# **Royal Borough of Greenwich**

# **Statement of Accounts**

# 2021/22

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# Introduction from Councillor Ivis Williams, Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value, Royal Borough of Greenwich

This statement of accounts covers the financial year I April 2021 to 31 March 2022, a period where residents have been struggling through the COVID-19 pandemic and facing the impact of the cost-of-living crisis.

While responding to these crises and ensuring we support residents across the borough as best we can, the Council continues to face unprecedented financial pressures. Although resources are stretched, we will continue to focus on building a better future for communities and businesses while protecting the most vulnerable residents in our borough.

As well as keeping critical services going, we've also set up new initiatives to support residents. Our new Advice Hubs have already helped hundreds of residents in Greenwich Peninsula, Eltham, Glyndon and further across the borough. Those who need it have been able to access free vital support at face-to-face hubs offering welfare benefits, housing, pension benefit and debt advice.

We have given more than 17,000 meals out to children during the school holidays ensuring they don't go hungry. Since April 2021 we have distributed more than 64,000kg of food to local food banks. These figures clearly show that food poverty is affecting residents right here in our borough and remains a number one priority.

For the last year, we have been supporting thousands of residents on the lowest incomes, including the elderly, and putting money directly into the pockets of residents that need it the most. We distributed payments totalling over £640,000 to 2,500 households under the Emergency Support Scheme. 873 homes in our borough have benefitted from more than £1m in Discretionary Hardship Payments with a range of homes in both private and council accommodation getting support.

With the rise in everyday costs, it is essential we continue to build on our promise to provide affordable housing. In the financial year, £2.3m has been given to partners to ensure residents have access to affordable homes. As part of our Greenwich Builds programme, we're building 750 new council homes.

As part of our promise to reduce carbon emissions, we have dedicated £7.28m on decarbonisation projects from Street Lighting LED replacement and making corporate buildings and schools greener and more energy efficient.

Work to complete Nathan Way Ind Estate has given our borough a £15m investment to support the local economy and job creation which is essential to empowering our residents, customers, and businesses to make positive changes in their futures. In this vein, we cannot forget the opening of Woolwich works, with £56m cultural investment, this has created a new cultural hub for London in our very borough, the site is home to several local, national, and internationally renowned resident artistic companies.

Our financial strategy will enable us to continue with our mission to make our borough a fair, safe, and welcoming place for everyone, while also making sure that historically forgotten communities are fully supported.

We will continue to invest in Royal Greenwich so it can be the best place for all people regardless of their age, gender, ethnicity, and religion to live and work.

# **Councillor Ivis Williams**

Cabinet Member for Finance, Resources and Social Value, Royal Borough of Greenwich.

### **Narrative Report**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich is one of 33 London Boroughs. The borough is home to:

- a World Heritage site
- the O2 arena
- Greenwich Park
- the Cutty Sark
- the Royal Arsenal in Woolwich and
- the Prime Meridian

These are just a few of the world class attractions in the borough.

The Authority operated in 2021/22 with a Leader / Cabinet system with 51 councillors in total (17 wards comprising 3 members each); the current political balance is 42 Labour and 9 Conservative councillors. New elections took place in May 2022.

Over the course of 2021/22, the authority was grouped into 6 distinct directorates:

- Children's Services
- Health and Adult Services
- Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills
- Housing and Safer Communities
- Communities and Environment.
- Finance and Legal Services

#### **Council Services**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich offers services to residents in the following areas:

- Advice and Benefits Welfare Rights, Housing Benefit and debt, as well as what to do in an emergency
- Business Business support services, doing business with the council, and information about licensing and trading standards
- Community and Living births, deaths, marriages and citizenship, community safety and anti-social behaviour, community grant funding and family history research
- **Council and Democracy** information on councillors, local matters, voting, council tax
- Education and Learning schools and colleges, childcare arrangements, adult learning courses, and help with schooling costs

- **Environment and Planning** recycling, street cleaning, noise and pollution, planning and conservation, building control and parks and open spaces
- Health and Social Care adult care services, support for families and children and people with disabilities
- Housing Exchanging a council home, access services for council tenants, assessing housing options and information for landlords and leaseholders
- Jobs and careers council jobs and other opportunities through Greenwich Local Labour and Business (GLLaB)
- Leisure and Culture local leisure facilities, libraries, entertainment and events, as well as tourist information
- Transport and streets parking and transport information, as well as resources for cyclists and foot tunnel users

