

5.1 The Council takes advice from Link Asset Services on treasury management activities including investments, borrowing and capital financing.

# 6. NEXT STEPS: COMMUNICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECISION

6.1 Once the adoption of the Capital Strategy has been approved by Full Council it will be put into place commencing 1 April 2019.

#### 7. CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES AND IMPLICATIONS

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
Legal including Human Rights Act	Under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 (LGA 1972) the Section 151 Officer has statutory duties in relation to the financial administration and stewardship of the authority, including securing effective arrangements for treasury management.	Patricia Narebor, Head of Legal Partnership
Finance and other resources	This report forms part of the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.	Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy & Development
Staffing establishment	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Risk management	All capital expenditure carries an element of risk which will be considered as part of the decision-making process for individual schemes.	Lee Colyer, Director of Finance, Policy & Development
Environment and sustainability	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Community safety	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Health and Safety	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager

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Health and wellbeing	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager
Equalities	No implications	Clare Hazard, Accountancy Manager

#### 8. REPORT APPENDICES

The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

• Appendix A: Capital Strategy 2019/20

#### 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None



# **Capital Strategy**

2019/20

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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The CIPFA revised 2017 Prudential and Treasury Management Codes require, for 2019/20 onwards, all local authorities to prepare a Capital Strategy report, which will provide the following:

- a high level long term overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of services
- an overview of how the associated risk is managed
- the implications for future financial sustainability

The aim of this Capital Strategy is to ensure that all elected Members fully understand the overall long-term policy objectives and resulting capital strategy requirements, governance procedures and risk appetite.

The capital strategy has direct links to other key strategic and policy documents, such as:

- The Five Year Plan
- The Local Plan
- Asset Management Plan
- Treasury Management Policy and Strategy
- Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)
- Transport Strategy
- Capital Programme
- Procurement Strategy

The Capital Strategy complements the key documents above by defining the approach, structure and governance for the effective financing and management of our capital investment needs and ambitions. It outlines how the Council's existing capital resources will be effectively managed to meet the planned needs and opportunities for meeting the ambitions for future longer term capital investments.

This strategy will be updated annually to reflect changes in circumstances that may affect the strategy.

#### 2. THE COUNCIL'S VISION AND PRIORITIES

Capital plan schemes should emerge from, or be designed to achieve, the Council's strategic priorities and objectives set out in The Five Year Plan. The Strategy sets out the overarching vision of the Council and the priorities In order to achieve this, as follows:

#### **Our Borough**

- To support a prosperous borough
- To support a well borough
- To support an inclusive borough

#### **Our Services**

- To provide digital choice
- To provide quality services
- To provide responsive services

#### **Our People**

- To have effective leadership
- To have relevant skills
- To have high levels of wellbeing

#### **Providing Value**

- To ensure innovation in our services
- To ensure effective partnership working
- To ensure we operate in a business-like way

The Capital Strategy is supported by a wide range of Strategies and Plans where specific improvement projects and initiatives are cascaded down into section plans across the Council. These section and other plans also cover a range of other priorities, improvements and indicators that are set and managed by individual services.

The Council's capital investment decisions should be in support of its strategic priorities and objectives along with the established criteria used to guide the inclusion of capital plan schemes, and this is an integral part of the evaluation process for each project under consideration. No project should proceed to inclusion within the Capital Programme unless it furthers achievement of the Council's strategic priorities and objectives.

#### 3. LOCAL CONTEXT

#### 3.1 Demographic and Economic Growth

The population of Tunbridge Wells borough has grown by more than the national average, and this trend is set to continue with predicted population growth from 116,100 in 2014 to 122,700 in 2022.

The borough is a place where businesses, retailers and restaurants are keen to set up. Our predicted employment growth is 8.3 per cent by 2024, which is greater than the South East average. Our economy is dependent on the availability of a highly educated workforce. Tunbridge Wells has a higher proportion of jobs in the knowledge economy at 32.9 per cent compared with the average across Kent at 16.8%.

#### 3.2 Access and Commuting

A growing population and successful businesses create significant pressures on our road and rail networks. Tunbridge Wells has some of the slowest journey to work times in Kent, and commuters regularly contend with delays and congestion, which impacts on the economy. However, funding for the highways infrastructure is prioritised by central Government according to the delivery of new homes and jobs. This presents us with a problem because we are already congested, and are restricted on where we can develop.

