



AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Year Ended 31 March 2021

C o n t e n t s
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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NARRATIVE REPORT 2020/21

1. INTRODUCTION

The Narrative Report seeks to provide a summary and straightforward explanation of the often complicated local government finance arrangements. It seeks to summarise the key events during the year, their associated financial impact and hopefully make the Financial Statements easier to understand. The Narrative Report, together with the Annual Governance Statement and the auditor's report, are outside the scope of the formal Accounts, but all of the documents together constitute the Council's Financial Report for 2020/21.

By itself or in conjunction with external partner organisations, the Council remains committed to delivering quality frontline services which its residents want and which will deliver the Council's corporate priorities. Effective financial management at both corporate and service levels is key to delivering services efficiently. The need for this is essential given the significant impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the District coupled with reductions in Government grant funding that local government has faced and is likely to continue to experience in the years to come. These two issues are the biggest challenges being faced across the sector and further information is provided within this report on the impact of the current economic climate on the Authority and the services it provides.

Since the requirement for Value for Money conclusions was introduced, the external auditor's conclusion for the Council has always been unqualified. This means that the Council is classified as having proper arrangements in place to secure value for money. During 2020/21 there have been a number of key areas where the Council has focused its activities in order to monitor delivery of its services against its financial plans and develop a Medium Term Financial Strategy which reflects the challenging economic circumstances that the Council is operating in.

Measures in place to ensure effective financial management include:

- Regular and informative financial management reports – available on demand by service managers and produced quarterly to Executive Board and Scrutiny. The reports are aligned to service performance and any relevant governance issues.
- Sound financial practices across the Council.
- Ensuring that money raised from public taxation is used efficiently and effectively to meet local needs and priorities.
- Ensuring that the five year revenue budget and capital programme projections are robust, appropriate and deliverable, so that services can be maintained at the highest quality possible despite the substantial contraction that is projected to take place in both revenue and capital budgets.
- Continuing Organisational Development which aims to reduce revenue costs and increase income in order to meet the ongoing financial challenges that the Council faces.
- Building on the Strategic Alliance with Boston Borough Council to ensure best use of taxpayer resources to deliver Council services.

I hope that this Narrative Report gives a clear picture of the Statement of Accounts and shows how Council Tax and our other sources of income are used to provide the full range of Council Services. The Financial Statements are required to be prepared in line with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). This means that the Council's Accounts (layout and format) are more consistent with those produced in other sectors of the economy. The Statement of Accounts is required by law and sets out the various statutory and other information required by professional practice.

Please provide any feedback and comments on the format and content of the Financial Statements to enable us to make them as user friendly as possible (e-mail customerservices@e-lindsey.gov.uk).

2. THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Accounts comply with the relevant accounting practices laid down by the Accounting Standards authorities and the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom ('The Code'). Further information is provided within the Accounting Policies section of the Accounts.

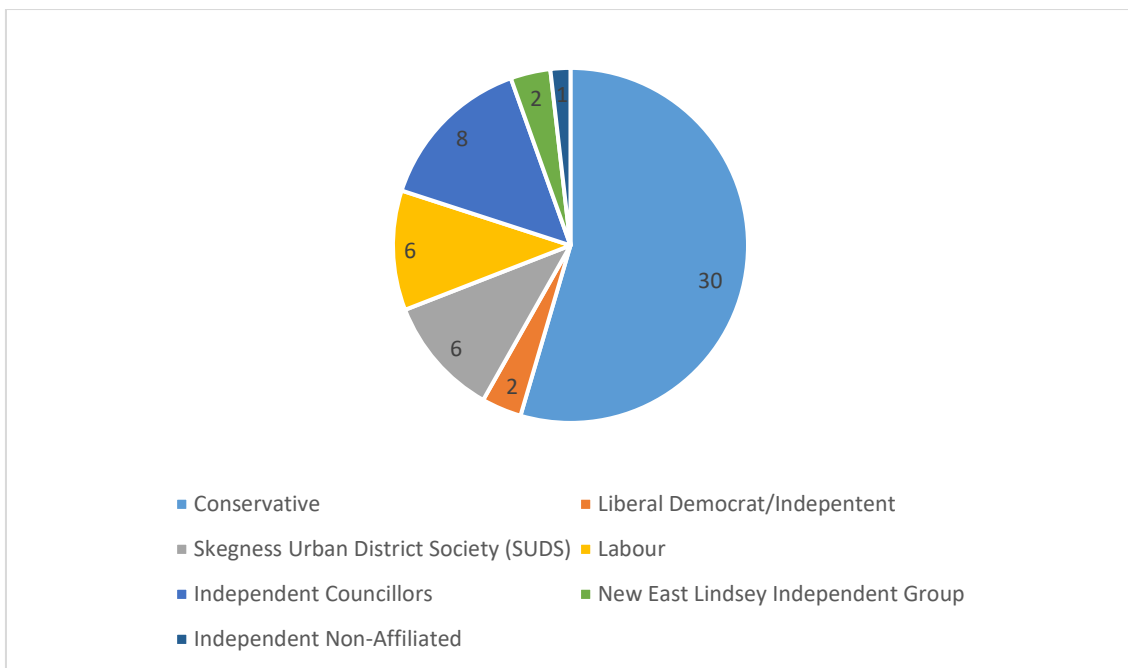
The Accounts give a true and fair view of East Lindsey's financial position for the financial year 2020/21 and the balances as at 31 March 2021. The Council's approved accounting policies have been applied with regard to the Accounts and in producing them, proper and up to date accounting records were kept and all reasonable steps were taken to prevent and detect fraud and any other irregularities.

The Section 151 Officer is the statutory officer responsible for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs (referred to in the Statements as the Chief Financial Officer). They are required by law to confirm that the Council's system of internal control can be relied upon to produce an accurate Statement of Accounts. Their statement of assurance for 2020/21 (known as the Statement of Responsibilities) appears on page 16.

3. SUMMARY OF THE 2020/21 FINANCIAL AND NON FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

3.1 East Lindsey District Council

East Lindsey has 163 parishes, 37 wards, 55 Councillors and, after the elections on 2 May 2019, a political make up as follows:



The Council strives to deliver excellent services and great value for money for its residents. The Council has adopted a Leader and Executive Board model for its political structure, with members of the Executive having a portfolio of service responsibilities. Decisions and actions are scrutinised through an Overview Committee and an Audit and Governance Committee, as set out in its Constitution.

3.2 Service Performance

The Council has a Senior Management Team to support the work of the Councillors and also a team of service managers to support the delivery of services.

The Council's Corporate Strategy 2014-2018 sets out the commitment the Council has made to residents of the District in the areas of economic and skill development, thriving and attractive towns, reduction of inequalities, provision of quality homes and the development of the area as an attractive place for residents and visitors. This is in the process of being updated for the next few years following recent local elections. The Council proactively monitors delivery of its services through a number of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which are linked to priorities within the Corporate Strategy. The KPIs are monitored by the Council's Performance Team and reported to Management Team on a monthly basis and to the Council's Executive Board and Overview Committee on a quarterly basis. In 2020/21 the Council monitored a total of 21 KPIs. Out of the 21 KPIs there are 12 indicators (4 of which were on or above target) which are measured against targets and a further 9 indicators that do not have targets set but are measured against year on year performance (trend indicators). A selection of KPIs at March 2021 is as follows:

Planning Applications (MHCLG targets):	
100% - majors decided in timescale	😊
96.89% - non-majors decided in timescale	😊
Housing and Wellbeing:	
Wellbeing service users supported (Quarter 3)	1,201
520 cases where homelessness has been prevented by action	↓
Waste (provisional figures from Quarter 3):	
Residual waste – 382.37kg per household	↓
Recycling rate – 37.1%	😞
Non-Target recyclate collected – 20.04%	😞
Housing Benefit and Council Tax Support:	
Housing Benefit LA Error Rate – 0.15%	😊
Time to process new benefit claims – 18.11 days	😊
Time to process Benefit change events – 8.30 days	😊

In addition the Council:

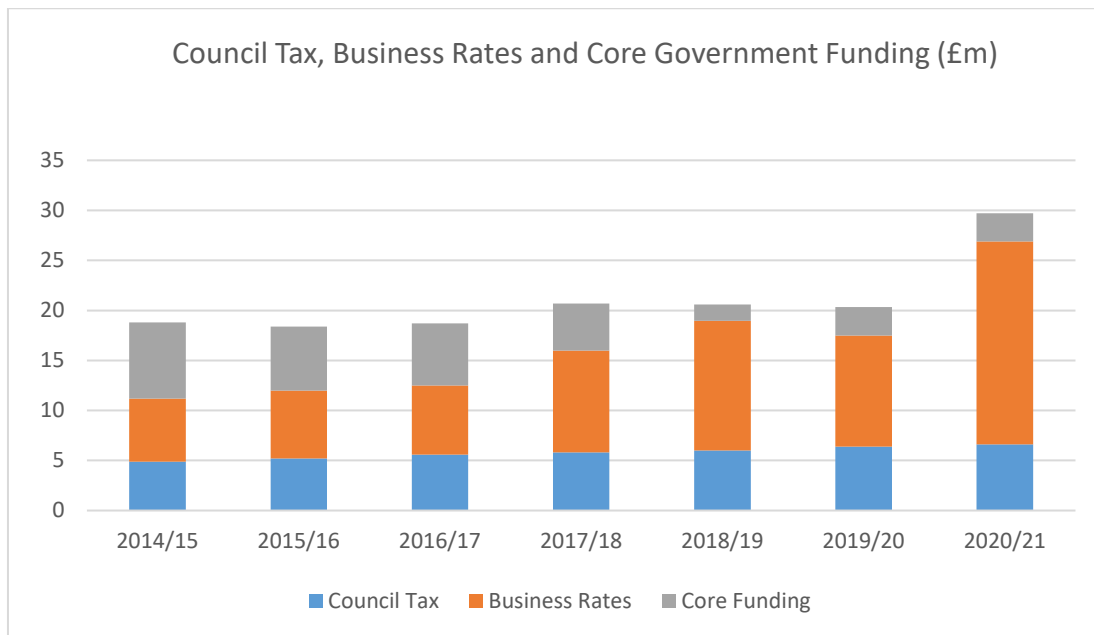
- Entered into a Strategic Alliance with Boston Borough Council, initially creating a shared management team with the goal of having a single workforce to serve both Councils to save ELDC £10.3m over 10 years.
- Continued to support Magna Vitae trust for Leisure and Culture enabling them to reduce their service fee to the Council as part of their new 5 year business plan.
- Agreed a new ten year contract with Public Sector Partnership Services Limited (PSPS) to deliver back office services.
- Continued to progress with plans to relocate it's headquarters to Horncastle with the development of a Public Sector Hub providing a new office for the Council and a range of partners.
- Was successful in securing significant Towns Funding from the Government to help to regenerate Mablethorpe and Skegness
- Continued to grow activities within INVEST East Lindsey.
- Led the response locally to the pandemic by distributing monies to businesses from the government.
- Spent £1.066m on Disabled Facility grants to help disabled residents to continue living independently.
- Worked proactively with many of our more vulnerable residents to provide advice on housing, health, money management and access to education and training.

3.3 Financial Context of the Council

The financial activities of the Council can be split between revenue and capital and, in general terms, can be defined as follows:

- Income and expenditure within the revenue accounts of the Council relate to items consumed within the year on the provision of day to day services.
- Income and expenditure within the capital accounts relate to items with a life in excess of one year and provide or maintain an asset for the Council.

In common with all areas of local government the Council has seen a steady decline in its core funding support from the Government (shown in grey below), which is provided to support revenue expenditure. This has put an increased pressure on levels of Council Tax and against this background the authority has had to demonstrate sound financial management.



*Please note the Government paid section 31 grants for COVID-19 discounts which are shown in 2020/21 but will be used to support the collection fund deficit in 2021/22 hence why it appears above that Business Rates has increased.

In order to continue to deliver the required levels of service, year on year it has delivered annual levels of savings through minimising expenditure and maximising income.

3.4 Council Finances in 2020/21

The accounting statements provide the formal presentational analysis of how the Council has used the resources available to it in the year, and the balances held at the year end. The following paragraphs provide detail on the following information within the Statements:

- The amount of revenue expenditure, how it was paid for and how it compared to budget
- The amount of capital expenditure, how it was paid for and how it compared to budget
- Reserves
- The Balance Sheet or net worth of the Council
- A financial Overview of 2020/21, together with any unusual or material issues to be noted, and
- Future financial challenges.

Revenue Income and Expenditure

To fund its day to day expenditure the Council receives money from various sources. The following section reviews the money received by the Council in 2020/21 and how it was spent.

Income comes primarily from the following sources:

1. Central Government Revenue Support Grant (RSG)
2. Localised Business Rates
3. Council Tax
4. Other government grants e.g. New Homes Bonus, Housing Benefit Subsidy
5. Fees and charges for services
6. Non-government grants from organisations such as Lincolnshire County Council and National Lottery.

The Council's revenue expenditure is aimed at delivering services in accordance with local priorities as well as those services that we have to provide by law.

The Council's Net Revenue Budget, that is gross expenditure less fees and charges and service specific grants, is funded from the estimated levels of Business Rates, some non-specific government grants and Council Tax. The revised net budget for the Council was £32.152m including Parish Precepts.

Table 1 provides a summary of the Council's revenue outturn position for 2020/21.

Portfolio Holder Area	Revised Budget 2020/21	Outturn	Variance from Budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Coastal, Market Town and Rural Economy	490	836	346
Communities	634	133	(501)
Finance	1,865	2,368	503
Leader of the Council	724	(1,931)	(2,655)
Operational Services	5,039	4,597	(442)
Partnerships	6,041	6,441	400
Planning	513	437	(76)
Property	(559)	(1,101)	(542)
Net Service Expenditure	14,747	11,780	(2,967)
IDB and Parish Precepts	6,598	6,598	-
Investment Income	189	(939)	(1,128)
Capital Financing and other adjustments	13,920	2,497	(11,423)
(Increase)/Decrease in Impairment Allowance	100	296	196
Net Transfers (to)/from reserves	(3,402)	8,412	11,814
General Fund Budget	32,152	28,644	(3,508)
Funding (Council Tax, Government grants and business rates)	(32,152)	(32,729)	(577)
Total Budget Surplus	-	(4,085)	(4,085)

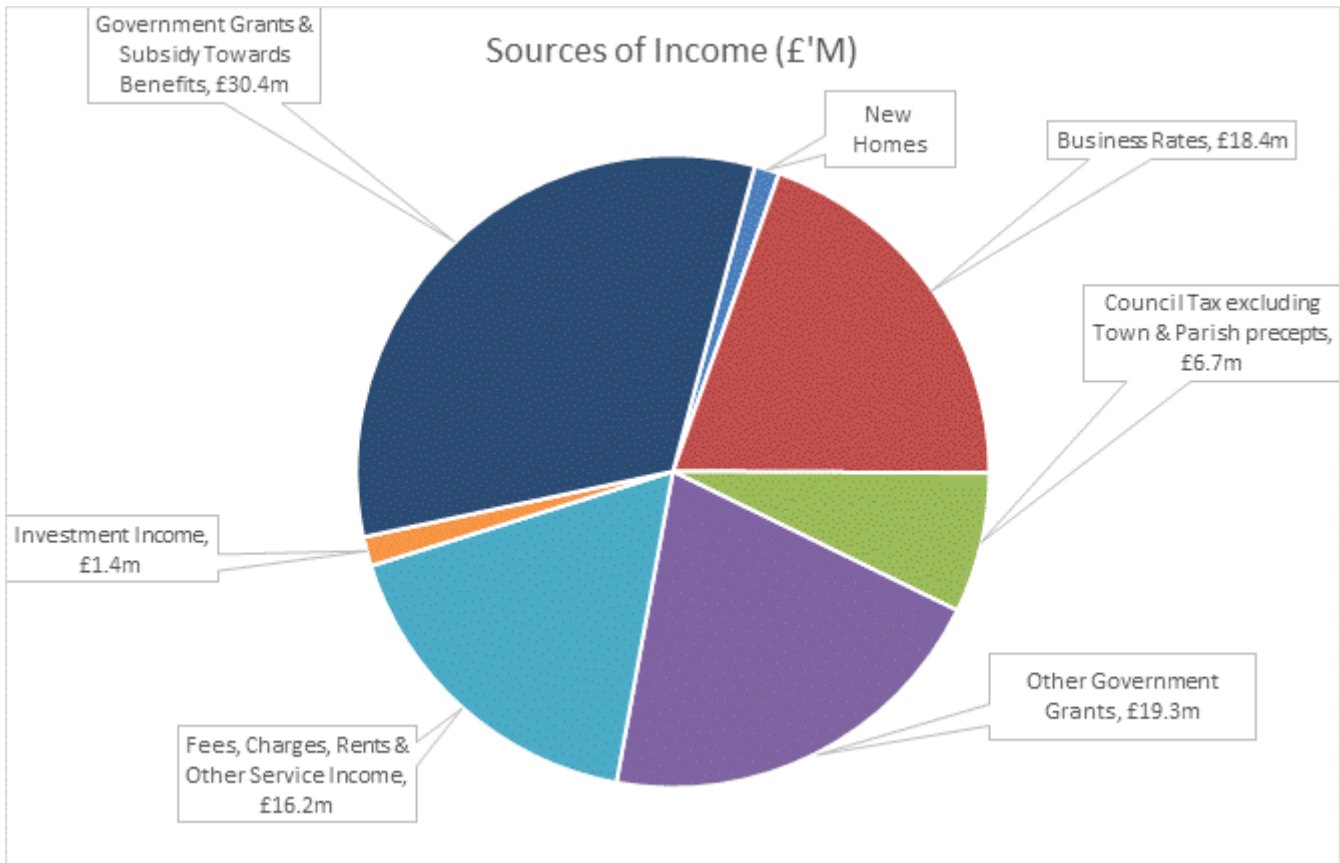
The Expenditure and Funding Analysis on page 41 includes an element of Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services) Income and Expenditure where the above table relates solely to the financial position of East Lindsey.

The Council achieved a £4.085m surplus outturn position after setting a revised budget in June 2020, which released £2m of reserves to meet COVID-19 pressures, predominantly due to reductions in expenditure, the refocusing of staff onto the COVID-19 response and higher grants than expected from the government relating to COVID-19, some of which will be needed in future years as the longer term impacts of the pandemic unfold.

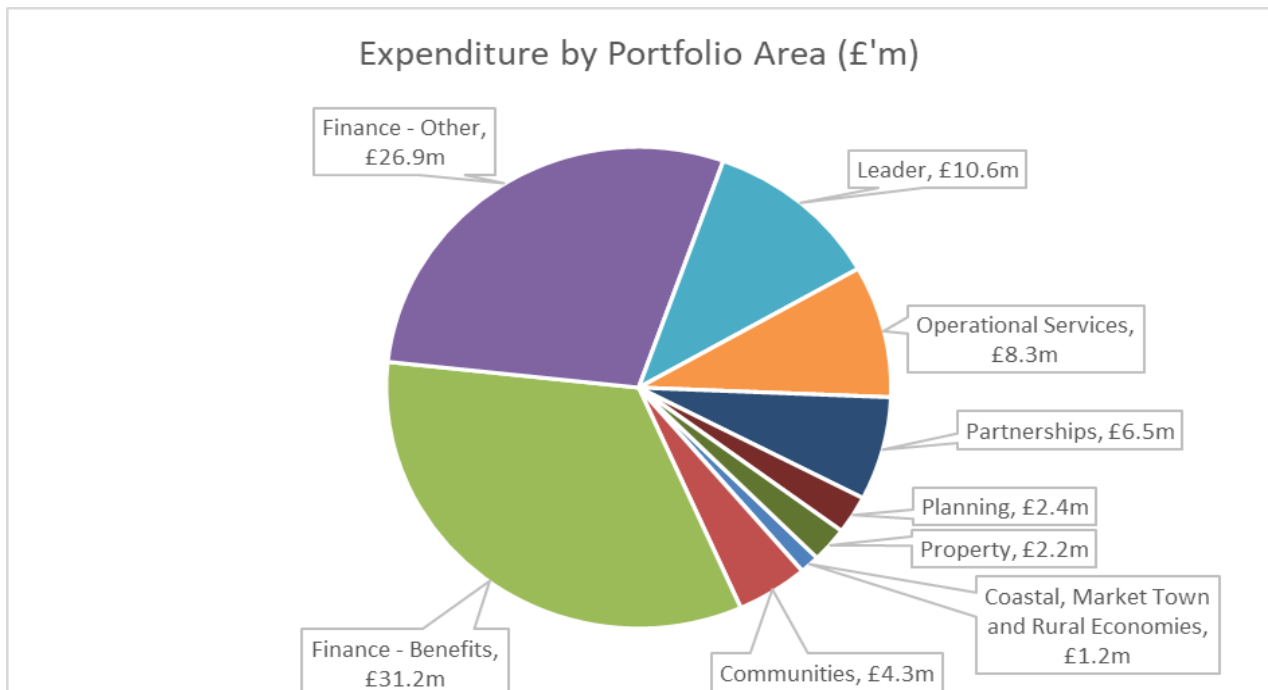
Sources of Funding and Areas of Expenditure

The following charts show where we got our money from in 2020/21 and how it was spent on services (analysed by the relevant Executive Board Portfolio areas of responsibility).