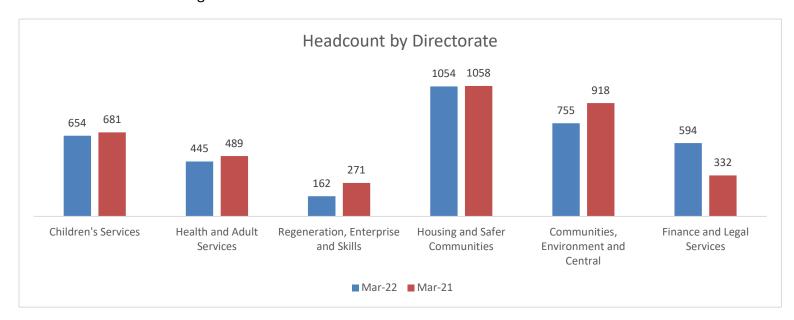
More information on the above services is available on our website www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk

### **Staffing**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich employs 3,669 staff. The demographic composition of the workforce as at 31 March 2022 was:

- 56% female
- 34% BME
- 5% disabled
- an average age of 47

The number of staff working in each Directorate as at 31st March 2022 is illustrated in the chart below:



The changes between March 2021 and March 2022 in Directorate headcounts have been affected by Transportation and Sustainability moving temporarily from Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills to Communities, Environment and Central and Digital and Customer Services and HR Professional Services moving from Communities, Environment and Central to Finance and Legal Services.

#### **Future Challenges**

The Council faces a number of overarching challenges in the coming years:

- Central government funding is falling year on year; Local Authorities will need to look to raise alternative sources of income to be able to maintain service delivery.
- Demographic growth and an increasingly ageing population will continue to present challenges on the Council's budget in years to come.
- Both Brexit and the Covid -19 pandemic continue to cause uncertainty. The financial impacts are not currently quantified and could be positive or negative.
- The world economy is currently experiencing significant inflationary pressures. This increase is primarily due to a surge in global energy prices and the impact of economic sanctions against Russia.
- The Royal Borough declared a climate emergency in June 2019. There will be significant challenges in delivering the Carbon Neutral Plan 2021-2030.

#### **Performance**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich has 8 high level objectives within its Corporate Plan which covers the period 2018-2022. Performance against these objectives during 2021/22 is summarised below:

#### A Healthier Greenwich

- Obtained the Healthy Workplace Award in 2021.
- Greenwich Get Active Outreach Sport programme all across the borough in parks and housing estates including Holiday Activity Programmes and free meals for young people.
- Strength-based framework is now in place, supporting residents to build on what they can do and improve their lives to live more independently. This has resulted in a 72% increase in referrals to reablement which otherwise would have gone into traditional homecare packages. Reablement, have been working on a significant improvement plan which has enabled 432 additional residents each year to return home and benefit from increased independence.
- Development of the Young People's Mental Health Ambassador Programme that have helped to shape provision locally including recruiting 17 young people from ten schools to be trained as Mental Health Champions.

#### A Safer Greenwich

- Established a comprehensive 'Integrated Enforcement' approach which has improved collaboration, coordination and
  communication between Council enforcement teams and partners. This also included part-funding a new Integrated Enforcement
  Policing Team to provide dedicated policing support for agreed partnership priorities. This team winning a Met Police Excellence
  Award for 2021.
- Proactive work with Safer Schools Officers to support the return to schools for all children and young people, as well as over 300 active travel campaigns delivered with local schools
- £1.1m invested in cycle safety schemes, and installed cycle storage facilities across the borough.
- 4 x local safety schemes implemented to meet reducing road danger targets circa £300k.

#### A Great Place to Grow Up

- £15m Investment in schools estate, including the completion and opening of the Kidbrooke park primary school, which provides a energy efficient and improved learning environment.
- An Ofsted focused visit in July 2021 highlighted improvements made including the positive impact on vulnerable young people.
- We achieved high levels of stability for children in care with 82% of children having the same placement for more than 2.5 years. Compared to England average of 68-70%.
- Additional support programme, focused on speech and language for our youngest vulnerable learners ready to be delivered in January 2022 to close the gap following periods of lock down and missed opportunity to attend the nursery phase consistently, over the past 18 months
- Family friendly events such as Sparkle in the Park and Royal Greenwich Together.