#### 3.3 Housing Demand

Our economic success and population growth have put pressure on housing demand, and the cost of housing is increasing. The cost of an average semi-detached house has rose by 19 per cent in the four years from 2012 to 2016. To help alleviate this we need to find land for an additional 650 new homes each year.

This is a difficult challenge, given our congestion problems, and because many areas are classed as green belt or areas of outstanding natural beauty. Opportunities to develop are limited, but if we fail to meet it, the housing gap widens.

#### 3.4 Educational Needs

There is growing pressure on places and a need for a number of new primary schools and secondary schools. Tunbridge Wells borough also has a mix of further education and higher education provision which we are keen to build on. We need a range of opportunities for learners and young people, including skilled manual and technical professions.

#### 3.5 Social and Health Inequalities

Much of Tunbridge Wells borough is prosperous and healthy, and we continue to support residents in maintaining healthy lifestyles, and access to good homes, jobs and education. However, our success also masks the social and health inequalities that exist. Some areas are in the 10 per cent most deprived in the country.

#### 3.6 The Rural Areas

Tunbridge Wells borough is home to a number of attractive towns and villages with a rich natural history, a pleasant built environment and thriving rural businesses. Approximately 70 per cent of the land is designated as an area of outstanding natural beauty. Part of the success of Royal Tunbridge Wells is its pleasant setting and easy access to high quality countryside. Our historic towns and villages act as important service centres and are a vital part of the tourism economy.

Larger towns such as Cranbrook, Paddock Wood, and Southborough are essential focal points for the local economy and access to services. Over many years we have worked with parish and town councils in our area to enhance these features and deliver improved services.

#### 3.7 A Destination Town

Royal Tunbridge Wells is rooted in culture, leisure and the arts. It's what first made it a spa-town destination over 400 years ago. Today, the town continues to be a prominent destination, with cultural, leisure and arts opportunities complemented by our beautiful parks and open spaces, our spa town heritage and a wide range of sports and activity clubs on offer. This is a significant benefit to the local economy and for residents across the area.

More people enjoy cultural and arts activities in our area than the average across England. We can capitalise on this, but to do so we need to invest in our facilities.

Our residents value activities for promoting health and wellbeing, but we need to invest in our sports and recreation provision to encourage greater participation. The tourism that comes with being a destination town is an important part of our economy, estimated at £261 million in 2016. We will continue to support the industry, encouraging the growth in visitor accommodation, and promoting an all year round offer of attractions that visitors can enjoy.

#### 3.8 Devolution

A national policy agenda for local Government is to devolve local services to public bodies. Devolution means that services which are currently provided and funded by central Government may be devolved to other public bodies. It also means that services we currently provide as a borough council may be devolved to parish and town councils, or community groups.

This is to ensure that services can be provided at the most local level, where knowledge and choice can be used to provide the best services for residents. The models for local Government are changing to recognise this, which is creating both opportunities and challenges.

#### 3.9 Resources and Finances

Public services are facing unprecedented funding pressures. We are providing for an increasing population, who are growing older, and have higher expectations. While all Councils are facing these challenges, Tunbridge Wells faces particular difficulties.

The grant that we receive from central Government disappeared in 2018/19. In the future, we will need to compete for central Government funding linked to economic and housing growth, but because of our challenges we can't compete on an equal footing with other areas.

#### 4. THE FINANCIAL CONTEXT

#### 4.1 Medium Term Financial Strategy

The MTFS together with the Council's strategic priorities and objectives are used to guide the inclusion of capital programme schemes and form the basis for any capital investment decisions. The MTFS will continue to be a major influence on the 2019/20 and subsequent Capital Programme schemes. The MTFS is updated once a year and the latest version is published on the Council's website.

Capital receipts derived from the sale of capital assets are used as a source of finance for new capital expenditure. The Council's assets are reviewed on a regular basis to identify the potential for disposal.

The demographic and economic features of the Borough give rise to a realistic assessment of very limited opportunities to attract funds from national and regional sources. Nevertheless, the Council will continue to investigate and exploit external funding opportunities.