Where the money comes from



What the money was spent on by Portfolio



In 2020/21 the Council Portfolios covered the following services:

1. **Planning:** planning, development control and planning policy, building control, planning enforcement and land charges, caravan and scrap metal licensing.
2. **Partnerships:** Cultural activities, health improvements, sports development and leisure facilities, tourist information centres, customer service centres, information technology services, community safety and CCTV.
3. **Coastal, Market Town and Rural Economies:** economic development, tourism and markets.
4. **Communities:** Affordable housing development, housing and welfare support, homelessness, houses in multiple occupation, disabled facility grants, community grants.
5. **Operational Services:** Waste and trade refuse collection, waste enforcement, environmental protection, flooding and emergency planning, food safety, health and safety, public health, street cleaning, parks, open spaces and play areas, beaches and foreshore, public conveniences, arboriculture, car parks.
6. **Leader:** Public relations and communications, members, elections, Council performance, information management and FOI requests.
7. **Finance:** Corporate resources (Council tax, business rates and government grants), investments, pensions, Internal Drainage Board levies, parish precepts, licensing, housing benefits and subsidies and audit
8. **Property:** caravan parks, property management and Investment Properties

Capital Expenditure

As well as delivering day to day services, the Council also spends money on capital items, which generally become assets. These assets may be property, plant or equipment owned by the Council or grants made to other organisations and individuals towards capital expenditure that they are incurring e.g. grants towards new affordable housing or Disabled Facility Grants. The Council's 2020/21 Capital Strategy, approved at Council in March 2020, provided the framework within which the Council's capital investment plans were to be delivered. The capital programme for 2020/21 to 2024/25 mirrored the Council's overall Medium Term Financial Strategy and aims to ensure that available resources match planned expenditure.

In 2020/21 the Council spent £5.010m on capital projects. Additional unspent budgeted expenditure totalling £15.600m has been carried forward into the 2021/22 capital programme where projects are ongoing.

The main areas of spend and how they were funded are illustrated in the following table.

Capital Outturn 2020/21

Area of expenditure and Funding	Approved capital programme	2020/21 Outturn	Variance under/ (over) budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Capitalised Planned Enhancements	50	9	(41)
Sutton on Sea Colonnade	2,000	399	(1,601)
Skegness Rockery Garden	-	3	3
Gibraltar Rd Wall Collapse	153	-	(153)
Embassy Theatre Fire Curtain	100	109	9
Boat Shed Renovation	20	21	1
Disabled Facilities Grants	1,562	1,272	(290)
Annual general provision for flood alleviation works	-	39	39
Steeping River	50	50	-
Pumping Works on Foreshore	146	-	(146)
Vehicle Purchases	246	122	(124)
Beach Chalets	309	-	(309)
IT Investment	642	245	(397)

Area of expenditure and Funding	Approved capital programme	2020/21 Outturn	Variance under/ (over) budget
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Station Sports	5,000	-	(5,000)
Community Housing Fund	1,400	221	(1,179)
High Wires	-	40	40
Skegness Foreshore Masterplan	750	580	(170)
Traveller Site Purchase	100	-	(100)
PSPS Investment	340	132	(208)
Public Sector Hub	4,712	300	(4,412)
Invest	2,400	1,220	(1,180)
Fleet Maintenance	460	18	(442)
Kingfisher Enhancements	175	13	(162)
Car Park Machines	280	217	(63)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	20,895	5,010	(15,885)
Funding			
Capital Receipts	3,280	489	(2,791)
Reserves and revenue funding	13,941	2,408	(11,533)
External grants	3,674	2,113	(1,561)
TOTAL FUNDING	20,895	5,010	(15,885)

Reserves

The Council holds a number of earmarked reserves to fund future capital and revenue expenditure and to provide some cushion against budgeted future financial pressures. Each reserve has a designated purpose. The estimates for 2020/21 included transfers to earmarked reserves and these were actioned in year.

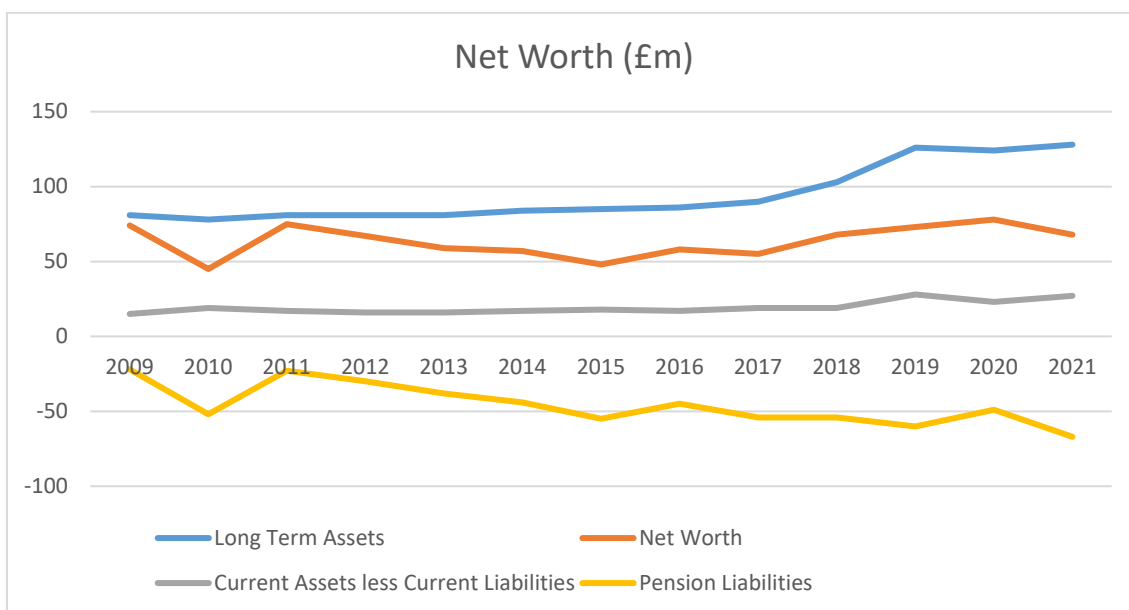
After all transfers to and from reserves the Council's earmarked reserves increased by £13.042m from £22.249m to £35.291m, these are mostly earmarked for the Council's five year Capital Programme.

Additions to reserves of £17.354m included £8.719m of additional Section 31 grant and a contribution from the benefit to the Council of being in a county wide NNDR Pooling arrangement of £1.011m. Reductions in specific reserves of £4.541m were made to fund capital expenditure including IT investment, replacement service vehicles, and to cover self-insurance payments.

Balance Sheet – the Council's net worth (page 20)

The Balance Sheet shows the value of the amounts held, owed to and owed by the Council at 31 March 2021. The values are arrived at in a number of ways and in accordance with the Council's accounting policies. This exercise is only carried out once each year. As such the position over a longer period is not always apparent. The chart below shows how the higher value components of the Balance Sheet, namely Long Term Assets and Pension Liabilities, have affected the Council's overall net worth since the introduction of International Financial Reporting Standards. The position at 31 March 2021 has increased, due to an upwards revaluation of property assets. The actuarial valuation of the pension liability is influenced by a number of factors (see note 36). Further details affecting the values in specific years are included in the relevant year's accounts.

THE COUNCIL'S NET WORTH (£m)



4. FINANCIAL OVERVIEW OF 2020/21

2020/21 saw the COVID-19 pandemic develop across the globe. At the start of the year the Council set a budget that was prudent but recognised in the early months of the financial year that the budget would require swift revision. In the early stages of the pandemic Council approved an emergency budget which used £2m of reserves to offset the projected impacts of the pandemic including a potential reduction in the value of investment properties. At this time the government had only announced a small amount of funding for local government and so it was seen as prudent to plan for potential reductions in income and increased expenditure. As the year progressed the government announced more grant streams and also partial reimbursement of lost sales, fees and charges income and the potential drop in the value of investment properties did not materialise. Some of the funds distributed in 2020/21 could well be required in 2021/22 and onwards due to potential changes in shopping habits, increased working from home and businesses folding therefore excess income at this stage could well be required further into the future when the effects of the pandemic are fully felt.

Having set a balanced budget for 2020/21, the Council's performance in delivering income and expenditure compared to budget was measured through the means of regular reports to portfolio holder meetings and quarterly performance reports to the Executive Board and Overview Committees. Mindful of the continued reductions in government funding in future years, the Council has continued to develop service transformation opportunities to help deliver future budget savings and help protect the Council against financial risks going forward.

In comparison to 2019/20 the Council's cost of the provision of services (see page 17, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – CIES) has decreased from £21.7m to £18.1m (£3.6m decrease). This is mainly because there has been an increase in income during the year.

Further details on the Outturn position are included in the 2020/21 Quarter 4 Governance and Performance report that was presented to Executive Board on 7th July 2021.

Other issues

The Council's net asset position decreased by £9.6m from £77.8m to £68.2m. (See the Balance Sheet at page 20). Long term assets have increased in value by £4.1m, predominantly due to an increase in the values of investment properties and long term investments.

The accounts, whilst largely based on actual income and expenditure, also contain some estimated figures. These estimates are based on assumptions about future positions, and whilst every attempt is made to provide accurate estimates, the future actual position may be more or less materially different from the estimates that are made and the impact of COVID-19 is still not completely known. There is the risk that there may need to be material adjustments to figures in the balance sheet in the forthcoming financial year. The main areas where these risks arise are:

- Pension Liabilities – actuaries have estimated an increase of £17.6m in the net pension liability.
- Debt Recovery – recovery of the council's most significant debts has been assessed and the estimate for non-repayment increased. Collection rates may however improve or deteriorate from this position.
- Business Rates – since the introduction of the Business Rates Retention Scheme, effective from 1 April 2013, local authorities are liable for successful appeals against business rates charged to businesses in 2020/21 and earlier years. A provision has been made in the accounts based on the best estimate of the amount that businesses have potentially been overcharged up to the 31 March 2021. This estimate has been calculated using the latest Valuation Office list of outstanding appeals with an assessment being made of the likely impact of those appeals. There is some uncertainty around the accuracy of estimating the likely success of these appeals. The Council's share of the estimated provision as at 31 March 2021 is £0.893m.
- Reserves – These may have to be used in order to fund lost income and additional costs as a result of COVID-19

5. FUTURE CHALLENGES

Despite delivering services efficiently in 2020/21, the full effects of the pandemic are far from fully known and understood. Longer term assessment will be required when setting the 2022/23 budget as there will be an inevitable impact on Council Tax and Business Rates income which, due to the way these income streams are accounted for, will not manifest themselves until 2021/22. There is also the real possibility that bad debts will increase and the Council's ability to maintain rental income could be reduced. Longer terms changes in public behaviour such as shopping online, working from home etc. could negatively impact the Council's fees and charges income.

The Council will need to assess what revenue savings are required and also what support is available for the Council's capital programme including a review of schemes and their financing when setting the 2022/23 budget. As the Council planned it's move to Horncastle to encompass new remote ways of working, these plans have been expedited to ensure the Council continues to deliver frontline services. A number of Council staff have also been re-deployed to areas experiencing high demand for services and covering for staff who have been advised to self-isolate meaning that furloughing has been kept to a minimum and sickness levels have been closely monitored. The aspiration to move towards a shared workforce with Boston Borough Council is also due to be delivered by 2022 and the savings for this have been built into the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

As the Council is in a relatively strong financial position then thus far it has been able to weather the impact of COVID-19, however if the situation continues in the longer term decisions will need to be made on the Council's longer term aspirations. The Council has, along with other Council's, been lobbying the Government through the Local Government Association to ensure that there is an awareness of the position the Council finds itself in and what assistance it requires in order to weather these unprecedented times. Clearly local government is in the best position to ensure local communities can cope with the pandemic and also help them to emerge stronger from it and it is hoped government will recognise this and ensure resources are provided to enable this to happen.

Changes to Local Government Funding

The Council is currently part of a Lincolnshire Business Rates pool for the 2021/22 financial year, joining with other Councils in Lincolnshire. The pool is only for one year and allows the Council to spread risk and benefit from a higher proportion of retained growth. The Government has consistently delayed plans to review Local

Government finance as a whole and this has caused much uncertainty when trying to formulate a credible MTFS.

The changing environment of Local Authority finance due to COVID-19 has meant this change has been delayed with no date given for implementation which means that the Council is facing increasing risks and uncertainty in respect of the resources that it will have available to it in the longer term.

The Comprehensive Spending Review 2019, Fair Funding Review and a Business Rates baseline reset will all contribute to the challenge faced by the Council. The Government recently consulted on funding allocation approaches as part of the Fair Funding Review. Local government finance specialists, LG Futures, were appointed to represent the District Council Network in supporting district councils with their consultation responses. In order to address the risks associated with funding changes, the Council fed in to in the consultation highlighting local funding issues including the level of drainage board special levies currently funded by the Council.

Reductions in Government funding is one element but there are probably even larger risks attached to the ability to generate and retain business rates. Growth in the business economy, changes in the retail price index, the impact of changing business rate valuations and the number of successful appeals against rateable values will all have an impact on our future budget assumption.

Delivering a sustainable Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

Given the financial risks above, the Council must plan ahead to ensure that it can continue to deliver priority services over the medium term. The Council has made planned reductions in its expenditure and anticipates increased income from fees and charges in order to deliver a balanced budget for 2021/22.

Over the next five year period of its MTFS the Council anticipates a further £2.77m loss of Government funding, and will continue to review its organisational development plans to establish the potential for delivering greater levels of revenue, particularly from the Council's asset base.

As part of this, the Council has agreed a Capital and Treasury Strategy and has progressed to become a borrowing council. It has increased its capital expenditure in UK property funds by £20m, in order to generate revenue and capital growth to support local services.

As a result, the Council will continue to make contributions to its earmarked reserves, which will provide a buffer against future reduced funding and other financial risks. Given the identified need for ongoing savings the Council must implement its Organisational Development plans as fully as possible. It is anticipated that Magna Vitae Leisure Trust and the Council's service company, Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services), will continue to provide annual savings.

Leaving the European Union (EU)

The decision to leave the EU has raised many questions about what the implications will be for local authorities and what steps need to be taken to ensure that local authorities are prepared for the future. It will take some time to fully understand what the EU exit will mean. There will be political, financial and social threads to the developing picture. Maintaining robust financial management and effective service planning will be essential.

6. SUMMARY

Like many public sector organisations, the Council has many significant financial challenges from:

- COVID-19
- The wider economic situation
- Reductions in the value, distribution and general uncertainty of central government funding
- Increased demand for services
- Changes as a result of welfare reforms

The Council has responded to these challenges by being both prudent and proactive. Initiatives to drive forward corporate and service specific budget reductions have been implemented. Reserves have been reviewed and contributed to in order to provide financial resilience and the capacity to deliver future service changes and improvements, and to ensure resources are available for needed future capital investment.

7. EXPLANATION OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

The Statements for the Council have been prepared on the going concern accounting basis, i.e. on the assumption that the functions of the authority will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. This assessment has been possible due to the sound financial position of the Council, notably the delivery of a balanced outturn position for 2020/21, the establishment of a balanced budget for 2021/22 with an organisational development programme aimed at delivering ongoing savings. Additionally, the council has sufficient funds and reserves to meet its immediate financial commitments and has robust governance arrangements in place to monitor and control the Council's financial position.

The Statement of Accounts sets out the Council's income and expenditure for the year, and its financial position at 31 March 2021. It comprises core and supplementary statements, together with disclosure notes. The format and content of the financial statements is prescribed by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, which in turn is underpinned by International Financial Reporting Standards.

A Glossary of key terms can be found at the end of this publication.

- **Movement in Reserves Statement** is a summary of the changes to the Council's reserves over the course of the year. Reserves are divided into "usable", which can be invested in capital projects or services improvements, and "unusable" which must be set aside for specific purposes
- **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement** – this records all of the Council's income and expenditure for the year. The top half of the statement provides an analysis by service area. The bottom half of the statement deals with corporate transactions and funding. Expenditure represents a combination of:
 - Services and activities that the Council is required to carry out by law (statutory duties) such as street cleaning, planning, refuse collection; and,
 - Discretionary expenditure focused on local priorities and needs.
- **Balance Sheet** is a "snapshot" of the Council's assets, liabilities, cash balances and reserves at the year end date
- **Cash Flow Statement** shows the reason for changes in the Council's cash balances during the year, and whether that change is due to operating activities, new investment, or financing activities
- **Accounting Policies** – these explain the basis of the figures presented in the accounts
- **Notes to the Accounts** – these provide further details on some of the figures included in the Accounts.

Supplementary Financial Statements

- **Collection Fund** – this reflects the statutory requirement for the Council to maintain a separate account providing details of receipts of Council Tax and Business Rates, and any associated payments to precepting authorities, and the Government.

8. FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information on the Statement of Accounts is available from Public Sector Partnership Services, who provide all financial services for the Council. This is available as follows:

- In writing - to Financial Services, Tedder Hall, Manby Park, Louth, LN11 8UP.
- By telephone - 01507 601111
- By e-mail - to Customer Services at customerservices@e-lindsey.gov.uk

The accounts are available on our web-site at www.e-lindsey.gov.uk

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Chief Financial Officer
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets
- approve the Financial Statements, delegated to the Audit and Governance Committee.

The Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Financial Statements in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code)*.

In preparing the Financial Statements, the Chief Financial Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent
- complied with the local authority Code
- kept proper accounting records which were up to date and
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Certification by the Chief Financial Officer

I hereby certify that the Financial Statements give a 'true and fair' view of the financial position of the Council at the reporting date and of its expenditure and income for the year ended 31 March 2021.

Christine Marshall

Christine Marshall
Section 151 Officer

Approval of the Financial Statements

The Audit and Governance Committee approved the audited Financial Statements on 15 September 2021.