#### • Delivering Homes through Economic Growth

- New Council homes are being delivered through the Greenwich Builds Phase I programme, with 34 homes already completed, 676 homes underway and the remainder in the planning stages. £19.8m was invested in 2021/22, and increased investment profiled in 2022/23. The majority of Greenwich Builds homes are low or zero Carbon with air source heat pumps & photovoltaics, allowing homes to generate their own heat and power.
- In February 2022 Cabinet agreed a further Phase 2 programme of Greenwich Builds, investing £397m to deliver up to 1,000 new Council homes.
- Kidbrooke Council has worked with Berkeley Homes at Kidbrooke Village and which has now delivered 877 new affordable homes. The Council has also purchased commercial space to provide community and health facilities and which will accommodate a medical centre, pharmacy, dentist and a community space all of which will create a sustainable and positive thriving hub combining health and wellbeing, creative and community activity.
- The Council has acquired a total of 520 homes to be used as temporary accommodation, of which 68 have been acquired in 2021/22. These homes provide accommodation which is secured over the long term, with a guaranteed minimum level of quality without the cost premium associated with ad-hoc emergency overnight accommodation.
- The Council in January 2021 approved the principle of disposal of two Council owned sites to a Community Land Trust and the subsequent procurement of a provider has recently concluded.

#### A Cleaner Greenwich

- Making council homes more energy efficient by installing water source heat pumps at Ernest Dence Estate.
- £7.28m investment in the Installation of energy efficient, low carbon technologies, including air source heat pumps, LED lighting, and solar panels across corporate estates, and decommensing 20,000 traditional street lights to be replaced with modern LED equivalents saving £1 million a year in energy and maintenance costs.
- Acquisiton of electric vechiles to replace diesel fleet, and installation of electric vehicle charging points.
- Procuring 100% green electricity for council buildings.

#### Economic Prosperity for All

- Plumstead High Street up to 40 new shop fronts by spring 2022, improvements to White Hart Road and more.
- Completion of £15m investment in Nathan Way industrial estate to support the local economy and job creation / retention within the borough.
- Distributed over 12,000 business grants and allocated over £35m to businesses impacted by forced closures and restricted trading due to reduced footfall, social distancing and rules around household mixing.
- Supported over 1,300 local businesses through the E-Business Support Programme to build e-commence and online presence. As a result businesses reported £10 million plus increased turnover, 1,000 local jobs have been safeguarded and 110 new jobs created.

#### A Great Place to Be

- Woolwich Works (London's newest landmark creative district) opened in September 2021, which will contribute to the improved prosperity of Woolwich, and has already recruited local people into jobs and started to support local cultural organisations.
- Despite being in the middle of a pandemic the borough was able to deliver safe events in summer and winter that attracted capacity crowds and enable communities to remain connected e.g. Resident's Rainbow, Sparkle in the Park, Together 21.
- Investment in parks and open spaces to improve facilities and condition of the sites.
- Grant fund and work in partnership with the Greenwich Parks Friends Forum to provide an annual summer programme of cultural events showcasing local talent in our parks and open spaces (Parksfest).

#### A Strong Vibrant and Well Run Borough

- The Ward Budget Scheme has provided Councillors with the ability to invest in small-scale local projects in their ward, facilitating engagement with local residents through the delivery of local, tangible improvements to their area that support one or more of the Corporate Plan objectives. As of November 2021, £346,865 has been committed through the Scheme.
- £1.7m awarded to local communities through the Greenwich Neighbourhood Growth Fund to deliver local infrastructure projects.
- Achieved 96% occupancy of the 250 properties in the commercial estate generating c. £7 million income annually.
- VCS team supported database of over 1000 active volunteers during pandemic, and worked with VCG to coordinate over 200 regular volunteers for Project Hope and vaccination roll-out and Afghan refugee support.