Capital expenditure is currently funded from the capital and revenue initiatives reserve, grants from government and other bodies, developer contributions and capital receipts derived from the sale of assets.

All government support for the Council's capital expenditure is by way of capital grant. Government support through capital grants is usually ring-fenced for specific purposes. It is the Council's intention to try and secure capital grants, wherever possible, for schemes which advance the Council's strategic priorities and objectives.

#### 4.2 Current Asset Portfolio

The Council holds a significant asset portfolio that supports both its operational activities and non-operational activities.

Category	£'000 31 Mar 18
Land & Buildings	£101,734
Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	£1,956
Infrastructure	£289
Community Assets	£8,231
Asset Under Construction	£2,598
Heritage Assets	£3,491
Investment Property	£1,690
Intangible Assets	£1,180
Total	£121,169

#### 5. PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Our strategic partners help us to deliver our Five Year Plan vision for the Borough of 'encouraging investment and sustainable growth, and enhancing quality of life for all'.

To do this, we work together with a range of different organisations, on a local and regional basis, to achieve the **Eight Big Projects**, the **Partnership Projects** and the **corporate priorities** we have set out for Tunbridge Wells in our Five Year Plan corporate strategy.

#### 5.1 Public Sector

#### Kent County Council:

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council has a strong strategic relationship with Kent County Council (KCC). KCC is helping us to deliver in a range of different ways across the Five Year Plan **Eight Big Projects** and the **Partnership Projects**, including working directly in partnership with us on the Cultural and Learning Hub, the Community Hubs, the Public Realm improvements, and the Sports Strategy. They are also significant consultees on the Local Plan, and support the Borough's ambitions to deliver a new theatre, new civic offices and new car parking for the town of Royal Tunbridge Wells.

#### Parish & Town Councils:

Alongside our close relationship with the County Council, we work closely with our local councils through the Parish Chairmen's Forum, and directly through some of our **Eight Big Projects** and the **Partnership Projects**, such as the Community Hubs for Southborough, Paddock Wood and Cranbrook, and acting as significant consultees on the Local Plan. We have also worked with our parish and town councils over the years to devolve services where appropriate, including off-street car parks, and public conveniences.

#### Mid Kent Services:

Mid Kent Services (MKS) is a delivery vehicle for delivering shared services across Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Maidstone Borough Council, and Swale Borough Council. The three councils work in partnership with one another to deliver outcomes across a wide range of services, and have a close operational relationship. This ensures our Five Year Plan **corporate priorities** of 'innovation', 'partnership' and working in a 'business-like' way, to secure 'quality' and 'responsive' services.

#### West Kent Partnership:

The West Kent Partnership is a strategic economic partnership between Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Sevenoaks District Council, and Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council. The three councils have similar demographic and socio-economic factors which influence their strategic approach to economic development. The West Kent Partnership provides a forum to discuss common approaches and influencing strategies regarding economic develop and infrastructure funding, which will benefit the whole of the West Kent region. This fits in with the Council's Five Year Plan **corporate priority** of ensuring a 'prosperous' borough.

#### Public Service Board:

The Public Service Board brings together a range of different public sector bodies who deliver services in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells, including DWP Jobs Centre Plus, the Probation Service, the Police, Town and Country Housing Group, the Police and Kent County Council, at an officer level. The board discusses strategy and policy implications for the area and explores future opportunities and issues arising. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council hosts the Public Service Board, and is the key authority in terms of driving forward the agenda. This fits in with our **corporate priorities** of 'innovation', 'partnership' and 'quality' and 'responsive' services.

#### Community Safety Partnership:

The Community Safety Partnership is formed from a range of different public authorities, including the Police, the NHS and local councils in order to actively reduce crime and disorder by working together. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is an active partner in the CSP, and hosts a shared community safety partnership hub in the Town Hall. Working together with partners through the CSP is a statutory duty, but also meets the Five Year Plan **corporate priorities** of a 'well' borough, an 'inclusive' borough, 'partnership' working and 'responsive' services.

#### West Kent Improvement Board (WKIB):

The West Kent Improvement Board is a partnership between local authorities within the West Kent Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) footprint (Tunbridge Wells Borough Council being one), the West Kent CCG, and other health and social care providers in the area. Its aim is to guide and influence delivery of the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP) for Kent and Medway, as it applies to West Kent. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is an active partner in the WKIB and uses its resources to help deliver public health and sports initiatives related to the STP, including delivering services under the 'One You Kent' service. This fits in with our Five Year Plan **corporate priority** of ensuring a 'well' borough.