Signed on behalf of East Lindsey District Council



Councillor Will Grover
Chair of meeting approving the accounts

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. The Council raises taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Gross Expenditure £'000	2019/20 Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000		Gross Expenditure £'000	2020/21 Gross Income £'000	Net Expenditure £'000
1,191	(354)	837	Coastal Economy, Market Towns & Rural Economy	1,269	(407)	862
6,155	(5,594)	561	Communities	5,983	(6,235)	(252)
36,336	(35,078)	1,258	Finance	35,975	(32,483)	3,492
3,429	(720)	2,709	Leader of the Council	10,942	(12,686)	(1,744)
10,843	(4,976)	5,867	Operational Services	10,239	(3,643)	6,596
9,042	(190)	8,852	Partnerships	8,581	(74)	8,507
2,574	(1,796)	778	Planning	2,459	(1,922)	537
2,774	(1,935)	839	Property	2,248	(2,008)	240
72,344	(50,643)	21,701	Cost of Services	77,696	(59,458)	18,238
7,710	(555)	7,155	Other operating expenditure (Note 10)	6,820	(249)	6,571
9,502	(6,132)	3,370	Financing and investment income and expenditure (Note 11)	6,272	(7,930)	(1,658)
7,887	(29,659)	(21,772)	Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure (Note 12)	8,863	(32,493)	(23,630)
97,443	(86,989)	10,454	(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	99,651	(100,130)	(479)
		(160)	Surplus on revaluation of property, plant and equipment assets			(4,580)
		-	Surplus on revaluation of available for sale financial assets			-
		(14,928)	Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability			14,719
		(15,088)	Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			10,139
		(4,634)	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			9,660

The notes to the accounts on pages 22 - 83 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

MOVEMENT IN RESERVES STATEMENT

The Movement in Reserves Statement shows the movement from the start of the year to the end on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (ie those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other 'unusable reserves'. The Statement shows how the movements in year of the Council's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to council tax for the year. The Net Increase/Decrease line shows the statutory General Fund Balance movements in the year following those adjustments.

2020/21	General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 31 March 2020	2,486	22,247	3,313	1,305	29,351	48,466	77,817
Movement in Reserves during 2020/21							
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	479	-	-	-	479	(10,139)	(9,660)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 8)	12,430	-	(351)	1,248	13,327	(13,327)	-
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	12,909	-	(351)	1,248	13,806	(23,466)	(9,660)
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(13,044)	13,044	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2021 carried forward	2,351	35,291	2,962	2,553	43,157	25,000	68,157

The notes to the accounts on pages 22 – 83 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

2019/20	General Fund Balance	Earmarked Reserves	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Balance at 31 March 2019	3,337	25,592	2,913	795	32,637	40,546	73,183
Movement in Reserves during 2019/20							
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(10,454)	-	-	-	(10,454)	15,088	4,634
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations (Note 8)	6,258	-	400	510	7,168	(7,168)	-
Increase/(Decrease) in Year	(4,196)	-	400	510	(3,286)	7,920	4,634
Transfers to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	3,345	(3,345)	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 31 March 2020 carried forward	2,486	22,247	3,313	1,305	29,351	48,466	77,817

The notes to the accounts on pages 22 – 83 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, ie those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves Statements that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

31 March 2020 £'000		Note	31 March 2021 £'000
86,612	Property, Plant & Equipment	13	88,155
1,201	Heritage Assets	14	1,201
7,272	Investment Property	15	8,988
471	Intangible Assets	16	652
578	Assets Held for Sale	20	609
26,775	Long Term Investments	17	26,535
578	Long Term Debtors	17	1,674
123,487	Long Term Assets		127,814
30,337	Short Term Investments	17	25,715
81	Assets Held for Sale	20	638
5,702	Short Term Debtors	18	21,414
6,549	Cash and Cash Equivalents	19	15,921
42,669	Current Assets		63,688
(13,516)	Short Term Creditors	21	(35,506)
(4,150)	Short Term Borrowing	17	(149)
(556)	Cash and Cash Equivalents – Bank Overdraft	19	-
(1,219)	Provisions	22	(1,190)
(19,441)	Current Liabilities		(36,845)
(20,000)	Long Term Borrowing	17	(20,000)
(48,898)	Other Long Term Liabilities	24	(66,500)
(68,898)	Long Term Liabilities		(86,500)
77,817	Net Assets		68,157
29,351	Usable Reserves	23	43,157
48,466	Unusable Reserves	24	25,000
77,817	Total Reserves		68,157

The notes to the accounts on pages 22 – 83 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital to the Council.

2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
	(10,454)	Net surplus/(deficit) on the provision of services		479
15,149		Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements (Note 25)	17,760	
(2,640)	12,509	Adjustments for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities (Note 25)	(3,675)	14,085
	2,055	Net cash flows from Operating Activities		14,564
	(7,886)	Investing Activities (Note 26)		2,881
	4,059	Financing Activities (Note 27)		(7,517)
	(1,772)	Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		9,928
	7,765	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		5,993
	5,993	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period (Note 19)		15,921

The notes to the accounts on pages 22 – 83 form an integral part of the Financial Statements.

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

NOTE 1 – ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1. General Principles

The Financial Statements summarise the Council's transactions for the 2020/21 financial year and its position at the year end of 31 March 2021. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which require the accounts to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The accounting convention adopted in the Financial Statements is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

2. Accruals of Income and Expenditure

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from contracts with service recipients, whether for services or the provision of goods, is recognised when (or as) the goods or services are transferred to the service recipient in accordance with the performance obligations in the contract.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed – where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption; they are not carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet due to their immateriality.
- Expenses in relation to services received, including services provided by employees, are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount, where considered material, is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours. Cash equivalents are highly liquid investments that mature in no more than three months or less from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

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

4. Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

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

5. Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding non-current assets during the year:

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

The Council is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance. This is referred to as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP). The Council's policy on MRP is approved by Council each year as part of the Treasury Management Strategy. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are replaced by a contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

6. Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates

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

Accounting for Council Tax and NDR

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

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

Business Improvement Districts

A business improvement district (BID) scheme applies across parts of the authority. The scheme is funded by a BID levy paid by non-domestic ratepayers. The authority acts as a billing authority under the scheme, and the income collected is passed to Lincolnshire Coastal Business Improvement District. No income or expenditure relating to the BID is included in the Council's accounts.

7. Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short term employee benefits are those due to be settled wholly within 12 months of the year end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which

employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements, or any form of leave e.g. time off in lieu, earned by employees but not taken before the year end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday entitlements are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy in exchange for those benefits and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service segment or, where applicable, to a corporate service segment at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

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

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Lincolnshire County Council. The scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Council.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme:

The liabilities of the Lincolnshire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.

Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 2.0% (2.3% in 2019/20), based on the indicative rate of return on high quality corporate bonds.

The assets of the Lincolnshire County Council pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:

- quoted securities – current bid price
- unquoted securities – professional estimate
- unitised securities – current bid price
- property – market value.

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

Service Cost comprising

- **current service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked

- **past service cost** – the increase in liabilities as a result of a scheme amendment or curtailment whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- **net interest on the net defined benefit liability**, i.e. net interest expense for the Council – the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement – this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability at the beginning of the period – taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.

Remeasurements comprising

- **the return on plan assets** – excluding amounts included in the net interest on the net defined benefit liability – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure
- **actuarial gains and losses** – changes in the net pension's liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
- **contributions paid to the Lincolnshire County Council pension fund** – cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are transfers to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

Discretionary Benefits

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

8. Events after the Reporting Period

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Financial Statements are authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period – the Financial Statements are adjusted to reflect such events
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period – the Financial Statements are not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Financial Statements

9. Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised

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

For the long term borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest; and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

The Council has provided a guarantee in relation to the liabilities of Public Sector Partnership Services, based on 63% of any outstanding liabilities, in the event that the Company should cease trading. Details can be found in the Joint Operations note (note 40).

The Council has also provided a guarantee in relation to the pension liabilities of Magna Vitae Leisure Trust, in the event that it is unable to meet its pension obligations. Details can be found within the Related Parties note (note 33).

Financial Assets

Financial Assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cash flow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

The Council's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified as amortised cost, except for those whose contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (i.e. where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the authority, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Expected Credit Loss Model

The authority recognises expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost, or where relevant FVOCI, either on a 12-month or lifetime basis. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets. Only lifetime losses are recognised for trade receivables (debtors) held by the authority.

Impairment losses are calculated to reflect the expectation that the future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations. Credit risk plays a crucial part in assessing losses. Where risk has increased significantly since an instrument was initially recognised, losses are assessed on a lifetime basis. Where risk has not increased significantly or remains low, losses are assessed on the basis of 12-month expected losses.

Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Profit or Loss

Financial assets that are measured at FVPL are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. Fair value gains and losses are recognised as they arise in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. However, in November 2018 Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) granted a 5 year statutory override which permits fair value gains and losses to be reversed out in the Movement in Reserves Statement and taken to a Financial Instruments Restatement Reserve.

For Financial Assets measured at Fair Value through Profit and Loss, monthly dividend/distribution income receivable is credited to the Financial and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Financial Assets Measured at Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income

Financial assets that are measured at FVOCI are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value. A gain or loss on a financial asset measured at fair value through other comprehensive income shall be recognised in other comprehensive expenditure and taken to the financial instruments revaluation reserve, except for impairment gains or losses until the financial asset is derecognised or reclassified.

Where financial assets are measured at FVPL or FVOCI, the fair value measurements are based on the following techniques:

- instruments with quoted market prices – the market price
- other instruments with fixed and determinable payments – discounted cash flow analysis.

The inputs to the measurement techniques are categorised in accordance with the following three levels:

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

10. Government Grants and Contributions

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset in the form of the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

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

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

11. Heritage Assets

Heritage assets are held to help increase the knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Council's history and local area. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured, including the treatment of revaluation gains and losses, in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment. However, some of the measurement rules are relaxed in relation to heritage assets as detailed below. The Council's heritage assets fall into three categories; Statues and Monuments, Civic Regalia and Land Sites of Special Interest, and are accounted for as follows:

Statues and Monuments

- The Clock Tower, Skegness – Historic Cost
- Stanhope Memorial Horncastle, Sir John Franklin Memorial Spilsby, Buttercross Monument Spilsby, Clock Tower Old Market Hall Louth, Jolly Fisherman Statue Compass Gardens Skegness – included in the balance sheet at their insurance valuations.
- Dambusters Memorial Woodhall Spa – Historic Cost.

Civic Regalia – included in the balance sheet at their insurance valuations.

Land Sites

- Gibraltar Point Nature Reserve Skegness, St Mary's Burial Ground Louth, Site of Special Scientific Interest Skegness Foreshore – Recorded at Historic Cost.

The carrying amounts of heritage assets are reviewed when there is evidence of impairment for heritage assets, e.g. where an item has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or where doubts arise as to its authenticity. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Council's general policies on impairment – see item 18 in this summary of significant accounting policies. Depreciation is not charged as the assets are deemed to be held in perpetuity. Should any heritage assets be disposed of, the proceeds are accounted for in accordance with the Council's general provisions relating to the disposal of property, plant and equipment.

12. Intangible Assets

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Council as a result of past events e.g. software licences, is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Council.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost and are carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Amortisation is calculated on the following basis:

- Computer software and licences – straight line basis

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, the amortisation charge is not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. It is therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account.

13. Joint Operations

Joint operations are arrangements where the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities relating to the arrangement.

East Lindsey has joint control with South Holland District Council over Public Sector Partnership Services Ltd (formerly Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd), a company established in 2010 to provide 'back office' services to both Councils.

The Council recognises on its Balance Sheet an appropriate share of its rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities and debits and credits the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with its share of expenses incurred and income it earns from the activity of the Company.

14. Investment Property

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

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As a non-financial asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal. Assets are transferred into or out of the Investment Property class only when there is evidence of a change of use.

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

15. Leases

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases. Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council has no material finance lease commitments as at 31 March 2021.

The Council as Lessee - *Operating Leases*

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent free period at the commencement of the lease).

The Council as Lessor - *Operating Leases*

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the relevant line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of a lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

16. Material Items of Income or Expense

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

17. Overheads and Support Services

Following revisions to the Accounting Code, the cost of overheads and support services are not charged to service segments, within the Financial Statements, in accordance with the Council's arrangements for accountability and financial performance. However, they are apportioned to comply with the requirements of various government returns.

18. Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits or service potential associated with the item will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (e.g. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising;

- the purchase price
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the authority). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the authority.

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

- infrastructure assets, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost
- surplus assets – the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective
- all other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV)

Where there is no market based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of current value.

Where non-property assets have short useful lives or low values (or both), depreciated historical cost basis is used as a proxy for current value.

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains)
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Dwellings and other buildings – straight line allocation over the life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- Vehicles, plant and equipment – straight line allocation over the life of the asset, as advised by a suitably qualified officer
- Infrastructure – straight line allocation.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, the components are depreciated separately. Materiality levels have been assessed and a materiality level of £0.5m for major components has been applied.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an asset held for sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on assets held for sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as assets held for sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale; adjusted for depreciation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as held for sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as assets held for sale.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet, whether Property, Plant and Equipment or assets held for sale, is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal. Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. The balance of receipts remains within the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow. Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of fixed assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

19. Fair Value Measurement

The Council measures some of its non-financial assets such as surplus assets and investment properties, and some of its financial instruments at fair value at each reporting date. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- in the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

The Council measures the fair value of an asset or liability using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

When measuring the fair value of a non-financial asset, the authority takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Council uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the Council's Financial Statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

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

20. Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when the Council has an obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year – where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required, or a lower settlement than anticipated is made, the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party, this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Council settles the obligation.

21. Contingent Liabilities

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

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts.

22. Contingent Assets

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

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

23. Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingences. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund Balance. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets, financial instruments, local taxation and retirement and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council – these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

24. Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of council tax.

25. VAT

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

26. Foreign Currency Translation

Where the Council has entered into a transaction denominated in a foreign currency, the transaction is converted into sterling at the exchange rate applicable on the date the transaction was effective. If there is a non-monetary asset or liability arising due to a payment or receipt in advance, the date of initial recognition of the asset or liability is used for the purpose of determining the exchange rate. Where material amounts in foreign currency are outstanding at the year-end, they are reconverted at the spot exchange rate at 31 March. Resulting gains or losses, if material, are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

NOTE 2 – ACCOUNTING STANDARDS ISSUED, NOT ADOPTED

The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the Code) has introduced several changes in accounting standards which will be required from 1 April 2021.

- Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2015 - 2017 Cycle affecting IFRS 3 Business Combinations and IFRS 11 Joint Arrangements – Previously Held Interest in a Joint Operation, IAS 23 Borrowing Costs – Borrowing Costs Eligible for Capitalisation
- Amendments to IAS 19 Employee Benefits: Plan Amendment, Curtailment of Settlement
- Amendments to References to the Conceptual Framework in IFRS Standards

The Code requires the disclosure of information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new accounting standard, but one which has not yet been implemented.

It is not anticipated that the above amendments will have a material impact on the information provided in the financial statements, i.e. there is unlikely to be a change to the reported information in the reported net cost of services or the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

NOTE 3 – CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 1, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

There was a high level of uncertainty about the longer-term impact of the Coronavirus pandemic at the time the accounts were prepared, and this has presented challenges in preparing the financial statements. Further information about volatility in financial and other markets at 31 March 2021 that became available up until the date the accounts were authorised for issue has been taken into account.

The critical judgements made in the Financial Statements are:

- There is a large degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the council has determined that this high level of uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the authority might be impaired as a result of a need to close facilities and reduce levels of service provision.
- At the time the accounts were authorised for issue, the Council's valuers have provided values for the Council's assets taking into account what was known at the time. The Council's judgement was that there was not enough information to indicate that the assets were impaired and that balance sheet values should be reduced.
- The Council has a wholly owned subsidiary, Invest East Lindsey, and has undertaken an assessment against the Code regarding materiality of these transactions. It has not been considered material to produce group accounts for 2020/21 but this will be reviewed annually.

NOTE 4 – ASSUMPTIONS MADE ABOUT THE FUTURE AND OTHER MAJOR SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

The Financial Statements contain estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates have been made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors including the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic. This is an unprecedented situation however, and because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2021 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Pensions Liability

The estimation of the net liability (£66.500m at 31 March 2021) to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. Usually asset values and expected returns within the pension fund are based on information available at 31 March. For 2020/21 the values in the accounts are based on all information received up to the date the accounts were authorised for issue, where it provided further evidence of market conditions as at 31 March 2021. Please also see Note 3 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies.

It is possible, however, that asset values may still change during the next financial year. A sensitivity analysis is included in Note 36.

For 2020/21, the actuaries advised that the net pension liability had increased by £17.602m. This is made up of:

- £14.719m actuarial loss
- £3.884m loss arising from employer contributions of £3.393m being less than the pension obligations of £6.277m.

Debt Impairment

At 31 March 2021, the Council had a balance of sundry debtor and housing benefit overpayments of £4.223m. The Council's normal approach to review significant items suggested that an impairment allowance for doubtful debts of just over 46% (£1.960m) was appropriate. However, in the current economic climate it is not certain that the allowance will be sufficient.

If collection rates were to deteriorate, increasing the impairment for doubtful debts to 50% of the total debt would require an additional £0.152m to be set aside as an allowance.

Fair Value Measurements of Financial Assets

When the fair values of financial assets and financial liabilities cannot be measured based on quoted prices in active markets (i.e. Level 1 inputs), their fair value is measured using valuation techniques (e.g. quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets or the discounted cash flow (DCF) model). Where possible, the inputs to these valuation techniques are based on observable data, but where this is not possible judgement is required in establishing fair values. These judgements typically include considerations such as uncertainty and risk. However, changes in the assumptions used could affect the fair value of the authority's assets and liabilities.

Where Level 1 inputs are not available, the authority employs relevant experts to identify the most appropriate valuation techniques to determine fair value (for example for investments and borrowing Link Asset Services, the Council's treasury management advisers). Information about the valuation techniques and inputs used in determining the fair value of the authority's assets and liabilities is disclosed in notes 17 and 34.

Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the authority will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.

If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying amount of the assets falls. It is estimated that the annual depreciation charge for buildings would increase by £354k for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.

Fair Value Measurement of Non-Financial Assets

Some assets held on the balance sheet are measured at Fair Value (see page 32 for the definition of Fair Value), mainly these are Investment Property, Surplus Assets and Assets Held for Sale. The measurement of fair value takes into account the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing an asset. Due to the considerable volatility in the market as at the balance sheet date it is therefore possible that the assumptions used may not be valid in these unusual circumstances and the Material Uncertainty clause also applies to assets measured at Fair Value.

Valuations of Property, Plant & Equipment (Other Land and Buildings) and Investment Properties

The outbreak of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), declared by the World Health Organisation as a 'Global Pandemic' on 11th March 2020, has and continues to impact many aspects of daily life and the global economy – with some real estate markets having experienced lower levels of transactional activity and liquidity. Travel, movement and operational restrictions have been implemented by many countries. In some cases 'lockdowns' have been applied to varying degrees and to reflect further waves of COVID-19; although these may imply a new stage of the crisis, they are not unprecedented in the same way as the initial impact.

The pandemic and the measures taken to tackle COVID-19 continue to affect economies and real estate markets. The current response to COVID-19 means that the valuers are faced with an unprecedented set of circumstances on which to base a judgement.

Some of the valuations undertaken by the Council as at 31 March 2021 are therefore reported on the basis of 'material valuation uncertainty' as per VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Red Book Global. Consequently, less certainty – and a higher degree of caution – should be attached to the valuation than would normally be the case.

The meaning of this clause is explained by the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors as:

'Where a material uncertainty clause is being used, its purpose is to ensure that any client relying upon that specific valuation report understands that it has been prepared under extraordinary circumstances. The term is not meant to suggest that the valuation cannot be relied upon; rather, it is used in order to be clear and transparent with all parties, in a professional manner that – in the current extraordinary circumstances – less certainty can be attached to the valuation than would otherwise be the case. Indeed, with regard to the process itself, professional valuers will almost certainly have undertaken far more due diligence than normal, in order to arrive at their estimate of value.'

The carrying value of those long-term assets subject to this market value uncertainty are set out below:

- Property, plant and equipment: Other Land and Buildings £19,353k of the total carrying value of £79,321k disclosed within Note 13; and
- Investment properties: £8,567k of the total carrying value of £8,988k disclosed within Note 15.

NOTE 5 – EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

The audited Financial Statements were authorised for issue by the Chief Financial Officer on 15 September 2021. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the Financial Statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2021, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

From 1 April 2021, Boston Borough Council back office services transferred into the joint merged services organisation arrangements delivered through Public Sector Partnership Services Ltd. This does not impact on the Council's share of the Company's assets, liabilities, income and expenditure presented in the Financial Statements as at 31 March 2021.