#### **Financial Performance**

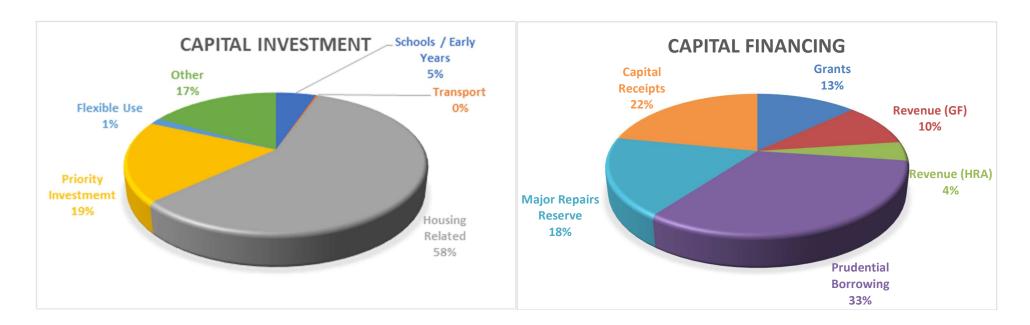
The Council continues to face significant pressures from government policy, alongside local / national demographic and economic trends. Against this backdrop, the borough is reviewing how to best utilise its natural and financial resources in order to counter these pressures. The Council has a medium term financial strategy in place covering a rolling four year period.

### **Capital**

The council invested £139m in 2021/22, with the majority of this deployed on housing related projects followed by regeneration, property and education schemes. During the financial year Royal Greenwich also took advantage of the time limited Flexible Use of Capital Receipts directive, with £2m of service transformation costs funded from capital receipts.

Financing for the remaining capital investment programme is derived from various sources including revenue and grant streams, capital receipts and borrowing. All borrowing undertaken is sustainable in that debt servicing costs are supported by identified revenue budgets.

Borrowing at 31 March 2022 was £422m, which includes the externalisation of historic HRA debt and loan financing for the street lighting replacement programme.



### **Revenue Outturn**

The table below shows the final revenue position for the Authority for 2021/22 and the preceding year for comparison:

Actual Spend versus Budget		
£m	2020/21	2021/22
Health & Adults	0.1	1.3
Children's	0.1	(0.2)
Communities and Environment	1.2	(1.0)
Housing & Safer Communities	1.6	2.0
Finance & Legal Services	(0.4)	0.3
Regeneration, Enterprise & Skills	(0.4)	4.2
Net Position	2.2	6.6
Corporate Pressures		
No Recourse to Public Funds	1.8	2.6
Treasury Management	(9.2)	(9.1)
Other	1.2	0.2
Net GF Position	(4.0)	0.3
Increase / (Decrease) in General Reserve	4.0	(0.3)

Movement in the General Reserve					
£m	2021/22				
General Reserve b/f	(19.7)				
General Fund Services (as above)	0.3				
General Reserve c/f	(19.4)				

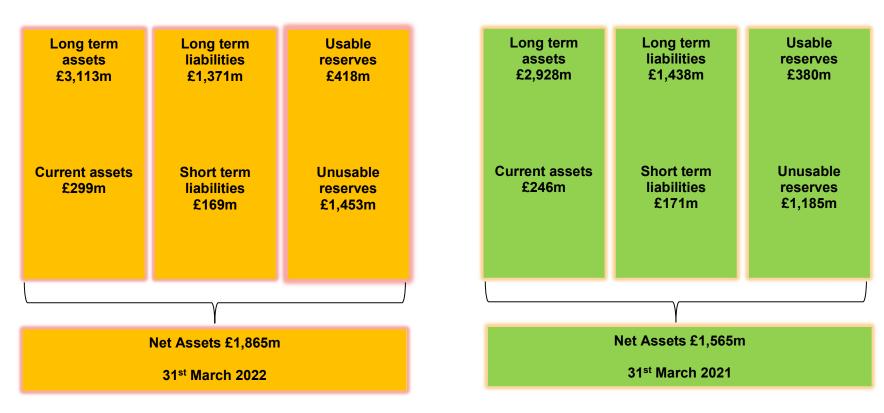
The key budgetary pressures in 2021/22 were in:

- Health & Adults There has been an increase in care package spend, as well as an increase in spend against more independent forms of living (such as Home Care, Supported Living and Direct Payments) as the numbers of residential placements largely decrease in general.
- Regeneration, Enterprise & Skills primarily due to lower enforcement revenue within Transportation & Parking due in part to a reduction in traffic volumes linked to the Covid-19 pandemic.