#### Licensing Partnership:

The Licensing Partnership is a delivery vehicle for shared service delivery in licensing. There are three other authorities, alongside Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, who are members of the partnership, and they work in a collaborative way to ensure excellent service delivery. This meets with the Five Year Plan **corporate priorities** of 'innovation' and 'partnership', and 'quality' and 'responsive' service delivery.

#### 5.2 Private Sector

Tunbridge Wells Cultural Consortium (also community and third sector):

The Tunbridge Wells Cultural Consortium has been recently set up so that cultural and leisure offerings from businesses, community groups, the council and the third sector are co-ordinated and used to best effect in terms of attracting visitors and revenue to the town of Royal Tunbridge Wells. This is in line with the Borough Council's Cultural Strategy aspiration of 'being the cultural capital of West Kent'. Culture has been identified by the Borough Council as being key to securing long-term prosperity for the area, which fits in with the **corporate priority** of 'prosperous'.

#### Royal Tunbridge Wells Together:

This is a community interest company which has been set up by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and key businesses in the town of Royal Tunbridge Wells including AXA PPP, RVP, TSP, Cripps and Marker Study. The CIC seeks to collaboratively make Royal Tunbridge Wells a key destination for retail, business, leisure and culture. Again this complements the Cultural Strategy and fits in with the **corporate priority** of 'prosperous' and working in 'partnership'.

#### Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (and SELEP):

The Kent and Medway Economic Partnership, and its parent organisation, the South East Local Economic Partnership are partnerships set up between local businesses and local authorities, with input from the education sector. The role of the partnership is to drive forward and monitor economic growth across the South East region, with Kent and Medway being a sub-region of this. Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is an active member of the Kent and Medway Economic Partnership, and sits on the KMEP Board. Active involvement in KMEP ensures the best outcomes for Tunbridge Wells, and fits in with the **corporate priorities** of 'prosperous' and working in 'partnership'.

#### 5.3 Community and Third Sector

#### Town and Country Housing Group (TCHG):

TCHG is the main provider of social housing within the Borough, and provides social housing accommodation across Kent and East Sussex. The group's headquarters are in Royal Tunbridge Wells, and the Borough Council enjoys a close strategic relationship, working together to deliver one of the **partnership projects** in the Five Year Plan to improve social and health inequalities, where they are linked to housing, which also meets our **corporate priority** of ensuring a 'well' borough.

#### Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum:

The Royal Tunbridge Wells Town Forum is a community forum made up of representatives from residents groups, interest groups and other community groups within the town of Royal Tunbridge Wells. The Forum is supported administratively by the Borough Council. Forum members are consulted on specific topics, issues and ongoing projects that affect the town area, and also look into matters of interest to the community, which may not be on the Council's radar. The Forum is well attended, with between 40 to 50 members of the public attending each meeting, and their feedback is used where possible to inform policy and strategy development. This meets the **corporate priorities** of working in 'partnership' and providing 'responsive' services.

#### 6. PRINCIPLES SUPPORTING THE CAPITAL STRATEGY

The key principles that underpin the Council's Capital Strategy are:

#### 6.1 Strategic Priorities

Establishment of a direct relationship with the Council's strategic priorities and objectives, with the Capital Programme based upon investment needs and prioritised on an authority-wide basis. This demonstrates an explicit link with key strategic planning documents and recognition of the need for a corporate approach to cross-cutting issues such as the environment, social inclusion, affordable housing and community safety.

#### 6.2 Public Consultation

The use of public consultation is, indirectly, an important part of developing the Capital Programme through its use in setting priorities and developing strategies, which may lead to capital projects coming forward.

#### 6.3 Partnerships

Partnerships initiatives are considered in Section 5 which help shape policy objectives and which aim to deliver projects in conjunction with others.

#### 6.4 Procurement Strategy

The Procurement Strategy seeks to ensure that good procurement practice is applied consistently throughout the Council. It sets out how the Council will address procurement and establishes its importance to the Council and the contribution it can make to improved service delivery.