NOTE 6 – EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, council tax and business rates) by local Councils in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by Councils in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's portfolios. Income and expenditure accounted for under generally accepted accounting practices is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2019/20				2020/21		
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance £'000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £'000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000		Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund Balance £'000	Adjustments between the Funding and Accounting Basis £'000	Net Expenditure in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement £'000
762	75	837	Coastal Economy, Market Towns & Rural Economy	836	26	862
722	(161)	561	Communities	133	(385)	(252)
1,111	148	1,259	Finance	2,762	730	3,492
2,468	241	2,709	Leader of the Council	(1,931)	187	(1,744)
3,937	1,929	5,866	Operational Services	4,668	1,928	6,596
6,418	2,433	8,851	Partnerships	6,381	2,126	8,507
538	240	778	Planning	437	100	537
(181)	1,021	840	Property	(507)	747	240
15,775	5,926	21,701	Net Cost of Services	12,779	5,459	18,238
(11,578)	331	(11,247)	Other Income and Expenditure	(25,688)	6,971	(18,717)
4,197	6,257	10,454	(Surplus) or Deficit	(12,909)	12,430	(479)
3,337			Opening General Fund Balance	2,486		
(851)			(Surplus) or Deficit on the General Fund Balance in Year (after transfers to/from earmarked reserves)	(135)		
2,486			Closing General Fund Balance	2,351		

NOTE 6A – NOTE TO THE EXPENDITURE AND FUNDING ANALYSIS

2020/21				
Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Amounts	Adjustments for Capital Purposes £'000	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Coastal Economy, Market Towns & Rural Economy	(4)	31	-	27
Communities	(541)	156	-	(385)
Finance	27	661	42	730
Leader of the Council	-	187	-	187
Operational Services	1,666	261	-	1,927
Partnerships	2,122	4	-	2,126
Planning	-	100	-	100
Property	702	45	-	747
Net Cost of Services	3,972	1,445	42	5,459
Other Income and Expenditure from the Funding Analysis	(5,663)	1,439	11,195	6,971
Difference between General Fund (Surplus)/Deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus)/Deficit	(1,691)	2,884	11,237	12,430

2019/20				
Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Amounts	Adjustments for Capital Purposes £'000	Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments £'000	Other Differences £'000	Total Adjustments £'000
Coastal Economy, Market Towns & Rural Economy	17	58	-	75
Communities	(491)	331	-	(160)
Finance	27	54	67	148
Leader of the Council	-	241	-	241
Operational Services	1,308	621	-	1,929
Partnerships	2,434	-	-	2,434
Planning	-	240	-	240
Property	917	103	-	1,020
Net Cost of Services	4,212	1,648	67	5,927
Other Income and Expenditure from the Funding Analysis	(4,324)	2,182	2,473	331
Difference between General Fund (Surplus)/Deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus)/Deficit	(112)	3,830	2,540	6,258

Adjustments for Capital Purposes

This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the service lines, and for:

- **Other operating expenditure** – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- **Financing and investment income and expenditure** – the statutory charges for capital financing i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and other revenue contributions are deducted from other income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.
- **Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure** – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. The taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments

Net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income are reflected as follows:

- **For services** this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions made by the Council as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- **For Financing and investment income and expenditure** – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the CIES.

Other Differences

Other differences between amounts debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable or receivable to be recognised under statute are as follows:

- **For services** – the other differences column recognises adjustments to the General Fund for accumulated absences.
- The charge under **Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure** represents the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for council tax and business rates that was projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices in the Code. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future Surpluses or Deficits on the Collection Fund.

NOTE 6B – SEGMENTAL INCOME

Trading Income received on a segmental basis is analysed as follows:

Service Segment	Income Area	2020/21 Income from Services £'000	2019/20 Income from Services £'000
Coastal Economy, Market Towns & Rural	Markets	50	103
Economy	Kingfisher Caravan	1,133	1,975
Finance	Park		
Finance	Licensing	268	299
Finance	Commercial Rents	1,769	1,644
Operational Services	Green Waste	1,242	1,179
Operational Services	Car Parking	1,800	3,091
Planning	Planning	1,329	1,241
Planning	Land Charges	98	106
Planning	Building Control	430	362
Total Income analysed on a segmental basis		8,119	10,000

NOTE 7 – EXPENDITURE AND INCOME ANALYSED BY NATURE

The authority's expenditure and income is analysed as follows:

<u>2020/21</u>	ELDC Income and Expenditure £'000	Amounts paid to/received from PSPS £'000	Add PSPS subjective analysis £'000	Total Income and Expenditure £'000
Expenditure				
Employee benefits expenses	16,032	-	5,169	21,201
Other service expenses	58,418	(5,967)	732	53,183
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	3,953	-	27	3,980
Interest payments	497	-	-	497
Precepts and levies	6,599	-	-	6,599
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	-	-	-	-
Changes in fair value of investment property	2,034	-	-	2,034
Business Rates tariff and levy	8,864	-	-	8,864
Increase in impairment allowance	296	-	-	296
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	221	-	-	221
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	241	-	-	241
Taxation (Share of PSPS only)	-	-	6	6
Pensions interest cost	1,979	-	551	2,530
Total Expenditure	99,134	(5,967)	6,485	99,652
Income				
Income from council tax and non-domestic rates	(15,574)	-	-	(15,574)
Grants and contributions	(62,398)	-	-	(62,398)
Capital grants and contributions	(1,317)	-	-	(1,317)
Fees, charges and other service income	(14,326)	435	(34)	(13,925)
Interest and investment income	(1,436)	-	(1)	(1,437)
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	(249)	-	-	(249)
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-
Decrease in impairment allowance for bad debts	-	-	-	-
Changes in fair value of investment property	(3,750)	-	-	(3,750)
Expected return on pension assets	(1,036)	-	(445)	(1,481)
Total Income	(100,086)	435	(480)	(100,131)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(952)	(5,532)	6,005	(479)

<u>2019/20</u>	ELDC Income and Expenditure £'000	Amounts paid to/received from CPBS £'000	Add CPBS subjective analysis £'000	Total Income and Expenditure £'000
<u>Expenditure</u>				
Employee benefits expenses	14,963	-	5,136	20,099
Other service expenses	53,840	(5,954)	843	48,729
Depreciation, amortisation, impairment	4,248	-	18	4,266
Interest payments	496	-	-	496
Precepts and levies	6,211	-	-	6,211
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	-	-	-	-
Changes in fair value of investment property	3,307	-	-	3,307
Business Rates tariff and levy	7,888	-	-	7,888
Loss on disposal of non-current assets	1,499	-	-	1,499
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	1,249	-	-	1,249
Pensions interest cost	3,003	-	696	3,699
Total Expenditure	96,704	(5,954)	6,693	97,443
<u>Income</u>				
Income from council tax and non-domestic rates	(23,885)	-	-	(23,885)
Government grants and contributions	(40,366)	-	-	(40,366)
Capital grants and contributions	(27)	-	-	(27)
Fees, charges and other service income	(18,419)	393	(101)	(18,126)
Interest and investment income	(1,624)	-	(6)	(1,630)
Gain on disposal of non-current assets	(555)	-	-	(555)
Change in fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-
Decrease in impairment allowance for bad debts	(108)	-	-	(108)
Changes in fair value of investment property	(67)	-	-	(67)
Expected return on pension assets	(1,688)	-	(536)	(2,224)
Total Income	(86,739)	393	(643)	(86,989)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	9,965	(5,562)	6,050	10,454

NOTE 8 – ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN ACCOUNTING BASIS AND FUNDING BASIS UNDER REGULATIONS

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against.

General Fund Balance

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

Capital Receipts Reserve

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

Capital Grants Unapplied

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

2020/21	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustments to Revenue Resources			
<i>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:</i>			
• Pension costs	2,884	-	-
• Statutory over-ride for unrealised fair value movements in pooled funds	241	-	-
• Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	10,955	-	-
• Holiday pay	42	-	-
• Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	(1,716)	-	-
• Capital grants and contributions applied to capital financing	(2,218)	-	-
• Capital grants and contributions not applied to capital financing in year	(1,248)	-	1,248
• Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure	6,197	-	-
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	15,137	-	1,248
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources			
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(142)	142	-
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	3	(3)	-
Payments to the government housing receipts pool	-	-	-
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt	-	-	-
Voluntary provision for the repayment of debt	(126)	-	-
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances	(2,442)	(490)	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	(2,707)	(351)	-
Adjustments to Capital Resources			
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-
Use of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	-
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	-	-	-
Total Adjustments	12,430	(351)	1,248

2019/20	General Fund Balance	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adjustments to Revenue Resources			
<i>Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:</i>			
• Pension costs	3,830	-	-
• Statutory over-ride for unrealised fair value movements in pooled funds	1,249	-	-
• Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates	1,224	-	-
• Holiday pay	67	-	-
• Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	3,240	-	-
• Capital grants and contributions applied to capital financing	(1,525)	-	(50)
• Capital grants and contributions not applied to capital financing in year	(560)	-	560
• Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure	7,510	-	-
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	15,035	-	510
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources			
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	(567)	567	-
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	11	(11)	-
Payments to the government housing receipts pool	-	-	-
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt	(1,429)	-	-
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances	(6,792)	(155)	-
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	(8,777)	400	-
Adjustments to Capital Resources			
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-
Use of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	-
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	-	-	-
Total Adjustments	6,258	400	510

NOTE 9 – TRANSFERS TO/FROM EARMARKED RESERVES

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund Balance in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2020/21.

	Balance at 1 April 2019 £'000	Transfers Out 2019/20 £'000	Transfers In 2019/20 £'000	Balance at 31 March 2020 £'000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £'000	Transfers In 2020/21 £'000	Balance at 31 March 2021 £'000
Capital Reserve	6,754	(1,536)	1,303	6,521	(1,095)	1,893	7,319
Housing Reserve	2,369	(41)	1	2,329	(221)	169	2,277
Technology Reserve	1,477	(256)	68	1,289	(239)	471	1,521
Insurance Reserve	609	(47)	100	662	(16)	100	746
Service Transformation Reserve	752	(165)	145	732	(170)	36	598
Carbon Reduction Reserve	106	-	-	106	-	-	106
Legal and Appeals Reserve	451	(9)	-	442	(28)	-	414
Repair and Renewals Reserve	3,423	(3,538)	640	525	(98)	1,021	1,448
Economic Growth Reserve	5,441	(2,163)	1,378	4,656	(991)	1,811	5,476
Business Rates Volatility Reserve	4,210	(429)	1,206	4,987	(1,413)	9,836	13,410
Wellbeing Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	798	798
COVID-19 Budget Pressures Smoothing Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	1,178	1,178
Total Earmarked Reserves	25,592	(8,184)	4,841	22,249	(4,271)	17,354	35,291

NOTE 10 – OTHER OPERATING EXPENDITURE

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
2,652	Parish Council Precepts	2,915
3,559	Internal Drainage Board Levies	3,683
-	Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	-
944	(Gains)/Losses on the disposal of non-current assets	(27)
7,155	Total	6,571

NOTE 11 – FINANCING AND INVESTMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
496	Interest payable and similar charges	497
1,475	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability	1,050
	Discount, impairment and exchange rate movements on Icelandic	
(8)	Investments	(34)
(1,622)	Interest receivable and similar income	(1,403)
	Income and Expenditure in relation to investment properties and	
1,888	changes in their fair value	(2,310)
(108)	Movement in impairment allowance for bad debts	295
1,249	Movement in fair value of financial assets through profit and loss	241
-	Taxation (Share of PSPS only)	6
3,370	Total	(1,658)

NOTE 12 – TAXATION AND NON SPECIFIC GRANT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(9,034)	Council Tax income	(9,508)
(6,963)	Retained Business Rates income and expenditure	2,798
(915)	Revenue Support Grant	(930)
(4,833)	Non-ringfenced government grants	(14,673)
(27)	Capital grants and contributions	(1,317)
(21,772)	Total	(23,630)

NOTE 13 – PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT - Movements on Balances

2020/21	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Assets Under Construction	Surplus Assets	Total Property, Plant and Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Movements on balances</u>							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2020	79,941	10,528	1,169	1,793	-	44	93,475
Additions	158	506	-	982	-	-	1,646
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	922	-	-	112	-	1	1,035
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(390)	-	-	-	-	-	(390)
Derecognition – disposals	-	(2,102)	-	-	-	-	(2,102)
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	(585)	-	-	(113)	-	-	(698)
Other movements in Cost or Valuation	-	-	-	(399)	399	-	-
At 31 March 2021	80,046	8,932	1,169	2,375	399	45	92,966
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
At 1 April 2020	(1,746)	(5,005)	(96)	(16)	-	-	(6,863)
Depreciation charge	(2,656)	(949)	(54)	(26)	-	-	(3,685)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	3,561	-	-	-	-	-	3,561
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	116	-	-	-	-	-	116
Impairment (Losses) Reversals recognised in Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derecognition - disposals	-	2,060	-	-	-	-	2,060
Other movements in Depreciation and Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	(725)	(3,894)	(150)	(42)	-	-	(4,811)
Net Book Value							
At 31 March 2021	79,321	5,038	1,019	2,333	399	45	88,155
At 31 March 2020	78,195	5,523	1,073	1,777	-	44	86,612

2019/20	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Assets Under Construction	Surplus Assets	Total Property, Plant and Equipment
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Movements on balances</u>							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2019	80,958	6,961	794	1,592	-	44	90,349
Additions	1,352	3,736	375	294	-	-	5,757
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(712)	-	-	-	-	-	(712)
Revaluation increases/ (decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(747)	-	-	-	-	-	(747)
Derecognition – disposals	(998)	(169)	-	(5)	-	-	(1,172)
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other movements in Cost or Valuation	88	-	-	(88)	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	79,941	10,528	1,169	1,793	-	44	93,475
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
At 1 April 2019	-	(4,358)	(56)	-	-	-	(4,414)
Depreciation charge	(2,656)	(763)	(40)	(16)	-	-	(3,475)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	847	-	-	-	-	-	847
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	35	-	-	-	-	-	35
Impairment (Losses) Reversals recognised in Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Derecognition - disposals	28	116	-	-	-	-	144
Other movements in Depreciation and Impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2020	(1,746)	(5,005)	(96)	(16)	-	-	(6,863)
Net Book Value							
At 31 March 2020	78,195	5,523	1,073	1,777	-	44	86,612
At 31 March 2019	80,958	2,603	738	1,592	-	44	85,935

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Depreciation

The following useful lives and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

- Property, Land and Buildings – 2-42 years
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment – 1-49 years

Capital Commitments

There were no material capital commitments in existence at 31 March 2021.

Effects of Changes in Estimates

In 2020/21, no material changes were made to the Council's accounting estimates for Property, Plant and Equipment.

Revaluations

The Council's revaluations were undertaken by the Council's qualified in-house valuer - Edward Cox MRICS.

The Council ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at current value is revalued on a three year rolling programme, the first year being 2019/20. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Infrastructure Assets	Community Assets	Assets Under Construction	Surplus Assets	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Carried at historical cost	-	5,038	1,019	2,332	399	-	8,788
Valued at fair value as at:							
31 March 2019	3,911	-	-	-	-	-	3,911
31 March 2020	16,321	-	-	1	-	-	16,322
31 March 2021	59,089	-	-	-	-	45	59,134
Total Cost or Valuation at 31 March 2021	79,321	5,038	1,019	2,333	399	45	88,155

The Council does not have material surplus assets.

NOTE 14 – HERITAGE ASSETS

Reconciliation of the carrying value of Heritage Assets held by the Council:

2019/20 £'000		Statues and Monuments	Civic Regalia	Land Sites of Special Interest	Total
		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
1,201	Cost or valuation	739	25	437	1,201
-	1 April	-	-	-	-
	Revaluations in year				
1,201	31 March	739	25	437	1,201

Heritage assets, held by the Council fall into three categories; Statues and Monuments, Civic Regalia and Land Sites of Special Interest. All the assets have been in the Council's ownership for a number of years and are held for their intrinsic worth as opposed to financial gain. As such they are unlikely to be sold. According to the Code there is no prescribed minimum period between valuations. However, the valuers are asked to confirm that the last valuations are still appropriate on a regular basis.

Movements in financial year 2020/21

There were no movements in year.

Heritage assets recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet

Statutes and Monuments:

- The Clock Tower, Skegness – Historic Cost £431,000.
- Stanhope Memorial Horncastle, Sir John Franklin Memorial Spilsby, Buttercross Monument Spilsby, Clock Tower Old Market Hall Louth, Jolly Fisherman Statue Compass Gardens Skegness – included in the balance sheet at their insurance valuations. The valuations as at 31 March 2015 were provided by Bonhams (external specialist valuer).
- Dambusters Memorial Woodhall Spa – Historic Cost.
- Civic Regalia – included in the Balance Sheet at their insurance valuations. The valuations as at 31 March 2021 were provided by Bonhams (external specialist valuer).

Land Sites:

- Gibraltar Point Nature Reserve Skegness, St Mary's Burial Ground Louth, Site of Special Scientific Interest Skegness Foreshore – recorded at Historic Cost.

The Council does not have any heritage assets other than those reported on the Balance Sheet.

NOTE 15 – INVESTMENT PROPERTY

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(2,102)	Rental Income from investment property	(1,263)
	Direct operating expenses arising from investment property:	
288	Employee benefit expenses	233
462	Other service expenses	436
3,240	Net (gains)/losses from fair value adjustments	(1,716)
1,888	Net (gain)/loss	(2,310)

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or repairs, maintenance or enhancement.

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
10,484	Balance at start of the year	7,272
28	Additions – Subsequent Expenditure	-
(3,240)	Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	1,716
7,272	Balance at end of the year	8,988

Fair Value Hierarchy

Details of the authority's investment properties and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 31 March 2021 and 2020 are as follows:

	Level 2 2020/21 £'000	Level 3 2020/21 £'000	Fair Value 2020/21 £'000
Office Units	-	405	405
Commercial Retail Units	-	567	567
Commercial Storage Units	-	16	16
Commercial Unit Caravan Park	-	8,000	8,000
	-	8,988	8,988

2019/20 Comparative Figures

	Level 2 2019/20 £'000	Level 3 2019/20 £'000	Fair Value 2019/20 £'000
Office Units	-	410	410
Commercial Retail Units	-	595	595
Commercial Storage Units	-	17	17
Commercial Unit Caravan Park	-	6,250	6,250
	-	7,272	7,272

Transfers between Levels of Fair Value Hierarchy

There were no transfers between levels of fair value hierarchy in year.

Valuation Techniques Used to Determine Level 2 and 3 Fair Values for Investment Properties

Significant Observable Inputs – Level 2

The fair value of investment properties has been measured using two main approaches - the investment method and the comparable method.

The comparable method of valuation is relied upon in the case of plots of similar size and location. It is relatively simple to achieve a direct comparison with one plot against another which has been sold recently.

Using the investment methodology, the valuers have relied upon data ascertained from current evidence of passing rents on comparable properties. Yields have been taken from the sale of comparable investments having regard to the type of property, covenant strength and lease terms. Valuation inputs for rental and yield which are directly applicable are said to be a valuation input 2 because they are directly comparable with limited adjustment.

Significant Unobservable Inputs – Level 3

Where the comparable data needs to be adjusted by the valuer in order to reflect the specific circumstances of the valuation subject, the valuer uses his judgement and experience. This includes assumptions regarding rent level and prospective rental growth, occupancy levels, floor area and state of repair.

These adjustments are the valuer's opinion and therefore subjective and considered to be Level 3 in the fair value hierarchy. The measurement technique uses significant unobservable inputs to determine the fair value measurements.

Significant changes in any of the unobservable inputs would result in a significantly lower or higher fair value measurement of the assets.

Highest and best use of investment properties

In estimating the fair value of the Council's investment properties, the highest and best use of the properties is deemed to be their current value.