These pressures have been met through a combination of temporary savings on Treasury Management activities, one-off resources and underspends in other Directorates.

#### **Balance Sheet**

The balance sheet has seen a slight decrease in its net worth as can be seen in the graphic below.



#### **Housing Revenue Account**

The Council has a stock of 20,375 social rented homes and 5,081 leaseholders. It is planning to invest over £463m in the next 3 years to increase and improve its housing stock. The Council manages its own Housing Stock and collected £97m in dwelling rents and £19.8m in service charges in 2021/22. This income is held in a ring-fenced account (the Housing Revenue Account) which can only be used for managing and maintaining the housing stock and associated services.

#### **Pension Liabilities**

The Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund is independently revalued every three years (triennial valuation). The most recent revaluation, as at 31 March 2022, assessed the funding level at 103% compared with 97% in 2019.

The Council is an employer within the Royal Borough of Greenwich pension fund and plans to achieve a 100% funding level over a period of no more than 20 years.

The triennial valuation confirmed that the contribution rate payable would continue to be frozen – such that it will have remained at the same level for over a decade now.

### **Strategic Risks for the coming year**

A risk management strategy is in place to identify and evaluate risk. The risks with high likelihood and with the highest potential impact have been included in the table below:

Risk	Impact
Medium Term Financial Strategy – Finance and Resources	<ul> <li>Adverse impact on the Council's financial standing</li> <li>Threat to service delivery and inability to deliver other significant priorities</li> <li>Threat of failure to fulfil statutory duties</li> </ul>
Capacity / Workforce Planning	Unable to recruit / train /retain staff with the necessary skills and experience
Growth in RBG Population	Pressure on services as population grows
External Partnership and Commissioning of Services	<ul> <li>Failure to achieve regeneration outcomes</li> <li>Failure to secure future prosperity priorities of Council from investment plans</li> </ul>
Health & Safety. Compliance and Wellbeing Procedures	<ul> <li>Breach of Statutory Duty</li> <li>Compensation Claims</li> <li>Reputational damage</li> </ul>
Key Strategic Partnerships and Supply Chain Security	<ul> <li>Ineffective contracting leads to delivery failure</li> <li>Disruption to deliver plans by contractor failure</li> </ul>
Cyber Security & Data Breaches	<ul> <li>Loss of data / access to data by breach</li> <li>Risk of significant fine</li> <li>Loss of access to necessary third party systems</li> </ul>
Business Continuity, Emergency Planning	<ul> <li>Plan fails to meet the organisations needs</li> <li>Recovery plans inadequate and fail to support recovery</li> </ul>
Insufficient School Places	<ul> <li>Failure to plan for future - Capacity in wrong part of borough</li> <li>Breach of statutory duty</li> <li>Reputational damage</li> </ul>

Government Welfare Legislation - Impact	Increased rent arrears				
on Service delivery	<ul> <li>Increased pressure of Council finance and servicing</li> </ul>				
	Additional demand for housing support				
Government Welfare Legislation – Impact	Cost of living pressures				
on Income Collection	Households falling into poverty				
	<ul> <li>Increased pressure demand for support for other Council help</li> </ul>				
Preventable Incident to the Wellbeing of a	Reputational damage and loss of public confidence				
Child or Adult	<ul> <li>Disruption of an event – investigation, legal action, staff recruitment and retention,</li> </ul>				
	compensation				
	Potential loss of service / government commissioners				
Achieving Carbon Neutral by 2030	Significant resources need to be identified and invested				
	Damage due to extreme weather events				
	Health and environmental impact on residents				
	Uncertainty / need for greater clarity of national targets				
Loss of life and limb through lack of	Lack of effective maintenance / compliance regime				
residential building safety	Residents at risk of injury				
	Resources to raise conditions of properties				

# **Structure of the Statement of Accounts**

The format and content of the financial statements is prescribed by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, which in turn is underpinned by International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Main Financial Statements are:

#### **Movement in Reserves Statement -**

The net of the authority's short/long term assets and liabilities is represented by its reserves – this is also known as its net worth. Reserves are usable or unusable and this note shows how the main usable plus total unusable reserves have changed.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement - This is the income and expenditure for the authority on a financial accounting basis i.e. it reflects the cost to the authority of running services, but does not reflect the cash position.