#### 6.5 Availability of External Funding

In support of the Council's strategic priorities and objectives to monitor and pursue available forms of external partnership and other funding opportunities.

#### 6.6 Housing

As a non-stockholding Housing Authority, the Council has a key role to play in the delivery of the strategic housing function covering policy and enabling, private sector housing, and in identifying and addressing housing needs.

#### 6.7 Use of the Council's Assets

Maintenance of an Asset Management Plan and performance measures for the use of Council owned assets to ensure optimum returns and early release of redundant assets in support of strategic investment priorities and to attract inward investment.

#### 6.8 Consideration of the Impact on the Council's Revenue Budget

To ensure that capital investment decisions are consistent with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy, particularly the management of its revenue budget.

#### 6.9 Value for Money

Each year the Council's external auditor gives an opinion on whether the Authority has put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. All of the Capital Programme processes from identification and selection of schemes, through implementation to subsequent review of completed schemes can contribute to achieving value for money.

#### 6.10 Investment in IT

Investment in IT in order to improve efficiency and economy and to meet customer aspirations for self service, particularly via the website; and to enable more flexible and different ways of working to be adopted to support and assist delivery of the Savings and Transformation Strategy.

#### 7. IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGING THE CAPITAL STRATEGY

The Council has developed a process for considering and evaluating potential capital schemes as an integral part of its Capital Strategy. This process for selecting schemes is described below.

Schemes are applied for annually during the budget setting process and categorised into an A List and B List, with the A List being the approved Capital Programme.

The Capital Programme sets out how capital resources are used to achieve the Council's priorities where they are quantifiable. The Council has agreed a number of corporate projects in principle, however budgetary provision is only made when the concepts reach a sufficient stage to enable a business case and costings to be produced.

The Council faces decisions over the use of its reserves in contributing to this agenda and the balance that it wishes to strike between maximising income from asset disposals and using its assets to deliver the Council's priorities.

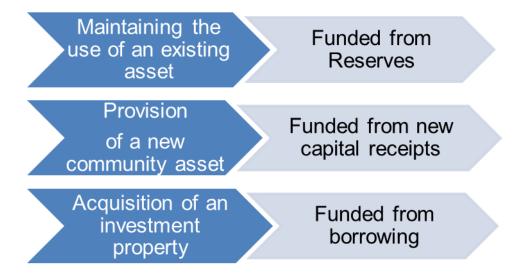
The Capital Programme is now maintained on a four year rolling basis, with Full Council approving the funding in principle of new additions. Detailed applications are new required from Heads of Service for approval by Cabinet.

The main strategic objectives of the Capital Programme, which provides the underlying principles for financial planning, can be summarised as follows:

- To maintain a rolling capital programme which remains within the approved sustainability limits and takes into account any decisions or actions which may have a material impact on future years
- To maintain the Capital Receipts Reserve at no less than £1 million
- To ensure that capital resources are aligned with the Council's strategic plan and corporate priorities
- To maximise available resources by actively seeking external funding, use of planning contributions, use of on-street parking funds and disposal of surplus assets for cash or other contributions;
- To meet remaining commitments from the Capital and Revenue Initiatives Reserve so long as this resource can be maintained;
- Prudential borrowing to be undertaken only where there are sufficient monies to meet in full the implications of capital expenditure, both borrowing and running costs
- To engage local residents in the allocation of capital resources.

The level of reserves will decline as they are used to fund the Capital Programme. New schemes will need specifically to consider alternative funding options, taking into account the cost of using capital reserves and the impact of the revenue budget.

The following Capital Funding Strategy will be used when considering new capital schemes:



The Council has reducing reserves so will need to borrow for strategic purposes to deliver the policy of developing a Property Investment Portfolio (PIP) to provide more secure alternative income streams and to diversify the placing of reserves away from cash deposits for both the objective of diversification of risk and due to the erosion of the value of cash.

The Council is also prepared to borrow money where it is considered to be economically prudent for long term capital projects and assets.

Borrowing for capital purposes is governed by the Prudential Code of Borrowing, introduced in 2017. Local authorities have the freedom to borrow where they determine it to be affordable, sustainable and prudent. This would enable local authorities to fund new borrowing from savings in revenue expenditure or the generation of additional revenue income, for example investment in car parking where this increases income.