Valuation Techniques

There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year for investment properties.

Reconciliation of Fair Value Measurements (Using Significant Unobservable Inputs) categorised within Level 3 of the Fair Value Hierarchy

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Opening Balance	7,272	984
Transfers into Level 3	-	9,500
Total gains (or losses) for the period included in Surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services resulting from changes in the fair value	1,716	(3,240)
Additions	-	28
Closing Balance	8,988	7,272

Gains or losses arising from changes in fair value of the investment property are recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services – Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure.

Valuation Process for Investment Properties

The fair value of the Council's investment property is measured at each reporting date. All valuations are carried out internally or externally, in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. The Council's valuation experts work closely with finance officers regarding all valuation matters.

NOTE 16 – INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Council accounts for its software as intangible assets. Intangible assets include purchased licenses.

All software is given a finite useful life, based on assessments of the period that the software is expected to be of use to the Council. The carrying amount of intangible assets is amortised on a straight-line basis over 7 years. The amortisation of £68,000 was charged to an overhead account and then absorbed across service headings in the Cost of Services. It is not possible to quantify exactly how much of the amortisation is attributable to each service heading.

The movement on Intangible Asset balances during the year is as follows:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
1,472	Balance at start of year:	1,883
(1,369)	- Gross carrying amounts	(1,411)
103	- Accumulated amortisation	
	Net carrying amount at start of year	472
	Additions:	
411	- Purchases	248
-	Derecognition - Others	-
(42)	Amortisation for the period	(68)
-	Other Changes	-
472	Net carrying amount at end of year	652
	Comprising:	
1,883	- Gross carrying amounts	2,132
(1,411)	- Accumulated amortisation	(1,480)
472		652

NOTE 17 – FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following categories of financial instrument are carried in the Balance Sheet:

Financial Assets	Non-Current				Current				Total	
	Long-term Investments		Long-term Debtors		Short-term Investments		Short-term Debtors		31 March 2020	31 March 2021
	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
	Fair Value through profit and loss	26,775	26,535	-	-	213	189	-	-	26,988
Amortised cost										
Investments	-	-	563	1,671	30,124	25,526	-	-	30,687	27,197
Cash and cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	5,993	15,921	-	-	5,993	15,921
Mortgages and car loans	-	-	16	3	-	-	7	6	23	9
Loans to businesses	-	-	2	-	-	-	7	3	9	3
Trade debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,311	2,994	1,311	2,994
Total financial assets	26,775	26,535	581	1,674	36,330	41,636	1,325	3,003	65,011	72,848

Financial Liabilities	Non-Current				Current				Total	
	Long-term Borrowings		Long-term Creditors		Short-term Borrowings		Short-term Creditors		31 March 2020	31 March 2021
	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021	31 March 2020	31 March 2021		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
	Amortised cost									
External borrowing	(20,000)	(20,000)	-	-	(4,150)	(149)	-	-	(24,150)	(20,149)
Trade creditors	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,684)	(3,473)	(4,684)	(3,473)
Total financial liabilities	(20,000)	(20,000)	-	-	(4,150)	(149)	(4,684)	(3,473)	(28,834)	(23,622)

Income, expense, gains and losses

	2019/20 Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services £'000	2020/21 Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services £'000
Net gains/losses on:		
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss	1,249	241
Derecognition of financial assets	(8)	(34)
Total net gains/losses	1,241	207
Interest Revenue		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	(331)	(234)
Financial assets measured at fair value through profit and loss	(1,291)	(1,168)
Total interest revenue	(1,622)	(1,402)
Interest expense	496	497
Fee expense		
Property fund management fees	217	221
Brokers fees	-	-
Total fee expense	217	221

Fair Value of Financial Assets

Some of the Council's financial assets are measured at fair value on a recurring basis and are described in the following table, including the valuation techniques used to measure them.

The Council held £26.535m in property funds at 31 March 2021 (£26.775m at 31 March 2020). These represent level 1 inputs in the fair value hierarchy. Fair Value has been assessed using the published Net Asset Value of the funds and the Balance Sheet reflects these valuations.

Financial assets measured at fair value				
Recurring fair value measurements	Input level in the fair value hierarchy	Valuation technique used to measure fair value	31 March 2020 £'000	31 March 2021 £'000
Financial instruments classified as fair value through profit and loss				
Hermes Property Unit Trust Fund (Revenue)	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	4,205	4,090
Schroder UK Real Estate Property Fund	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	5,032	5,110
Threadneedle Property Unit Trust	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	4,406	4,307
M & G UK Property Fund	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	4,238	4,173
BlackRock UK Property Fund	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	4,588	4,624
AEW UK Core Property Fund	Level 1	Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical units	4,306	4,231
TOTAL			26,775	26,535

The combined purchase price of property fund investments was £27.999m so the decrease in value as at 31 March 2021 was £1.464m

The net decrease in value of the revenue fund during the year of £115k has been debited to the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account in accordance with the statutory override for qualifying pooled investments (SI2018/1207).

The net decrease in value of the capital funds during the year of £126k has been charged to the Capital Adjustment Account in line with the statutory override.

In accordance with the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision Policy approved by Council on 6 March 2019 consideration has been given to the combined fair value of the capital property funds. Based on the reduced values a Voluntary Revenue Provision of £126k has been made in the 2020/21 financial year.

Transfers between Levels of the Fair Value Hierarchy

There were no transfers between input levels 1 and 2 during the year.

Changes in the Valuation Technique

There has been no change in the valuation technique used during the year for the financial instruments.

Fair Values of Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities that Are Not Measured at Fair Value (but for which Fair Value Disclosures Are Required)

Except for the financial assets carried at fair value, all other financial liabilities and financial assets represented by amortised cost and long-term debtors and creditors are carried on the balance sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that take place over the remaining life of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- For loans from the PWLB payable, PWLB prevailing market rates have been applied to provide the

fair value under PWLB debt redemption procedures. An additional note to the tables sets out the alternative fair value measurement applying the premature repayment highlighting the impact of the alternative valuation;

- No early repayment or impairment is recognised;
- Where an instrument has a maturity of less than 12 months or is a trade or other receivable the fair value is taken to be the carrying amount or the billed amount;
- The fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.

The fair values calculated are as follows:

LIABILITIES	31 March 2020		31 March 2021	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Borrowing	(24,150)	(24,581)	(20,149)	(22,933)

For long term borrowing, the fair value is higher than the carrying amount because the authority's portfolio of loans includes fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the prevailing rates at the Balance Sheet date. This shows a notional future loss (based on economic conditions at 31 March 2021) arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders above current market rates.

The fair value of Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loans of £22.933m included above measures the economic effect of the terms agreed with the PWLB compared with estimates of the terms that would be offered for market transactions undertaken at the Balance Sheet date. The difference between the carrying amount and the fair value measures the additional interest that the authority will pay over the remaining terms of the loans under the agreements with the PWLB, against what would be paid if the loans were at prevailing market rates.

However, the Council has a continuing ability to borrow at concessionary rates from the PWLB rather than from the markets, termed the PWLB Certainty Interest rates. A supplementary measure of the fair value as a result of its PWLB commitments for fixed rate loans is to compare the terms of these loans with the new borrowing rates available from the PWLB. If a value is calculated on this basis, the carrying amount of £20m would be valued at £22.933m. But, if the Council were to seek to avoid the projected loss by repaying the loans to the PWLB, the PWLB would raise a penalty charge for early redemption in addition to charging a premium for the additional interest that will not now be paid. The exit price for the PWLB loans including the penalty charge would be £30.454m.

ASSETS	31 March 2020		31 March 2021	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Short term investments	30,337	30,337	25,715	25,715

As the investments referred to in the above table are short term the fair value is assumed to be the carrying value.

NOTE 18 – DEBTORS

31 March 2020 Net £'000		31 March 2021 Gross £'000	31 March 2021 Impairment £'000	31 March 2021 Net £'000
1,549	Trade debtors	1,817	(253)	1,564
682	Council Tax & NDR debtors	18,267	(1,894)	16,373
1,224	Related parties	1,708	-	1,708
330	Prepayments	429	-	429
274	Costs	757	(479)	278
1,643	Other entities and individuals	2,769	(1,707)	1,062
5,702	Total	25,747	(4,333)	21,282

NOTE 19 – CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the following elements:

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
1	Cash held by the Council	1
-	Bank current accounts	665
6,548	Deposits with Banks on Instant Access	15,255
6,549	Cash and Cash Equivalents categorised as Current Assets	15,921
(556)	Bank current accounts	-
(556)	Cash and Cash Equivalents categorised as Current Liabilities	-
5,993	Total Cash and Cash Equivalents	15,921

NOTE 20 – ASSETS HELD FOR SALE

The following tables summarises the movements in the fair value of assets held for sale over the year.

	Current assets		Non-Current assets	
	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Balance outstanding at start of year	81	552	578	588
Assets newly classified as held for sale:				
Property, Plant and Equipment	697	-	-	-
Revaluation gains & losses recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	-	-	(17)	25
Revaluation gains & losses recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on provision of Services	-	-	48	(35)
Additions	-	-	-	-
Assets sold	(140)	(471)	-	-
Transfers between current and non-current	-	-	-	-
Balance outstanding at year end	638	81	609	578

NOTE 21 – CREDITORS

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(2,904)	Trade Payables	(2,152)
(2,079)	Council Tax & NDR Payables	(1,143)
(64)	Other Payables – Central Government	(24,756)
(762)	Other Payables – Other Local Authorities	(1,183)
(1,236)	Other Payables	(277)
(6,470)	Receipts in Advance	(5,995)
(13,515)	Total	(35,506)

NOTE 22 – PROVISIONS

	Business Rate Appeals £'000	Compulsory Purchase Orders £'000
Balance at 1 April 2020	(922)	(297)
Additional provisions made in 2020/21	(256)	-
Amounts used in 2020/21	142	-
Unused amounts reversed in 2020/21	143	-
Balance at 31 March 2021	(893)	(297)

The Business Rate Appeal provision represents East Lindsey's share (40% of £2.232m) of the total provision for appeals against the rateable values set by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) not settled as at 31 March 2021. The total provision has been recognised in the Collection Fund Statement (page 84).

The compulsory purchase order provision relates to monies held by the Council from asset sales awaiting identification of the property owners by legal requirement.

NOTE 23 – USABLE RESERVES

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

NOTE 24 – UNUSABLE RESERVES

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
42,008	Revaluation Reserve	44,859
54,774	Capital Adjustment Account	57,171
(48,898)	Pensions Reserve	(66,500)
205	Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account	90
-	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	-
490	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(10,465)
(113)	Accumulated Absences Account	(155)
48,466	Total Unusable Reserves	25,000

Revaluation Reserve

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

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

The Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
	44,062	Balance at 1 April		42,008
1,718		Upward revaluation of assets	5,752	
(1,558)		Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(1,172)	
	160	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services		4,580
(1,649)		Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	(1,616)	
(565)		Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	(113)	
	(2,214)	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account		(1,729)
	42,008	Balance at 31 March		44,859

Capital Adjustment Account

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

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties. It also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

Note 8 provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
	54,547	Balance at 1 April		54,774
		Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
(3,476)		Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(3,685)	
(748)		Revaluation (losses)/gains on Property, Plant and Equipment	(226)	
(42)		Amortisation of intangible assets	(68)	
(1,745)		Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	(2,035)	
(1,499)		Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(182)	
	(7,510)			(6,196)
	565	Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve		112
	1,649	Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year		1,616
		Capital financing applied in the year:		
155		Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	489	
1,575		Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	2,218	
		Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	-	
-		Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund balance.	-	
1,429		Voluntary Revenue Provision for Repayment of debt due to Property Funds	126	
6,792		Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund balance	2,442	
	9,951			5,275
	(1,188)	Statutory override for unrealised fair value movements in capital property funds		(126)
	(3,240)	Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		1,716
	54,774	Balance at 31 March		57,171

Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account

The Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account contains the gains/losses made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its pooled investment funds which are classified as revenue. These gains/losses will now be posted to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement, however statutory override SI 2018/1207 has provided a five year exemption allowing Councils to post unrealised fair value gains/losses to the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account so they do not affect the General Fund.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
266	Balance at 1 April	205
(61)	Upward/(Downward) revaluation of Pooled Investment Funds	(115)
205	Balance at 31 March	90

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post - employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(59,996)	Balance at 1 April	(48,898)
14,928	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability	(14,718)
(6,693)	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(6,277)
2,863	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	3,393
(48,898)	Balance at 31 March	(66,500)

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of council tax and non-domestic rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from council tax payers and business rate payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
1,714	Balance at 1 April	490
	Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax and non-domestic rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	
(1,224)		(10,955)
490	Balance at 31 March	(10,465)

Accumulated Absences Account

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

2019/20 £'000	2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000	2020/21 £'000
	(46)	Balance at 1 April		(113)
46		Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	113	
(113)		Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	(155)	
	(67)	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		(42)
	(113)	Balance at 31 March		(155)

NOTE 25 – CASH FLOW STATEMENT – OPERATING ACTIVITIES

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
1,577	Interest received	1,527
(494)	Interest paid	(498)

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following non-cash movements:

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
3,476	Depreciation	3,685
748	Impairment and downward revaluations	226
42	Amortisation of intangible assets	68
-	(Increase)/decrease in interest debtors	-
2,458	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	13,478
(1,085)	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,256)
3,830	Movement in Pension Liability	2,884
1,499	Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	182
3,240	Movement in Investment Property Values	(1,716)
(309)	Contribution to Provisions	(29)
1,250	Adjustment for movement in fair value of investments classified as Fair Value through Profit and Loss	241
-	Other non-cash items	(3)
15,149		17,760
	The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing or financing activities:	
(2,085)	Capital Grants credited to surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(3,466)
(555)	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(209)
(2,640)		(3,675)

NOTE 26 – CASH FLOW STATEMENT – INVESTING ACTIVITIES

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
(2,830)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property, plant and intangible assets	(5,294)
(30,696)	Purchase of short term investments	(25,500)
-	Other payments for investing activities	-
555	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property	209
23,000	Proceeds from short term investments	30,000
2,085	Other receipts from investing activities	3,466
(7,886)	Net cash flows from investing activities	2,881

NOTE 27 – CASH FLOW STATEMENT – FINANCING ACTIVITIES

2019/20 £'000		2020/21 £'000
-	Cash payment for the reduction of outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases	-
4,021	Cash receipts Short and Long Term Borrowing	(4,001)
38	Council Tax and NNDR adjustments	(3,516)
4,059	Net cash flows from financing activities	(7,517)

NOTE 28 - RECONCILIATION OF LIABILITIES ARISING FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

	2020/21 1 April £'000	Financing Cashflows £'000	Non-Cash Changes £'000	2020/21 31 March £'000
Cash receipts from Short Term Borrowing	4,021	(4,001)	-	(4,001)
Council Tax & NNDR Debtors	(187)	-	(15,428)	(15,428)
Council Tax & NNDR Creditors	1,401	-	11,912	11,912
Total Liabilities from Financing Activities	5,235	(4,001)	(3,516)	(7,517)

NOTE 29 – MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES

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

	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Basic Allowance	271	261
Special Responsibility Expenses	90	83
	3	24
Total	364	368

NOTE 30 – OFFICERS’ REMUNERATION

The remuneration paid to the Council’s senior employees is as follows:

		Salary, Fees and Allowances £	Termination Payments £	Pension Contribution £	Total £
Chief Executive	2020/21	114,503	-	20,038	134,541
	2019/20	112,016	-	18,595	130,611
Deputy Chief Executive - People	2020/21	94,325	-	16,507	110,832
	2019/20	92,276	-	15,318	107,594
Deputy Chief Executive - Strategy	2020/21	91,508	-	16,507	108,015
	2019/20	84,150	-	13,969	98,119
Assistant Director – Housing & Wellbeing (from 07/08/2020)	2020/21	64,224	-	11,500	75,724
	2019/20	62,246	-	10,817	73,063
Assistant Director – Operations (from, 07/08/2020)	2020/21	64,452	-	11,279	75,731
	2019/20	63,075	-	10,271	73,346
Assistant Director – Corporate Governance (to 31/07/2020)	2020/21	24,244	224,837	4,243	253,324
	2019/20	74,153	-	12,309	86,462
Assistant Director – Economic Growth (from 01/09/2020)	2020/21	57,143	-	9,832	66,975
	2019/20	-	-	-	-
Assistant Director – Assets (from 07/08/20)	2020/21	65,712	-	11,500	77,212
	2019/20	65,150	-	10,682	75,832
Assistant Director – Planning (from 01/10/20)	2020/21	29,876	-	2,770	32,647
	2019/20	49,415	68,781	8,324	126,520
Assistant Director – Organisational and Corporate Services (from 07/08/20)	2020/21	65,844	-	11,523	77,366
	2019/20	65,047	-	10,877	75,924

The Council entered into a shared arrangement with Boston Borough Council in 2020/21 which aimed to bring together staff from both authorities to create one team which serves both Council’s. The senior officers referenced above are employed by East Lindsey District Council with Boston Borough Council employing four officers from the management team.

The Chief Finance Officer is not disclosed above, as they were employed by Corby Borough Council during 2020/21, with their costs being recharged to the Council. This member of staff is also shared with Boston Borough Council. Details relating to the costs of these arrangements are included in the Related Party Transactions Note 33.

The Council's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions) were paid the following amounts:

Remuneration Band	2020/21 Number of Employees	2019/20 Number of Employees
£50,000 – £54,999	4	2

The Council terminated the contract of an employee in 2020/21 incurring liabilities of £224,837 (£99,551 in 2019/20). The number of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below.

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band	
	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21	2019/20	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
£0 - £20,000	-	-	-	6	-	6	-	30,770
£20,001 - £40,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£40,001 - £60,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£60,001 - £80,000	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	68,781
£80,001 - £100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£100,001 - £150,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£150,001 - £200,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
£200,001 - £250,000	1	-	-	-	1	-	224,837	-
Total cost included in CIES	1	-	-	7	1	7	224,837	99,551

NOTE 31 – EXTERNAL AUDIT COSTS

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Financial Statements.

	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Statutory Audit Services		
Fees payable to Mazars with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	59	36
Fees payable to Mazars for external audit services carried out for 2019/20	5	-
Fees payable to KPMG with regard to certification of grants and claims	8	9
Other Audit Services		
Share of fees payable to Duncan & Toplis with regard to external audit services carried out for the year on behalf of Public Sector Partnership Services Ltd by the appointed auditor for the year	6	6
TOTAL	78	51

NOTE 32 – GRANT INCOME

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2020/21:

	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income and Expenditure		
Revenue Support Grant	(930)	(915)
S31 Grant – Small Business Rates Relief	(12,824)	(2,883)
New Homes Bonus Scheme Grant	(1,185)	(1,286)
Other non-ring fenced Government grants	(1,981)	(691)
Total	(16,920)	(5,775)
Credited to Services		
Housing Benefit Subsidy	(30,418)	(32,495)
Council Tax Support and Housing Benefit Administration	(644)	(651)
Disabled Facilities Grant	(2,043)	(1,798)
Home Office – Police and Crime Commissioner Panel	(75)	(83)
Discretionary Housing Payment	(428)	(233)
Other Housing Benefit grants to deliver Local Initiatives	(144)	(150)
COVID-19 Funding	(12,249)	(108)
Homelessness Grants	(313)	(231)
Other grants	(481)	(692)
Total	(46,795)	(36,441)
Sources of Grant Income:		
Central Government	(61,668)	(40,394)
Other Local Authorities	(2,047)	(1,822)
Other Bodies	-	-
Total	(63,715)	(42,216)

NOTE 33 – RELATED PARTIES

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties - bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Council or to be controlled or influenced by the Council. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Council might have been constrained in its ability to operate independently or might have secured the ability to limit another party's ability to bargain freely with the Council.

Central Government

UK Central Government has significant influence over the general operations of the Council - it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. housing benefits).

Details of material transactions with Central Government are shown below. 2019/20 comparators shown in brackets.