**Balance Sheet** - a snapshot of the Council's assets, liabilities, cash balances and reserves at the year-end date.

**Cash Flow Statement** - This takes the surplus or deficit from the income and expenditure statement and reconciles it to the actual movement in cash on the balance sheet.

Additional Statements / Other Notes are:

Expenditure and Funding Analysis – shows how funding available to the Council has been used in providing services in comparison with those resources used by Authorities in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices.

Collection Fund Statement - this contains statements that reflect 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.

**Housing Revenue Account** - this shows the economic cost in the year of

the landlord responsibility for social housing provision in accordance with accounting standards, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants.

Pension Fund Account - the Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Accounting Policies - the main underlying accounting policies underpinning the financial statements.

**Annual Governance Statement** - this sets out a framework in relation to risk management and internal control, along with efficiency and effectiveness.

### **Statement of Responsibilities**

#### The Authority's Responsibilities

The Authority 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 Authority, that officer is the Section 151
  Officer
- manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- approve the Statement of Accounts.

#### **Approval of Accounts**

I certify that the Statement of Accounts was approved by Council at its meeting on 29 March 2023.

Cllr Leo Fletcher Mayor of the Royal Borough of Greenwich

Dated 29 March 2023

#### The Section 151 Officer's Responsibilities

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Authority's Statement of Accounts 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 this Statement of Accounts, the Section 151 Officer has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent
- complied with the local authority Code.

The Section 151 Officer has also:

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

#### **Certification of the Section 151 Officer**

I hereby certify that the Statement of Accounts on pages 27-184 give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority at the reporting date and of its expenditure and income for the year ended 31st March 2022.

Damon Cook CPFA CFO - Section 151 Officer **Dated** 

06 September 2023

### Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Royal Borough of Greenwich

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Royal Borough of Greenwich (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund Statement, the Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, 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 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2022 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law, as required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) ("the Code of Audit Practice") approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Authority 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.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the Section 151 Officer's conclusions, and in accordance with the expectation set out within the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 that the Authority's financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuation of services provided by the Authority. In doing so we had regard to the guidance provided in Practice Note 10 Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom (Revised 2020) on the application of ISA (UK) 570 Going Concern to public sector entities. We assessed the reasonableness of the basis of preparation used by the Authority and the Authority's disclosures over the going concern period.

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 Authority'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.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

The responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer with respect to going concern are described in the 'Responsibilities of the Authority, the Section 151 Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements' section of this report.

#### Other information

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements, our auditor's report thereon, and our auditor's report on the pension fund financial statements. 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 the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Other information we are required to report on by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

Under the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office in April 2020 on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice) we are required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with 'delivering good governance in Local Government Framework 2016 Edition' published by CIPFA and SOLACE or is misleading or inconsistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit. We are not required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement addresses all risks and controls or that risks are satisfactorily addressed by internal controls.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matters required by the Code of Audit Practice

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the financial statements and our knowledge of the Authority, the other information published together with the financial statements in the Statement of Accounts for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

#### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

# Responsibilities of the Authority, the Section 151 Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Authority 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 authority, that officer is the Section 151 Officer. The Section 151 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 2021/22, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Section 151 Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention by government that the services provided by the Authority will no longer be provided.

The Audit and Risk Management Panel is Those Charged with Governance. Those Charged with Governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

#### 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.

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.

# Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Authority and determined that the most significant, which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements, are those related to the reporting frameworks (international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Government act 1972, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992), the Local Government Act 203 and the Local Government Finance Act 2012 and the Local Government Act 2003.
- We enquired of senior officers and the Audit and Risk Management Panel, concerning the Authority's policies and procedures relating to:
  - the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
  - the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
  - the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We enquired of senior officers, internal audit and the Audit and Risk Management Panel, whether they
  were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any
  knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Authority's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating officers' incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risk of management override of controls. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to unusual journals recorded during the year and after the financial year end.
- Our audit procedures involved:
  - evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls that the Section 151 Officer has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - journal entry testing, with a focus on unusual journals;
  - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of land and buildings and defined benefit pensions liability valuations;
  - assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
- These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