#### 8. THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The result of the process described in Section 7 is the Council's Capital Programme. This covers a four year period and is monitored on a quarterly basis. At the end of each quarter a monitoring report is considered by the Council's Management Board and presented to Members at meetings of the Finance and Governance Cabinet Advisory Board and Cabinet.

The current capital programme for 2018/19 to 2021/22 totals £116,416,000, based on the Quarter 2 Capital Management report presented to Cabinet in December 2018. The proposed funding of the programme is shown below:

	£'000
Capital Programme 2018/19	£19,279
Capital Programme 2019/20	£15,617
Capital Programme 2020/21	£52,606
Capital Programme 2021/22	£28,914
Total Gross Expenditure	£116,416
Government Grants	£3,737
HLF Lottery Grant	£7,200
Section 106 Contributions	£340
Other External Contributions	£1,008
Borrowing (PWLB)	£76,680
Sale of Fixed Assets	£12,425
Earmarked Reserves	£1,552
Capital Initiatives Reserves	£13,474
Total Funding	£116,416

The Capital Strategy needs to ensure that any capital investment decisions are both affordable and achieve the priorities set out in the Five Year Plan. The Council is at the point where capital reserves are scarce and as such any investment in assets is likely to have implications on the revenue budget.

The Capital Strategy must therefore recognise the implications of capital investment decisions and ensure that they are in line with Council priorities and financing requirements are robustly evaluated and understood. The availability of staff resources to deliver the capital programme will need to be considered during the budget process.

#### 9. POST IMPLEMENTATION REVIEWS

It is important that any issues relating to the implementation of a Capital Programme project are addressed as soon as possible; either during the project or shortly after completion. The wider issues of the effectiveness and value for money of a project are addressed through a formal system of post-implementation review. Lessons learnt inform future capital programme decision making and part of a system of continuous improvement. Monitoring reports are part of a system of continuous improvement.

#### 10. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITES

With reductions in funding that the Council has faced it is having to look at commercial activities to supplement its income and support service delivery. However, to minimise risk of potential loss of income in the longer term it needs to ensure that any investment opportunities are based upon sound decision making that considers the future likelihood of investment income reducing.

Therefore when making commercial investment decisions the Council will follow the principles set out below:

- Commercial capital investments will only be made to enhance the Council's asset portfolio and will be linked to the delivery of the Five Year Plan.
- Consideration will be given to the economic development potential of any investment decision.
- Expert advice will be sought to ensure any investment decision is based upon sound market intelligence, forecasts for future investment returns and yields that offer sound investment return without risking capital invested.
- Any borrowing linked to investment opportunities is secured upon the potential guaranteed element of the investment return so that any liability can be met from the activity undertaken.
- Investment opportunities will always ensure that the Council's investment is protected as far as possible either through increases in capital value or from guaranteed revenue income.

#### 11. KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

The Council utilises the knowledge and skills of its internal officers when considering capital investment decisions and where necessary it also relies on the expert knowledge of specialist external advisors.

#### 11.1 Internal Staff

The Council employs professionally qualified finance, legal and property officers who are able to offer advice and guidance when considering any capital investment decisions.

Finance staff are professionally qualified and have the necessary experience of how the Council works. They undertake Continuing Professional Development and maintain knowledge and skills through regular technical updates from appropriate bodies.

Legal staff are provided through the Mid Kent Services Legal Partnership. The team are professionally qualified solicitors or legal executives and are regulated by their respective professional bodies. Staff undertake Continuing Professional Development and their rules of conduct require that they have an appropriate level of skill and expertise to deal with the particular matter with which they are dealing.

The Property team is made up of a number of Chartered Surveyors who advise the Council on all property matters. They are members of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and comply with the RICS's rules in relation to Continuing Professional Development.

#### 11.2 External Advisors

The Council uses external advisors where necessary in order to complement the knowledge its own officers hold. Some of these advisors are contracted on long term contracts or are appointed on an ad-hoc basis when necessary. Link Asset Services provide treasury management advice, including investments, borrowing and capital financing.





Exempt Appendix to Property Transaction Report: July – December 2018 (Item 6)

It is proposed that, pursuant to section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the Act, by virtue of paragraph 3 – *Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).* 



By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

Document is Restricted