• Funding from Government	Note 32	£61.668m	(£40.393m)
• Non-Domestic Rates Share Payable	Collection Fund	£18.484m	(£17.759m)
• Debtors	Note 18	£1.710m	(£1.176m)
• Creditors	Note 21	£25.532m	(£3.808m)

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2020/21 is shown in Note 29. During 2020/21, a number of members were also directors of Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd), directors of Magna Vitae Trust for Leisure and Culture, members of Internal Drainage Boards and other local community associations. During 2020/21 one member was a Director of INVEST East Lindsey, and one member was also an elected member at Lincolnshire County Council.

Payments to Companies during the year (other than to those companies mentioned above) for which members are directors, amounted to £53,000 (£88,000 in 2019/20).

Details of specific transactions where members declared their interests are recorded in the Register of Members' Interest, open to public inspection at the Council Offices during office hours. The Council is compliant with the Localism Act 2012.

Other Public Bodies

With effect from 1 July 2020 East Lindsey formed a strategic alliance with Boston Borough Council. The senior officers became shared on a 67/33 basis (East Lindsey/Boston Borough). The net cost to the Council of the invoices between the Councils was £181k in 20/21 (nil in 19/20), which covered one off restructuring costs.

The Council shared a Section 151 Officer with Corby Borough Council during 2020/21 and in the latter part of the year with Boston Borough Council at a cost of £30,000.

Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Council

Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services)

Joint merged service organisation arrangements for the shared provision of a number of back office services with South Holland District Council were implemented with effect from 1 August 2010, delivered through Public Sector Partnership Services Ltd (PSPS, formerly Compass Point Business Services (CPBS) (East Coast) Ltd). The Council's share of the Company's assets, liabilities, income and expenditure are shown in note 40. There are no significant balances outstanding between the Council and the Company at the 31 March 2021.

Further information about the accounts of PSPS is available from the Company Secretary, New Bailey, 4 Stanley Street, Manchester M3 5JL.

Magna Vitae Trust for Leisure and Culture

From 1 January 2015 the delivery and operation of leisure, cultural and health related services were transferred to Magna Vitae Trust for Leisure and Culture, a registered charity. For the financial year 2020/21, two of the ten trustees of Magna Vitae were Council Members. The Council paid a service fee of £1,668,848 to Magna Vitae for the 2020/21 financial year (£1,585,214 in 2019/20). In addition it provided support service functions for grounds maintenance.

There were no significant balances outstanding between the Council and the Company at 31 March 2021.

INVEST East Lindsey

The Council has a wholly owned subsidiary company, INVEST East Lindsey. Four officers were directors of the company during 2020/21.

NOTE 34 – CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND CAPITAL FINANCING

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	£'000	£'000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	22,552	23,999
Capital Investment		
Property, Plant and Equipment	1,646	5,757
Long Term Debtors	1,220	563
Intangible Assets	248	411
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital Under Statute	2,035	1,745
Investment Properties	-	28
Sources of finance		
Capital receipts	(489)	(155)
Government grants and other contributions	(2,218)	(1,575)
Sums set aside from revenue:		
Direct revenue contributions	(2,442)	(6,792)
Voluntary Revenue Provision	(126)	(1,429)
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	22,426	22,552
Explanation of movements in year		
Increase in underlying need to borrow	-	(18)
Voluntary Revenue Provision	(126)	(1,429)
Increase/(Decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	(126)	(1,447)

NOTE 35 – LEASES

Council as Lessee - Operating Leases

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

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Not later than 1 year	109	115
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	380	9
Later than 5 years	28	29
	517	153

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

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Minimum lease payments	109	153
	109	153

Council as Lessor - Operating Leases

The Council leases out property under operating leases for the following purposes:

- For the provision of community services, such as sports facilities, tourism services and community centres, and
- For economic development purposes to provide suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses.

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

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Not later than 1 year	1,811	1,751
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	4,499	4,696
Later than 5 years	12,557	12,910
	18,867	19,357

In addition, the Council received £226,912 as a charge for office space (£226,912 in 2019/20) from Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd) in respect of the usage of office space only. No formal long term arrangement currently exists.

There are no contingent rents payable to/from the Council, both as lessee and lessor.

NOTE 36 – DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEMES

Participation in Pension Schemes

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

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Lincolnshire County Council. This is a funded defined benefit scheme, meaning that the employer and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pension's liabilities with investment assets.

The Lincolnshire pension scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the scheme is the responsibility of the pensions committee of Lincolnshire County Council. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pensions Fund Regulations.

The principal risks of the scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the scheme, structural changes to the scheme, changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge to the General Fund the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note.

The financial information contained in this note includes the position for East Lindsey District Council together with a share for Public Sector Partnership Services (formerly Compass Point Business Services Ltd) to comply with the accounting requirements for Joint Operations.

Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

We recognise the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge we are required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		
<i>Cost of Services:</i>		
<i>Service cost comprising</i>		
Current service cost	4,849	4,998
Past Service costs (including curtailments)	312	220
Administration Expenses	67	0
<i>Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure</i>		
Net interest expense	1,050	1,475
Total Post-employment Benefits charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	6,277	6,693
<i>Other Post-employment Benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</i>		
Remeasurement of net defined benefit liability comprising:		
Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	(16,896)	12,190
Actuarial (gains) and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	(1,508)	(5,093)
Actuarial (gains) and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	34,759	(12,045)
Other experience	(1,636)	(9,980)
Total Remeasurements recognised in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	14,719	(14,928)
Total Post-employment Benefit charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	20,996	(8,235)
Movement in Reserves Statement		
Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit for the Provision of Services for post-employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(2,884)	(3,830)
Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:		
Employers' contributions payable to scheme	3,258	2,719
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	135	144

Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

The amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the authority's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans is as follows.

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Present Value of the defined obligation	(166,563)	(130,238)
Fair Value of plan assets	100,063	81,340
Net Liability arising from defined benefit obligation	(66,500)	(48,898)

Reconciliation of the Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Opening fair value scheme assets	81,340	91,857
Interest Income	1,481	2,224
Remeasurement gain/(loss)		
The return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	16,896	(12,190)
Contributions from employer	3,258	2,719
Contributions from employees into the scheme	767	699
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	135	144
Administration Expenses	(67)	-
Benefits Paid	(3,748)	(4,113)
Closing fair value of scheme assets	100,063	81,340

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

	Funded Liabilities: Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2020/21 £'000	2019/20 £'000
Opening Balance at 1 April	130,238	151,853
Current Service Cost	4,849	4,998
Interest Cost	2,530	3,699
Contributions from scheme participants	768	699
<i>Remeasurements (gains) and losses:</i>		
Actuarial losses arising from changes in demographic assumptions	(1,508)	(5,093)
Actuarial losses arising from changes in financial assumptions	34,759	(12,045)
Other experience	(1,636)	(9,980)
Past service cost	312	220
Benefits paid	(3,748)	(4,113)
Closing Balance at 31 March	166,563	130,238

Local Government Pension Scheme assets comprised:

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Quoted prices in active markets £'000	% of Total assets	Quoted prices in active markets £'000	% of Total assets
Cash and Cash Equivalents	4,503	5%	1,220	2%
Equity Instruments				
UK	16,210	16%	12,852	16%
Overseas	41,126	40%	31,235	38%
Debt Securities				
Corporate Bonds - UK	9,906	10%	9,354	12%
Corporate Bonds - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Fixed Interest Government - UK	1,101	1%	1,057	1%
Fixed Interest Government - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Index Linked Government - UK	1,701	2%	1,627	2%
Index Linked Government - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Property	7,004	7%	6,914	9%
Private equity	300	0%	-	0%
Others				
Hedge Fund	-	0%	-	0%
Infrastructure	600	1%	81	0%
Bonds	-	0%	3,172	4%
Commodities	500	1%	244	0%
Credit Diversified Income	3,302	3%	0	0%
Other Diversified Alternatives	1,601	2%	1,139	1%
Private Debt	-	0%	-	0%
Forward Currency Contracts	-	0%	-	0%
Total	87,854	88%	68,895	85%

	2020/21		2019/20	
	Unquoted prices in active markets £'000	% of Total assets	Unquoted prices in active markets £'000	% of Total assets
Cash and Cash Equivalents	-	0%	-	0%
Equity Instruments				
UK	-	0%	-	0%
Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Debt Securities				
Corporate Bonds - UK	-	0%	-	0%
Corporate Bonds - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Fixed Interest Government - UK	-	0%	-	0%
Fixed Interest Government - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Index Linked Government - UK	-	0%	-	0%
Index Linked Government - Overseas	-	0%	-	0%
Property	300	0%	81	0%
Private equity	5,604	5%	5,206	6%
Others				
Hedge Fund	3,002	3%	2,847	4%
Infrastructure	2,602	3%	2,440	3%
Bonds	-	0%	-	0%
Commodities	-	0%	163	0%
Credit Diversified Income	-	0%	-	0%
Other Diversified Alternatives	(200)	0%	407	1%
Private Debt	1,001	1%	976	1%
Forward Currency Contracts	(100)	0%	325	0%
Total	12,209	12%	12,445	15%

Basis for estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc.

The Local Government Pension Scheme has been assessed by Barnett Waddingham, an independent firm of actuaries; estimates for the Lincolnshire Pension Fund are based on the latest full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2021.

The significant assumptions, for the Council, used by the actuary have been:

	Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2020/21	2019/20
<i>Mortality assumptions:</i>		
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners (years):		
- Men	21.1	21.4
- Women	23.6	23.7
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners (years):		
- Men	22.0	22.4
- Women	25.0	25.2
Rate of increase in salaries	3.1%	2.2%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.8%	1.9%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	2.0%	2.3%

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes for each change that the assumption analysed changes while all other assumptions remain constant. The assumptions in longevity, for example, assume that life expectancy increases or decreases for men and women. In practice, this is unlikely to occur, and changes in some of the assumptions may be interrelated. The estimations in the sensitivity analysis have followed the accounting policies for the scheme, i.e. on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method. The methods and types of assumptions used in preparing the sensitivity analysis below did not change from those used in the previous period.

	Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation in the Scheme	
	Present Value of Obligation £'000	Projected Service Cost £'000
0.1% decrease in Discount Rate	135,495	4,700
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	133,170	4,567
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	135,164	4,698

Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

The contributions paid by the Council are set by the Fund Actuary at each triennial actuarial valuation, the most recent being 31 March 2019. The employer's contributions rate, over the period to 31 March 2023 will be 17.5%, a 0.9% increase from the level set at the previous triennial valuation.

Employer contributions payable to the scheme in 2021/22 are estimated to be £3.450m.

NOTE 37 – CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At 31 March 2021 the Council has identified no material contingent liabilities.

NOTE 38 – CONTINGENT ASSETS

At 31 March 2021 the Council has identified the following material contingent assets:

S106 Agreements

The Council has signed a number of S106 agreements that require developers to make payments to the Council at some future date, dependent upon certain events taking place such as when the development actually starts on site. The contributions generally have conditions requiring the Council to spend the monies in specific areas and on specific items. The total value of the contributions is unknown but is expected to be in excess of £1m.

NOTE 39 – NATURE AND EXTENT OF RISKS ARISING FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Key risks

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

- **credit risk** – the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council
- **liquidity risk** – the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments
- **re-financing risk** – the possibility that the Council might be requiring to renew a financial instrument on maturity at disadvantageous interest rates or terms
- **market risk** – the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates or stock market movements.

Overall procedures for managing risk

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets, and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services.

Risk management is carried out by a central treasury team, under policies approved by the Council in the annual treasury management strategy. The Council provides written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies (covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, and the investment of surplus cash).

Credit Risk

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

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria, in accordance with the Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's Credit Ratings Services. The Annual Investment Strategy also considers maximum amounts and time limits with a financial institution located in each category.

The credit criteria in respect of financial assets held by the Council are detailed below:

This Council uses the creditworthiness service provided by Link Group. This service uses a sophisticated modelling approach with credit ratings from all three rating agencies - Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's, forming the core element. However, it does not rely solely on the current credit ratings of counterparties but also uses the following as overlays:

- credit watches and credit outlooks from credit rating agencies
- CDS spreads to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings
- sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries

The full Investment Strategy for 2020/21 was approved by Full Council on 4 March 2020 and is available on the Council's website.

Customers for goods and services are assessed, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors, with individual credit limits being set in accordance with internal ratings in accordance with parameters set by the Council.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks and building societies of £25.526m cannot be assessed generally, as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to be unable to meet their commitments. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at 31 March 2021 that this was likely to crystallise.

The following analysis summarises the Council's maximum exposure to credit risk on other financial assets, based on experience of default, adjusted to reflect current market conditions:

	Amount at 31 March 2021 £'000	Historical experience of default %	Historical experience adjusted for market conditions at 31 March 2021 %	Estimated maximum exposure to default and uncollectability at 31 March 2021 £'000	Estimated maximum exposure at 31 March 2020 £'000
	A	B	C	(A X C)	
Debtors	3,003	1.1%	1.1%	33	24

No credit limits were exceeded during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits and bonds.

The Council does not generally allow credit for its customers, such that £477,156 of the £2,237,000 trade debtor balance is past its due date for payment. The past due amount can be analysed by age as follows:

	31 March 2021 £'000	31 March 2020 £'000
Less than three months	1,830	918
Three to six months	10	2
Six months to one year	225	19
More than one year	172	52
Total	2,237	991

During the reporting period the Council held no collateral as security.

Liquidity Risk

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above (the setting and approval of prudential indicators and the approval of the treasury and investment strategy reports), as well as through a comprehensive cash flow management system, as required by the CIPFA Code of Practice. This seeks to ensure that cash is available when needed.

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day to day cash flow need, and the PWLB and money markets for access to longer term funds. The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised

to cover annual expenditure. There is therefore no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year except for the loans made to Invest EL.

Refinancing and maturity risk

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

The approved treasury indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments for greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk. The approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks and the treasury team address the operational risks within the approved parameters. This includes:

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

Market Risk

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

- borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the borrowing will fall
- investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise; and
- investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the Balance Sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments will be posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services and affect the General Fund Balance. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments that have a quoted market price will be reflected in the Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

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

According to this assessment strategy, at 31 March 2021, if all interest rates had been 1% higher (with all other variables held constant) the financial effect would be:

	£'000
Increase in interest receivable on variable rate investments	426
Impact on Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	426

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

Price Risk - The Council does not generally invest in equity shares or marketable bonds.

However it does have a shareholding in Public Sector Partnership Services, a joint venture with South Holland District Council. These shares have been elected/classified as Fair Value through Other Comprehensive Income, meaning that all movements in price will impact on gains and losses recognised in the Financial Instruments Revaluation Reserve.

The Council held £26.775m in property funds at the start of the financial year which are classified as 'fair value through profit and loss' meaning that all movements in price will impact on gains and losses recognised within the cost of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, with the statutory override currently providing an opposite entry in the Capital Adjustment Account or Pooled Investment Adjustment Account. A general shift of 5% in the general price of units (positive or negative) would therefore result in a £1.339m gain or loss being reflected in these statements for 2020/21.

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Council has no material financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and therefore has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

NOTE 40 – JOINT OPERATION

East Lindsey has joint control with South Holland District Council over Public Sector Partnership Services Limited (formerly Compass Point Business Services (East Coast) Ltd), a company established in 2010 to provide 'back office' services to both Councils. East Lindsey owns 63%, of the company, and South Holland 37%, but voting rights are split 50:50.

This arrangement is classified as a joint operation. The Council recognises on its Balance Sheet an appropriate share of its rights to the assets and obligations for the liabilities and debits and credits the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement with its share of expenses incurred and income it earns from the activity of the Company.

Public Sector Partnership Services' (formerly Compass Point Business Services) attributable proportion included in the Council's Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2021:

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
8	Property, Plant and Equipment	5
245	Intangible Assets	359
253	Long Term Assets	364
59	Short Term Debtors	109
834	Cash and Cash Equivalents	801
893	Current Assets	910
(64)	Cash and Cash Equivalents	-
(204)	Short Term Creditors	(381)
(268)	Current Liabilities	(381)
(4,971)	Other Long Term Liabilities	(9,806)
(4,093)	Net Assets	(8,913)
623	Usable Reserves General Fund	528
	Unusable Reserves	
271	Capital Adjustment Account	382
(4,971)	Pension Reserve	(9,806)
(16)	Accumulated Absences Adjustment Account	(17)
(4,716)		(9,441)
(4,093)	Total Reserves	(8,913)

Public Sector Partnership Services' (formerly Compass Point Business Services) attributable proportion included in the Council's Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account for the year:

31 March 2020 £'000		31 March 2021 £'000
5,136	Gross Pay, National Insurance and Pensions	5,167
47	Premises Related Expenses	7
94	Transport Related Expenses	34
701	Supplies and Services	691
18	Depreciation and amortisation	27
5,996	Gross Operating Expenditure	5,928
(106)	Other Income	(34)
5,890	Cost of Services	5,894
159	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability	106
-	Tax liability	6
(6)	Interest receivable and similar income	(1)
6,043	(Surplus)/Deficit on the Provision of Services	6,005
(1,946)	Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability	4,338
4,097	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	10,343

COLLECTION FUND STATEMENT

Council Tax £'000	2019/20 Non- Domestic Rates £'000	Total £'000		Council Tax £'000	2020/21 Non- Domestic Rates £'000	Total £'000
(78,320)		(78,320)	Income			
	(36,134)	(36,134)	Council Tax (Note 2)	(81,633)		(81,633)
	(945)	(945)	Non-Domestic Rates (Note 3)		(14,598)	(14,598)
			Transitional Protection Payments receivable		(218)	(218)
			Contribution towards previous year's Collection Fund deficit			
			Central Government			
			East Lindsey District Council			
			Lincolnshire County Council			
(78,320)	(37,079)	(115,399)	Total Income	(81,633)	(14,816)	(96,449)
			Expenditure			
			Precepts, demands and shares			
	17,759	17,759	Central Government		18,484	18,484
8,930	14,208	23,138	East Lindsey District Council	9,517	14,787	24,304
57,207	3,552	60,759	Lincolnshire County Council	60,152	3,696	63,848
10,685		10,685	Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire	11,304		11,304
			Impairment of debts/appeals			
594	315	909	Increase in allowance for impairment	779	1,927	2,706
	302	302	Increase/(decrease) in provision for appeals (Note 4)		284	284
			Transitional Protection Payments payable			
	262	262	Cost of Collection Allowance		258	258
	761	761	Renewable Energy		794	794
			Contributions towards previous year's Collection Fund surplus			
	107	107	Central Government		342	342
91	1,206	1,297	East Lindsey District Council	97	677	774
607	769	1,376	Lincolnshire County Council	668	337	1,005
107		107	Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire	116		116
78,221	39,241	117,462	Total Expenditure	82,633	41,586	124,219
(99)	2,162	2,063	Deficit/(Surplus) arising during year	1,000	26,770	27,770
(897)	(2,754)	(3,651)	Deficit/(Surplus) at beginning of year	(996)	(592)	(1,588)
(996)	(592)	(1,588)	Deficit/(Surplus) at end of year (Note 5)	4	26,178	26,182

NOTES TO THE COLLECTION FUND STATEMENT

NOTE 1 – PURPOSE OF COLLECTION FUND STATEMENT

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

NOTE 2 – COUNCIL TAX RECEIVABLE

Council Tax income derives from charges raised according to the value of residential properties that have been classified into eight Valuation Bands (A to H). Individual charges are calculated by estimating the amount of income required to be taken from the Collection Fund by Lincolnshire County Council, Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire and East Lindsey District Council, together with the relevant Parish requirement.

This is then divided by the Council Tax base, i.e. the number of properties in each valuation band, converted to an equivalent number of band D dwellings and adjusted for discounts and exemptions.