- The team communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations, including the potential for fraud in revenue and expenditure recognition, and the significant accounting estimates related to land and buildings and defined benefit pensions liability valuations.
- Our assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's.
  - understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
  - knowledge of the local government sector
  - understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the Authority including:
  - the provisions of the applicable legislation
  - guidance issued by CIPFA/LASAAC and SOLACE
  - the applicable statutory provisions.
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
  - the Authority's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
  - the Authority's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the Authority to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

# Matter on which we are required to report by exception - the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, we have not been able to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Our work on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources is not yet complete. The outcome of our work will be reported in our commentary on the Authority's arrangements in our Auditor's Annual Report. If we identify any significant weaknesses in these arrangements, these will be reported by exception in a further auditor's report. We are satisfied that this work does not have a material effect on our opinion on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Responsibilities of the Authority

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for securing 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 the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to be satisfied that the Authority 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 Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We undertake our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in December 2021. This guidance sets out the arrangements that fall within the scope of 'proper arrangements'. When reporting on these arrangements, the Code of Audit Practice requires auditors to structure their commentary on arrangements under three specified reporting criteria:

- Financial sustainability: how the Authority plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services;
- Governance: how the Authority ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks; and
- Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness: how the Authority uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services.

We document our understanding of the arrangements the Authority has in place for each of these three specified reporting criteria, gathering sufficient evidence to support our risk assessment and commentary in our Auditor's Annual Report. In undertaking our work, we consider whether there is evidence to suggest that there are significant weaknesses in arrangements.

# Report on other legal and regulatory requirements - Delay in certification of completion of the audit

We cannot formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate for Royal Borough of Greenwich for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice until we have completed:

• our work on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources and issued our Auditor's Annual Report'

We are satisfied that this work does not have a material effect on the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 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 Authority's members 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 Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Joanne Brown, Key Audit Partner

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor, London 7 September 2023

# **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**

	2020/21		Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement		2021/22	
Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure		Gross Expenditure	Gross	Net Expenditure
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
110,223	(9,582)	100,641	Communities & Environment	61,647	(7,909)	53,739
171,880	(142,458)	29,423	Finance	176,920	(134,034)	42,886
35,761	(19,221)	16,540	Housing & Safer Communities	41,726	(22,175)	19,551
135,915	(121,388)	14,528	Housing Revenue Account	62,835	(119,873)	(57,037)
164,054	(73,432)	90,622	Health & Adult's Services	173,594	(89,507)	84,088
48,726	(43,272)	5,455	Regeneration, Enterprise & Skills	71,237	(66,750)	4,487
357,536	(265,569)	91,966	Children's Services	379,003	(268,225)	110,778
1,024,095	(674,921)	349,174	Net Cost of Services	966,963	(708,472)	258,492
(11,042)	0	(11,042)	Other Operating Expenditure (Note 3)	2,158	(19,706)	(17,548)
42,129	(451)	41,678	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Note 4)	64,105	(432)	63,672
0	(305,573)	(305,573)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (Note 5)	0	(343,155)	(343,155)
31,087	(306,024)	(274,937)	Other Income and Expenditure	66,263	(363,293)	(297,031)
1,055,182	(980,945)	74,237	(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	1,033,226	(1,071,765)	(38,539)
		(34,599)	(Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of property, plant & equipment assets (Note 8)			(104,598)
		165,454	Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability / (asset) (Note 19)			(240,775)
	•	130,855	Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		_	(345,373)
		205,092	Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure			(383,912)

## **Movement in Reserves Statement**

Movement in Reserves Statement 2021/22	Revenue	Reserves	Capital Reserves					
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2021 carried forward	(226,406)	(15,541)	(94,406)	(6,748)	(37,036)	(380,137)	(1,184,740)	(1,564,877)
Movement in Reserves During 2021/22								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	34,760	(73,299)	0	0	0	(38,539)	(345,373)	(383,912)
Adj between accounting basis & funding basis under regs (Note 6)	(45,903)	72,170	(278)	0	(25,649)	339	(339)	0
(Increase) / Decrease in 2021/22	(11,143)	(1,130)	(278)	0	(25,649)	(38,199)	(345,712)	(383,912)
Balance at 31 March 2022 carried forward	(237,549)	(16,670)	(94,684)	(6,748)	(62,685)	(418,336)	(1,530,452)	(1,948,789)