The Council Tax base was calculated as follows:

Band	No. of properties on Valuation List	No. of dwellings after discounts and exemptions	Ratio	Band D equivalent dwellings
A (with Disabled Relief)		52	5/9	29
A	27,442	17,900	6/9	11,933
B	14,630	11,639	7/9	9,053
C	15,821	13,344	8/9	11,861
D	6,470	6,042	9/9	6,042
E	3,391	3,116	11/9	3,808
F	1,215	1,157	13/9	1,672
G	549	494	15/9	824
H	52	32	18/9	65
Band D Equivalentents				45,287
Allowance for non-collection (1.32%)				(598)
Armed forces contribution				282
District Tax Base				44,971

The basic amount of Council Tax for a band D property including an average parish charge, £1,800.57 (2019/20 £1,735.53), is then multiplied by the ratio specified for the particular band to give an individual amount due.

NOTE 3 – NON-DOMESTIC RATES RECEIVABLE

Under the arrangements for non-domestic rates, the Council collects rates for its area based on local rateable values (determined by the Valuation Office Agency, an executive agency of HM Revenue and Customs) multiplied by the multiplier (determined by the Government). For 2020/21 there are two multipliers, the non-domestic rating multiplier of 51.2p and the small business non-domestic rating multiplier of 49.9p.

The Council's total Non-Domestic Rates Rateable Value at 31 March 2021 was £100.165m (31 March 2020 £100.639m).

NOTE 4 – NON-DOMESTIC RATES PROVISION FOR APPEALS

The Collection Fund provides for a provision for appeals against the Rateable Value set by the Valuation Office Agency (VOA) not settled at 31 March 2021.

	Business Rate Appeals	
	£'000	£'000
Balance at 1 April 2020		(2,304)
Amounts used in 2020/21		355
Additional provisions made in 2020/21	(641)	
Unused amounts reversed in 2020/21	358	
		(283)
Balance at 31 March 2021		(2,232)

NOTE 5 – COLLECTION FUND DEFICIT/ (SURPLUS)

As at 31 March 2021, the net deficit on the Collection Fund is £24,291,000 (31 March 2020, a surplus of £1,588,000).

The Council Tax surplus is apportioned to the relevant precepting bodies based on the following year's Council Tax requirement. Whereas, the Non-Domestic Rates surplus relating to 2020/21 is apportioned to East Lindsey (40%), Central Government (50%) and Lincolnshire County Council (10%).

The balance on the Collection Fund is allocated as follows:

2019/20			2020/21	
Council Tax £'000	Non-Domestic Rates £'000		Council Tax £'000	Non-Domestic Rates £'000
	40	Central Government		13,089
(117)	(371)	East Lindsey District Council	-	10,471
(740)	(261)	Lincolnshire County Council	3	2,618
(139)		Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire	1	
(996)	(592)	(Surplus)/deficit	4	26,178

Independent auditor's report to the members of East Lindsey District Council

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on the financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of East Lindsey District Council ("the [Council]) for the year ended 31 March 2021, which comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council as at 31st March 2021 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on the valuation of property, plant and equipment (other land and buildings) and investment properties

We draw attention to note 4 of the financial statements, which describes the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the valuation of the Council's property, plant and equipment (other land and buildings) and investment properties. As disclosed in note 4 of the financial statements, the Council's valuer included a 'material valuation uncertainty' declaration within their report as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Chief Financial Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Chief Financial Officer's Responsibilities, the Chief Financial Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. The Chief Financial Officer is also responsible for such internal control as the Chief Financial Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The Chief Financial Officer is required to comply with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21 and prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for assessing each year whether or not it is appropriate for the Council to prepare its accounts on the going concern basis and disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Based on our understanding of the Council we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to the Local Government Act 2003 (and associated regulations made under section 21), the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (and associated regulations made under section 32) and the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended) and we considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements.

We evaluated the Chief Financial Officer's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls) and determined that the principal risks were related to posting manual journal entries to manipulate financial performance, management bias through judgements and assumptions in significant accounting estimates and significant one-off or unusual transactions.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to those identified risks, including non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) and fraud that are material to the financial statements. Our audit procedures included but were not limited to:

- discussing with management and the Audit and Governance Committee the policies and procedures regarding compliance with laws and regulations;
- communicating identified laws and regulations throughout our engagement team and remaining alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout our audit; and
- considering the risk of acts by the Council which were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

Our audit procedures in relation to fraud included but were not limited to:

- making enquiries of management and the Audit and Governance Committee on whether they had knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- gaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud;
- discussing amongst the engagement team the risks of fraud; and
- addressing the risks of fraud through management override of controls by performing journal entry testing.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of irregularities including fraud rests with management and the Audit and Governance Committee. As with any audit, there remained a risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations or the override of internal controls.

We are also required to conclude on whether the Chief Financial Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate. We performed our work in accordance with Practice Note 10: Audit of financial statement and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom, and Supplementary Guidance Note 01, issued by the National Audit Office in April 2021.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Report on the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Matter on which we are required to report by exception

We are required to report to you if, in our view we are not satisfied that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We have not completed our work on the Council's arrangements. On the basis of our work to date, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2021, we have not identified any significant weaknesses in arrangements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

We will report the outcome of our work on the Council's arrangements in our commentary on those arrangements within the Auditor's Annual Report. Our audit completion certificate will set out any matters which we are required to report by exception.

Responsibilities of the Council

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We are required under section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Council's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We have undertaken our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in April 2021.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

We are required by the Code of Audit Practice to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014;
- we make a recommendation under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under sections 28, 29 or 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

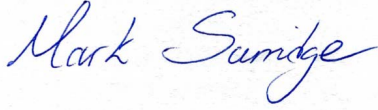
Use of the audit report

This report is made solely to the members of East Lindsey District Council, as a body, in accordance with part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members of the Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members of the Council, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until we have completed:

- the work necessary to issue our assurance statement in respect of the Council's Whole of Government Accounts consolidation pack;
- the work necessary to satisfy ourselves that the Council has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.



Mark SurrIDGE, Key Audit Partner
For and on behalf of Mazars LLP

2 Chamberlain Square
Birmingham
B3 3AX

30 November 2021

EAST LINDSEY DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

1. Scope of Responsibility

- 1.1 East Lindsey District Council (ELDC) is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for, and used economically, efficiently and effectively. ELDC also has a duty under the Local Government Act 1999 to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- 1.2 In discharging this overall responsibility, ELDC is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, including arrangements for the management of risk.
- 1.3 The Council has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance, which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA / SOLACE Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government*. A copy of the Council's code is on our website at www.e-lindsey.gov.uk or can be obtained from the Council offices. This statement explains how the Council has complied with the code and also meets the requirements of regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003 as amended by the Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2011, regulation 4(3), which requires all relevant bodies to prepare an annual governance statement.

2. The Purpose of the Governance Framework

- 2.1 The governance framework comprises the systems and processes, culture and values by which the authority is directed and controlled and its activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads its communities. It enables the authority to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate services and value for money.
- 2.2 The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood and potential impact of those risks being realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.
- 2.3 The governance framework has been in place at the Council for the year ended 31 March 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual Accounts.

3. The Governance Framework

3.1 The Council’s review of the effectiveness of its governance arrangements is set out below against the key elements identified in *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework*.

Key Elements	Description of Governance Mechanisms	Assurance Received
<p>Identifying and communicating the Authority’s vision of its purpose and intended outcomes for citizens and service users</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Strategy 2020 - 2030 was approved at the 4 March 2020 Council meeting. It sets out the vision and priorities for the Council. A quarterly report sets out the Council’s targets and performance measures that reflect the priorities set by services in their Service Plans and also reports on key financial monitoring and decision making that help the delivery of the Corporate Strategy • The annual performance report provides wider contextual information at a district level, providing a range of indicators that help identify general health, community safety and economic trends. • The Council is pro-active in reporting activity and outcomes to the public through the local press and social media, as well as through an electronic newsletter called The Messenger • The vast majority of Council business is undertaken in public meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Performance Management Framework quarterly report is reported through the Executive Board and the Overview Committee. • Portfolio Holders receive monitoring reports on the key indicators and operational indicators along with finance reports, on a six weekly basis • The Management Team receive the full quarterly reports, and also monthly reports which contain operational indicators designed to track demand volumes as well as targets • The Management Team is developing a score card focussed on measuring efficiency and/or productivity in order to better assess value for money. • The Strategic Risk Register and Internal Audit Plan support the achievement of the Council’s priorities • The Medium Term Financial Strategy which is reported at the February Council meeting not only sets the scene financially, it also identifies any change to priorities and/or new areas of focus.
<p>Reviewing the Authority’s vision and its implications for the Authority’s governance arrangements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of workshop sessions with officers, Members and Parish Councils were held during autumn 2019 to contribute to setting the Strategic Priorities of the Corporate Strategy • Challenge sessions are held annually with Portfolio Holders and Managers to consider the service priorities and the associated targets set in the performance frameworks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of current performance against priorities reported to Portfolio Holders and evidence in Service Plans • Performance reporting is aligned to the Strategic Priorities of the Corporate Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current Corporate Strategy was approved 2 weeks before the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Whilst the Strategy covers a 10 year period, the outcomes expected early in that period will be subject to review during 2021 in order to assess whether any changes are necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feedback from community/member/staff consultation on Council priorities
Translating the Vision into objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Service Plans identify activity that helps to deliver the Corporate priorities The Medium Term Financial Strategy identifies risks and opportunities to achieving the delivery of the Council's priorities The Risk Strategy and Risk Register supports the delivery of priorities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service Plans agreed by the Strategic Management Team and Portfolio Holders, with targets captured in the Performance Report MTFS agreed by Executive Board and Council
Measuring the quality of service for users, for ensuring they are delivered in accordance with the Authority's objectives and for ensuring that they represent the best use of resources and value for money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A range of surveys are carried out each year, co-ordinated through the Corporate Consultation programme Internet questions and monitoring of social networking Quarterly Monitoring report contains both performance and finance indicators and a dashboard to show the overall health of the organisation Regular Portfolio Holder meetings held with key staff to monitor performance, project activity and new areas of work or policy. Compliments and complaints summary included in Performance Report and reported to the Strategic Management Team. Individual Services carry out their own customer satisfaction surveys which feed into service improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance Management Framework quarterly report, reported through Executive Board, Overview Committee and Audit & Governance Committee; including finance data and decisions as well as performance target detail Feedback from service level surveys Portfolio Holder meetings timetabled for the full year, with updates on key actions provided to each meeting and published in the Members' Point Brief
3.1.5 Defining and documenting the roles and responsibilities of the Executive, non-Executive, scrutiny and officer functions, with clear delegation arrangements and protocols for effective communication in respect of the authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is set out in the Council's Constitution The Constitution is updated where necessary. Significant changes are reported to the Audit & Governance Committee and then to Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed changes/updates to the Constitution brought to Council for consideration A full and comprehensive review of the Constitution has taken place, and a new and updated Constitution was agreed at Full Council in April 2017 following consideration by the Audit & Governance Committee. Formal ELDC/PSPS Management Agreement documentation is reported through Audit & Governance Committee if any changes are required mid-term

<p>and partnership arrangements</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A full review of future contractual arrangements with PSPS has taken place in partnership with South Holland District Council. This has included a review of the PSPS Board governance arrangements. The contract has been fully reviewed and a new contract period started in 2019. PSPS have set out a Transformation Programme as part of that process to identify and plan for further efficiencies. These have been reported to Full Council through series of formal reports. • Management Agreement and contract in place with Magna Vitae (MV), and MV produce a quarterly and annual report that is made available to all members. • The contractual arrangement and delivery priorities (Business Plan) have been fully reviewed in 2018 as set out in the Councils' Transformation Programme; this was reported to Full Council. This has included a review of the contract price, charging, new investments to enable future contract price reductions (invest to save), and the development of current and new service provision. • During 2020 ELDC formed a strategic alliance with Boston Borough Council with the aim to create a single workforce to serve both Councils by the end of 2022. During 2020/21 the first step on this journey was made by forming a single management team to serve both Authorities. The arrangements are reviewed regularly through a shared Alliance Board. • Monitoring of partnering arrangements on an ongoing basis take place through the Partnerships Portfolio; and include reports to
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		the Finance Portfolio Holder where appropriate.
Developing, communicating and embedding codes of conduct , defining the standards of behaviour for members and staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is set out in the Council Constitution • Expectations and requirements of staff behaviour are set out in the Staff Handbook provided to all new staff and available on the website • The Constitution sets out expectations and guidance on Councillor/Officer working relationships • Training is provided to all members on the member code of conduct arrangements (mandatory training) • Audit & Governance Committee monitor member standards arrangements. This role is set out in the Constitution. • The Monitoring Officer provides ongoing support and advice to Councillors as required and/or requested. • The Monitoring Officer is able to provide guidance to Town & Parish Councils as requested • The Monitoring Officer considers, and may investigate, complaints about ELDC Councillors, and Town and Parish Councillors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit & Governance Committee oversee standards arrangements including receiving reports on complaints regarding conduct and the measures taken or recommended • Audit & Governance Committee provide a Hearing Panel function for any serious complaints • The Officer Code of Conduct is embedded in the revised Council Constitution. • A Monitoring Officer who is directly employed by Boston Borough Council but serves both Councils supports Councillors as required.
Reviewing the effectiveness of the Authority's decision-making framework , including delegation arrangements, decision making in partnerships and robustness of data quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is set out in the Constitution • Decision making arrangements meet legislative requirements • The Performance Team have a rolling programme of data quality checking • Data sharing protocols are in place where necessary • Service Level Agreements with partners are in place and monitored carefully (financial and performance), with named officers and Portfolio responsibilities set out • Memoranda of Understanding documents are produced/signed up to where appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members and officers are provided with guidance on decision making arrangements with detailed delegations set out in the Constitution; these are updated when necessary and reported to Council. • Data Quality checking results reported to Management Team • Contractual develops between ELDC and PSPS and Magna Vitae have been reported to Full Council during 2020/21. • A full and comprehensive review of the Constitution has taken place, and a new and updated Constitution was agreed at Full Council in April 2017. This has continued to be updated when necessary, and the Delegation section has been fully updated following senior management changes and new senior managers recruited. Contractual arrangements or partnering arrangements are subject to GDPR reviews on an ongoing basis, particularly where there are any changes.

<p>Reviewing the effectiveness of the framework for identifying and managing risks and demonstrating clear accountability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Risk register in place and monitored by managers and members • Operational Risk Registers in place and monitored by the Performance Manager and Management Team. • Operational staff able to escalate risks reporting to Management Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Risk Strategy and Risk Registers were subject to external evaluation in 2016. The Strategy was fully refreshed and brought in-line with up to date methods of managing risk, and approved through Full Council. • An audit of our Risk Management arrangements in March 2018 resulted in Substantial Assurance, and included some very positive feedback. • Management Team update the Strategic Risk Register quarterly and feed into the Performance Report • Strategic Risk Register are reported in the quarterly Performance Framework and separately to the Audit & Governance Committee and Management Team • Operational Risks are identified in annual Service Plans • Service level monitoring • Risk Appetite workshops were held with Councillors and Managers in 2018/19 to help inform the council's decisions.
<p>Ensuring effective counter-fraud and anti-corruption arrangements are developed and maintained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Counter Fraud Policy and Fraud Response Plan is in place. • Team Leaders complete an on-line training programme on fraud • The Council actively takes part in the National Fraud Initiative • A counter fraud e-learning package is completed by all staff • The Council is a member of the Lincolnshire Counter Fraud Partnership which provides access to best practice, guidance and support. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit & Governance Committee and Staff training • Work with DWP arrangements • Reminders provided to staff to be aware of fraud risk. • Council's Fraud Risk Register presented to Audit and Governance Committee as part of Annual Fraud Report

<p>Ensuring effective management of change and transformation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenge sessions with staff and members are carried out annually • Reporting of significant changes to policy or provision are reported through Portfolio and Executive Board (and Council where appropriate) • A Corporate Staff Development programme is in place • People Strategy in place to ensure appropriate levels of support and training are in place to enable staff to manage change • People Strategy Action plan reviewed and delivered annually. • Strong internal communication to keep staff and members informed • Bi-annual staff survey to help monitor impact of change • Project Management process in place • Member of Management Team have corporate responsibility for projects that deliver change • Improved working relationship with PSPS that enables joint working on change programmes within back office services. • A new Organisational Development Team has been put in place to support change arrangements across the council – providing additional support to managers; • There is now a shared management team in place to support strategic work between ELDC and Boston Borough Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Team decisions • Portfolio/Executive Board reports and decisions • Overview Committee reports and decisions • Client/Contractor management meetings are held regularly to discuss planned changes to service delivery and priorities • The Client Officer and members of management team are engaged with PSPS in the development of their Transformation Programme • The annual review of the People Strategy is reported to Overview Committee and Executive Board; along with key points from the staff survey • An Organisation development Strategy was approved in 2020.
<p>Ensuring the Authority's financial management arrangements conform with the governance requirements of the <i>CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2010)</i> and, where they do not, explain why and how they deliver the same impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full compliance with the CIPFA guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Role of Chief Financial Officer (CFO) is undertaken by the Section 151 Officer with responsibilities set out in the Constitution; key member of Corporate Management Team (CMT); professionally qualified accountant with direct access to the Chief Executive, Leader, Executive Board, Audit & Governance Committee & the appointed auditors – The Finance team is fit for purpose <p>The Medium Term Financial Strategy, annual budget process, compliance with CIPFA codes and guidance on capital finance, treasury management and management of reserves</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequacy of financial arrangements are overseen by Chief Financial Officer, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Audit & Governance Committee
<p>Ensuring the authority's assurance arrangements conform with the governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full compliance with the CIPFA guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The Internal Audit Team/Head of Internal Audit provide an objective and evidence based opinion on all aspects of governance, risk management and internal control 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Management Team receives and considers all Internal Audit reports

<p>requirements of the <i>CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Head of Internal Audit (2019)</i> and, where they do not, explain why and how they deliver the same impact</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Internal Audit is delivered through Lincolnshire County Council with a principal auditor allocated to East Lindsey District Council. This has improved the resilience of the audit team, and enables access to specialist audit which previously had to be commissioned. – The internal audit service is fit for purpose – Team and Section 151 Officer, the Audit & Governance Committee and is able to meet separately with the Chair of the Audit & Governance Committee should that be required (as set out in the Constitution) – Audit Team attend external training as necessary, and access national network of governance support through CIPFA – The service has been assessed as conforming to the UK Public Sector Internal Audit Standards, a Quality Assurance Improvement Programme is maintained as part of those standards and work is ongoing to prepare for the next external assessment in 2021. <p>12 audits have been completed from the 2020/2021 Audit Plan; of those, 2 had High Assurance, 3 had Substantial Assurance, 2 had Limited Assurance and 1 had Low Assurance. Four reviews were Consultancy pieces and therefore no opinion is provided in accordance with the audit standards. Recommendations have been agreed to address the required improvements and 58% of recommendations had been implemented as at the year end. Many of these actions will be implemented in the new year as COVID delayed many of the audits.</p> <p>The overall themed areas of Risk Management and Financial Control are all assessed as performing adequately. The areas of Governance and Internal Control are assessed as improvement needed. The key areas of concern and areas recommended to review in 2021/22 are the governance arrangements around Invest East Lindsey, and the Senior Leadership Team oversight arrangements across the Council. Improvements to the monitoring of projects and performance management have already been implemented in respect of this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit & Governance Committee monitor audit recommendations and receive updates where necessary • Internal review of the conformance of Internal Audit with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards
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Ensuring effective arrangements are in place for the discharge of the Monitoring Officer function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out in the Constitution • The Council shares a monitoring officer with Boston Borough Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council through the Constitution
Ensuring effective arrangements are in place for the discharge of the head of paid service function	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set out in the Constitution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council through the Constitution
Undertaking the core functions of an Audit Committee , as identified in CIPFA's <i>Audit Committees: Practical Guidance for Local Authorities</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Terms of Reference which include the core functions are set out in the Constitution • The Audit & Governance Committee have had training to help them understand their role and responsibility • Training for a new Audit & Governance Committee and substitution members is now identified as mandatory in the Constitution. • The Chair and Vice Chair attend external training as necessary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council through the Constitution • Audit & Governance Committee
Ensuring compliance with relevant laws and regulations, internal policies and procedures, and that expenditure is lawful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Internal Audit Plan work includes the review of compliance in some of these areas • The Section 151 Officer and Monitoring Officer advise on the legality of activity where appropriate, and Legal Services Lincolnshire provides advice on legislation and law • An Assurance Framework has been created to monitor conformance with all Regulatory, Legislative, Policy and Operational requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Team, Audit & Governance Committee (through IA reporting) • External Audit Plan • Annual Assurance Report to Senior Management Team and Audit and Governance Committee following the creation of the Assurance Framework
Whistleblowing and for receiving and investigating complaints from the public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Whistleblowing policy in place • A clear Feedback Policy and procedure is in place (including complaints) • A dedicated officer delivers the complaints process and also trains and advises staff. Each service has an allocated contact officer • MT receives a regular report setting out the number and type of complaints, along with the outcome and any changes of measures implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Team • Feedback levels included in the Quarterly Performance Report • Complaint statistics and trends reported to Audit and Governance Committee as part of the Annual Information Governance Report
Identifying the development needs of members and senior officers in relation to their strategic roles, supported by appropriate training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reserved Member Days are pre-booked as part of the Programme of Committee meetings (1 per month) for any training or awareness sessions requested by members and/or suggested by officers • A very thorough member induction programme is delivered following District Council elections • Training for named Committees is mandatory as set out in the Constitution 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback through Overview Committee • Management Team • A new corporate training system has been developed and rolled out to staff. This will enable both individual staff and the organisation to more easily monitor completed training, especially where it is a

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training and development opportunities are circulated to members on a regular basis alongside internal training provision • Groups are encouraged to identify development priorities through local and national networks • Annual staff survey/staff appraisal • An annual corporate training programme is developed and implemented annually, linked to service requirements and development needs 	<p>requirement, and/or is linked to professional standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corporate Training Programme budget continues to be protected to ensure staff are able to access mandatory and discretionary training and development. • The Councillor Training Budget continues to be protected. Corporate and Group training opportunities can be supported.
Establishing clear channels of communication with all sections of the community and other stakeholders, ensuring accountability and encouraging open consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Messenger’ e-magazines are produced with a combination of Council and partner articles. Annual feedback on the magazine is obtained and feeds into improvements • A range of consultations are carried out with service users (co-ordinated through a central team) • A new Consultation Commitment was been introduced in 2018/19 following a recommendation made through a scrutiny report. • Pro-active communication through the press, along with communication through the ELDC website, Facebook and twitter • Town & Parish Portal is used proactively to push information out to local Councils • Annual consultation with the community on the budget and/or corporate priorities • Thorough public consultations take place where there is a potentially significant change to a service and reported through to the decision making process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Team • Executive Board for key pieces of consultation • Town & Parish Council Portal • Information and feedback provided via the council website • Communications Team in place to support messages to the public, including during emergency situations.
Enhancing the accountability for service delivery and effectiveness of other public service providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Overview Committee take an active role in overseeing scrutiny of other public service providers e.g. Feedback from the County Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee • Partner agencies are invited to Scrutiny & Policy Panels • Significant changes to other public services communicated to members through briefing or awareness sessions • The Annual Performance Report includes performance measures for other agencies • Newsletters/Communications from external partners are circulated to managers. • Members are informed of any significant consultations being held by key partner organisations (e.g. NHS) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overview Committee • Scrutiny & Policy Panels • Reserved Members’ Days • A Scrutiny Working Group has been actively monitoring and feeding into the ‘Healthy Conversation’ (NHS). This is an ongoing Group that feeds back into the Overview Committee. • Member and Senior Officer contribution to the Community Safety framework.

<p>Incorporating good governance arrangements in respect of partnerships and other joint working as identified by the Audit Commission's report on the governance of partnerships and reflecting these in the Authority's overall governance arrangements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operational /strategic partnering arrangements are subject to contractual agreements and performance monitoring and reported on as part of service and budget monitoring • Portfolio Holders have responsibilities for receiving reports on key partner arrangements • PSPS arrangements are reported to and overseen by the Audit & Governance Committee if changes are required. A management Agreement and Service Level Agreements are in place; with regular client/PSPS meetings are held with PSPS and South Holland Council • PSPS provide briefing sessions to members on an annual basis. • Joint working arrangements are subject to written agreements approved by Management Team and portfolio holders • The county wide Wellbeing service is led by ELDC and subject to thorough contract monitoring by Lincolnshire County Council. There is an operational board that includes the partner authorities who are delivering parts of that contract where performance is monitored. Performance Indicators are also reported in ELDC's Performance Report. • Memoranda of Understanding documents are developed and signed up to where appropriate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit & Governance Committee • Management Team • Portfolio Holder (Partnerships) • Full Council • The governance arrangements of the PSPS Board have been reviewed following an external evaluation of the current contractual arrangements; and a series of reports have been submitted to Full Council setting out new contractual and governance arrangements. • Client/Partner meetings held regularly
<p>Information Governance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the voluntary Information Commissioners Office (ICO) audit, the authority has built up significant expertise in the area (provided training and services to other organisations) • All staff and Members receive annual Data Protection Act (DPA) training; and the SIRO have received additional GDPR training. • Member training on GDPR is built into the post-election Induction Programme • An ongoing programme, working with internal Information Asset Owners, is in place, and an information management improvement programme is in place. An external audit was carried out of the service, providing a High assurance level • The Data Protection Officer is experienced and qualified to provide advice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit & Governance Committee • Management Team • Portfolio Holder • Performance Report • A Data Protection Officer (DPO) is employed by the Council • Data Sharing Agreements and contractual arrangements are reviewed by the DPO on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance with the GDPR. All new DSAs are assessed by the DPO before being signed, and challenged where necessary. • All Councillors are registered <i>en bloc</i> with the Information Commissioners Office.

4 Review of Effectiveness

- 4.1 The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the senior managers within the authority who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, the head of internal audit's annual report, and also by comments made by the external auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates.
- 4.2 The effectiveness of the governance framework has been evaluated in the following ways:
- Assurance from Audit and Governance Committee – annual review of 2018/19
 - Assurance from Internal Audit; 13 audits completed; annual internal audit plan and report; quarterly performance reporting to Audit & Governance Committee on performance and internal audit recommendations tracker
 - Assurance from Senior Management Team
 - Assurance from appointed external auditors; Annual Governance Report / Annual Audit Letter– unqualified audit opinion and value for money conclusion; annual audit plan
 - Quarterly Performance Report, including performance and finance progress - reported to Executive Board, Overview Committee, and Management Team
 - Overview Committee Annual scrutiny programme; Scrutiny & Policy Panels reviewing the work and decisions/pre-scrutiny of Executive Board and areas of the Council's work (reported directly to Council)
 - External monitoring of contractual work
- 4.3 We have been advised on the implications of the result of the review of the effectiveness of the governance framework by the Audit & Governance Committee, and that the arrangements continue to be fit for purpose in accordance with the governance framework. The areas already addressed and those to be specifically addressed with new actions planned are outlined below.

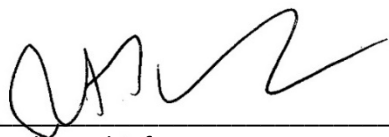
5 Update to Significant Governance Issues 2020/21

Subject	Responsible Officer	Timescale
<p>COVID-19</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic started mid-March 2020 and so this has had a huge impact that inevitably continues to remain with the organisation. It has affected finances, organisational capacity, delivery of services, performance and the democratic process. The affect has been both temporary with alternative arrangements put in place; through to affects still being experienced which will inevitably have a longer term impact. We believe that some of those longer term impacts have yet to manifest themselves due to the protective measures put in place by the government; and we cannot currently know</p>	<p>Senior Management Team / S151 Officer</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the year</p>

<p>the levels of unemployment, poor health, homelessness and business failure that will arise over the next few months and years that will require a community response and are likely to create pressures for a number of our services.</p> <p>Whilst the impact on council income, and the additional costs of response, has been significant, the levels of specific government funding have allowed the Council to maintain its balances and operate within its overall budget. The Section 151 Officer has regularly reported on the potential short fall of income to the council, an income that we are very dependent upon and is very much related to us being an area heavily reliant on the visitor economy.</p> <p>COVID-19 has also impacted on the targets as set out in the Performance Framework, and the aims and objectives of the Service Plans. The original targets have been reviewed, and new targets and priorities related to COVID-19 response work have regularly been reported to the Council.</p> <p>The democratic process has been enabled through virtual Council Committee meetings. These have been successful and Members have been able to effectively and easily contribute to the decision making process.</p> <p>ELDC was a partner in the Lincolnshire Resilience Forum during the emergency response, and believes that continuing to work in partnership is a good way of moving forward and enabling a recovery process. So we will continue to engage in the Recovery as co-ordinated by Lincolnshire County Council. ELDC also have a plan to support our own recovery from a service and community perspective.</p>		
<p>Strategic Alliance with Boston</p> <p>With effect from July 2020 ELDC and Boston Council agreed to a Strategic Alliance with an agreement to appoint 3 shared statutory officers (Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer) in the first instance, and a shared Management Team within 3 months. There will be a period of up to 2 years to move to a single officer structure supporting the two Councils and several department wide restructures are planned in respect of this. It is anticipated that ELDC will benefit from £10m of savings over the next 10 years.</p> <p>There will be a period of readjustment for the staff and the Members of both Councils as a new way of working is developed and put in place over time, and the opportunities for</p>	<p>Senior Management Team / Section 151 Officer Overview Committee</p>	<p>Ongoing throughout the year</p>

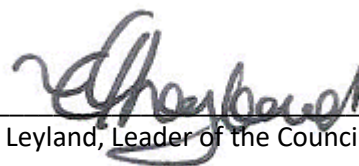
<p>reductions in cost to be realised. The anticipated savings will also need to be carefully monitored in order to successfully deliver the savings commitment.</p>		
<p>The Overview Committee will carry out scrutiny of the process to bring together staff teams and identification of other joint opportunities.</p>		

6.1 We propose over the coming year to address and/or monitor the above matters to further enhance our governance arrangements and the understanding of those arrangements where there is any change. We are satisfied this will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness, or manage any significant change, and will monitor their implementations and operation as part of our annual review.



Rob Barlow, Chief Executive

15 September 2021



Cllr Craig Leyland, Leader of the Council

15 September 2021

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Accounting Period

This is the period of time covered by the accounts, normally twelve months commencing on 1 April. The end of the accounting period is the Balance Sheet date.

Accruals Basis

The accruals principle is that income is recorded when it is earned rather than when it is received and expenses are recorded when goods and services are received rather than when the payment is made.

Actuarial Gains and Losses

Actuaries assess financial and non-financial information by the Council to project levels of future pension fund requirements. Changes in actuarial deficits or surpluses can arise leading to a loss or gain because:

- events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation
- the actuarial assumptions have changed

Appointed Auditors

Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited (PSAA) appoints external auditors to every Local Authority from one of the major firms of registered auditors. For East Lindsey this is Mazars.

Balance Sheet

This is a statement of the recorded assets, liabilities and other balances held at the end of the accounting period.

Balances

The balances of the Council represent the accumulated surplus of income over expenditure on any of the funds.

Capital Adjustment Account

The Account accumulates (on the debit side) the write-down of the historical cost of fixed assets as they are consumed by depreciation and impairments or written off on disposal. It accumulates (on the credit side) the resources that have been set aside to finance capital expenditure. The same process applies to capital expenditure that is only capital by statutory definition (e.g. Disabled Facilities Grants). The balance on this account thus represents timing differences between the amount of the historical cost of fixed assets that has been consumed and the amount that has been financed in accordance with statutory requirements.

Capital Expenditure

This is expenditure on the acquisition of a non-current asset (fixed asset), or expenditure, which adds to, and not merely maintains, the value of an existing non-current asset.

Capital Receipts

Income received from the sale of land or other capital assets, a proportion of which may be used to finance new capital expenditure, subject to the provisions contained within the Local Government Act 2003.

Carrying Amount

The Balance Sheet value recorded of either an asset or a liability.

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the financial year.

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA)

CIPFA is the leading professional accountancy body for public services

Collection Fund

A fund administered by the Council showing the transactions of the billing authority (East Lindsey) in relation to the collection from taxpayers and the distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

Community Assets

These are non-current assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity which have no determinable finite useful life and, in addition, may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historical buildings.

Contingent Liabilities or Assets

These are amounts potentially due to or from individuals or organisations which may arise in the future but which at this time cannot be determined accurately and for which, provision has not been made in the Council's accounts.

Council Tax

This is one of the main sources of local taxation to local authorities. Council Tax is levied on households within its area by the Billing Authority (East Lindsey) and the proceeds are paid into its Collection Fund for distribution to precepting authorities and for use by its own General Fund.

Council Tax Requirement

This is the estimated revenue expenditure on General Fund services that is required to be financed from Council Tax after deducting income from fees and charges, certain specific grants and any funding from reserves.

Creditors

Amounts owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered, for which payment has not been made at the balance sheet date.

Current Service Cost

Current Service Cost is the increase in the present value of a defined benefit pension scheme's liabilities expected to arise from employee service in the current period, i.e. the ultimate pension benefits "earned" by employees in the current year's employment.

Curtailement

Curtailements will allow the cost of the early payment of pension benefits if any employee has been made redundant in the previous financial year

Debtors

These are sums of money due to the Council that have not been received at the balance sheet date.

Deferred Capital Receipts

These represent capital income still to be received after disposals have taken place.

Defined benefit Scheme

Pension schemes in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme. The scheme may be funded or unfunded.

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG)

The CLG is a key Department within Central Government with the overriding responsibility for determining the allocation of general resources to local authorities.

Depreciation

This is the measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful economic life of a fixed (non-current) asset.

Earmarked Reserves

The Council holds a number of reserves earmarked to be used to meet specific, known or predicted future expenditure.

Equity method

A method of accounting by which an equity investment is initially recorded at cost and subsequently adjusted to reflect the investor's share of the net assets of the Joint Operation.

Events after the Balance Sheet Date

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, favourable or unfavourable, that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date when the Accounts are authorised for issue.

Exceptional Items

Material items deriving from events or transactions that fall within the ordinary activities of the Council but which need to be disclosed separately by virtue of their size and/or incidence, to give fair presentation of the accounts.

External Audit

The independent examination of the Council's activities and accounts to ensure that the accounts have been prepared in accordance with legislative requirements and proper practices and to ensure the Council has made proper arrangements to secure value for money in its use of resources.

Expenditure

This is amounts paid by the Council for goods and services rendered of either a capital or revenue nature. This does not necessarily involve a cash payment since expenditure is deemed to have been incurred once the goods or services have been received even if they have not been paid for.

Fair Value

The fair value of an asset is the price at which it could be exchanged in an arm's length transaction less, where applicable, any grants receivable towards the purchase or use of the asset.

Finance Lease

A finance lease is a lease that transfers substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of a fixed asset to the lessee.

Financial Instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another. The term 'financial instrument' covers both financial assets and financial liabilities and includes Investments, trade receivables and trade payables.

Future Economic Benefits

The potential for an asset to contribute to the flow of cash and cash equivalents of the Authority.

General Fund

This is the main revenue fund of the Council and includes the net cost of all services financed by local taxpayers and Government Grants.

Heritage Assets

A tangible asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

Impairment

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset to below its carrying amount on the Balance Sheet. Examples of factors which may cause such a reduction in value include general price decreases, a significant decline in a fixed asset's market value and evidence of obsolescence or physical damage to the asset.

Income

These are amounts due to the Council for goods supplied or services rendered of either a capital or a revenue nature. This does not necessarily involve a cash payment. Income is deemed to have been earned once the goods or the services have been supplied even if the payment hasn't been received (in which case the recipient is a debtor to the Council).

Infrastructure Assets

Fixed assets belonging to the Council that cannot be transferred or sold, on which expenditure is only recoverable by the continued use of the asset created. Examples are highways, footpaths and bridges.

Intangible Assets

These are assets that do not have physical substance but are identifiable and controlled by the Council. Examples include Software Licenses.

International Financial Reporting Standards

These are defined Accounting Standards that must be applied by all reporting entities to all financial statements in order to provide a true and fair view of the entity's financial position, and a standardised method of comparison with financial statements of other entities.

Joint Arrangement

An arrangement of which two or more parties have joint control.

Joint Operation

A joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the assets, and obligations for the liabilities, relating to the arrangement.

Liabilities

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

Materiality

The concept that the Accounts should include all amounts which, if omitted or mis-stated, could be expected to lead to a distortion of the financial statements and ultimately mislead a user of the accounts.

National Non-Domestic Rates (Business Rates)

This is one of the main sources of local taxation to local authorities. NNDR is the levy on business property, based on a national rate in the pound applied to the rateable value of the property.

Net Book Value (NBV)

The amount at which fixed assets are included in the Balance Sheet, i.e. their historical costs or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

Net Debt

Net debt is the Council's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

Net Realisable Value (NRV)

NRV is the open market value of the asset in its existing use (or open market value in the case of non-operational assets) less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

Non-Current Assets (Fixed Assets)

Assets that yield benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than one year. Examples include land, buildings and vehicles.

Non-Operational Assets

Fixed assets held by the Council but not directly occupied, used or consumed in the delivery of services. Examples are investment properties, assets under construction or assets surplus to requirements pending sale or redevelopment.

Operational Assets

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the Council in the pursuit of its strategy and in the direct delivery of those services for which it has either a statutory or discretionary responsibility.

Operational Boundary

This reflects the maximum anticipated level of external debt consistent with budgets and forecast cash flows.

Operating Lease

This is a type of lease usually for computer equipment or office furniture and equipment where the balance of risks and rewards of holding assets remains with the lessor. The assets remain the property of the lessor and the lease costs are revenue expenditure to the Council.

Precept

The amount levied by various Authorities that is collected by the Council on their behalf. The precepting authorities in East Lindsey are Lincolnshire County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire.

Prior Year Adjustment

These are material adjustments which are applicable to an earlier accounting period arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. This does not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

Provision

An amount put aside in the accounts for future liabilities or losses which are certain or very likely to occur but the amounts or dates of when they will arise are uncertain.

Related Parties

Related parties are Central Government, other Local Councils, precepting and levying bodies, subsidiary and associated companies. Related parties are deemed to include the Council's elected members, the Chief Executive and its directors. For individuals identified as related parties, the following are also presumed to be related parties:-

- members of the close family, or the same household; and
- partnerships, companies, trusts or other entities in which the individual or member of their close family or the same household has a controlling interest.

Remuneration

All sums paid to or receivable by an employee and sums due by way of expense allowances (as far as those sums are chargeable to UK income tax) and the money value of any other benefits received. Pension contributions payable by the employer are excluded.

Reserves

The accumulation of surpluses, deficits and appropriations arising from previous financial years. Reserves can either be usable; that is, available to meet the Council's future expenditure plans and unusable; that is, those maintained purely for accounting purposes.

Revaluation Reserve

The Reserve records the accumulated gains on the fixed assets held by the Council arising from increases in value as a result of inflation or other factors (to the extent that these gains have not been consumed by subsequent downward movements in value).

Revenue Expenditure

Expenditure incurred on the day-to-day running of the Council. This mainly includes employee costs, general running expenses and capital financing costs.

Revenue Expenditure Funded From Capital under Statute (REFCUS)

Expenditure incurred in year that may be capitalised under statutory provision but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset that has been charged as expenditure to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Revenue Support Grant

A grant paid by Central Government towards the cost of providing General Fund services.

Service Potential

Future benefits that an asset is expected to bring to the Council.

Treasury Management

This is the process by which the Council controls its cash flow and its borrowing and lending activities.

Treasury Management Strategy

A strategy prepared with regard to legislative and CIPFA requirements setting out the framework for treasury management activity for the Council.