## General Fund balance comprises:

Total General Fund Balance at 31 March 2022	(237,549)
Amounts Uncommitted	(19,388)
Amounts Earmarked (Note 7)	(218,161)

Movement in Reserves Statement 2020/21	Revenu	e Reserves		Capital	Reserves			
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserves	Capital Grants Unapplied	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Authority Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2020 carried forward	(162,875)	(12,861)	(85,985)	(9,503)	(47,154)	(318,378)	(1,451,591)	(1,769,969)
Movement in Reserves During 2020/21								
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	62,272	11,965	0	0	0	74,237	130,855	205,092
Adj between accounting basis & funding basis under regs (Note 6)	(125,803)	(14,645)	(8,421)	2,755	10,118	(135,996)	135,996	0
(Increase) / Decrease in 2020/21	(63,531)	(2,679)	(8,421)	2,755	10,118	(61,759)	266,851	205,092
Balance at 31 March 2021 carried forward	(226,406)	(15,541)	(94,406)	(6,748)	(37,038)	(380,137)	(1,184,740)	(1,564,877)

### **General Fund balance comprises:**

Total General Fund Balance at 31 March 2021	(226,408)
Amounts Uncommitted	(19,645)
Amounts Earmarked (Note 7)	(206,764)

# **Balance Sheet**

31 March 2021	Balance Sheet	Notes	31 March 2022
£000			£000
2,878,175	Property, Plant & Equipment	9	3,058,849
770	Heritage Assets		770
25,027	Long Term Investments	16	29,659
23,489	Long Term Debtors	16	23,432
2,927,460	Long Term Assets		3,112,709
70,497	Short Term Investments	16	166,632
107	Assets Held for Sale	12	5,327
7,000	Investment Properties	10	4,840
520	Inventories		1,039
115,069	Short Term Debtors	20	70,813
52,760	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Cashflow	50,140
245,953	Current Assets	•	298,792
(605)	Cash and Cash Equivalents	Cashflow	(667)
(6,409)	Short Term Borrowing	16	(5,090)
(309)	Short Term Deferred Income	14	(282)
(135,178)	Short Term Creditors	22	(132,745)
(15,096)	Receipts in Advance	5	(30,015)
(12,916)	Provisions	23	0
(170,511)	Current Liabilities	•	(168,799)
(908,972)	Long Term Creditors	19	(729,351)
(15,171)	Provisions	23	(12,788)
(371,199)	Long Term Borrowing	16	(420,464)
(2,404)	Long Term Deferred Income	14	(2,122)
(140,278)	Other Long-Term Liabilities	14/16	(129,187)
(1,438,025)	Long Term Liabilities		(1,293,912)
1,564,877	Net Assets		1,948,788
(380,137)	Usable Reserves	MIRS	(418,336)
(1,184,740)	Unusable Reserves	8	(1,530,452)
(1,564,877)	Total Reserves		(1,948,788)

### **Cash Flow Statement**

2020/21 £000	Cash Flow Statement	2021/22 £000
£000		
(74,237)	Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services	38,539
271,293	Adj to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non cash movements (Cash Flow Note 1)	106,816
(64,922)	Adj for items incl in net surplus / deficit on the provision of services that are investing and financing activities (Cash Flow Note I)	(76,493)
132,133	Net cash flows from Operating Activities	68,862
(73,464)	Investing Activities (Cash Flow Note 2)	(148,267)
(55,991)	Financing Activities (Cash Flow Note 3)	76,723
2,678	Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash	(2,682)
49,477	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	52,155
52,155	Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period (Cash Flow Note 5)	49,474

### **Cash Flow Note 1 - Operating Activities**

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

605	Interest received	400
(25,680)	Interest paid	(25,440)

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

271,293	_	106,816
56,309	Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	31,814
6,896	Increase / (decrease) in provisions	(15,299)
39,313	Movement in pension liability	61,154
13,806	Increase / (decrease) in receipts in advance	14,919
(292)	(Increase) / decrease in inventories	(519)
(28,608)	(Increase) / decrease in debtors	10,244
55,830	Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(11,606)
80,316	Impairment and downward valuations	(33,327)
47,722	Depreciation	49,435

The surplus or deficit on the provision of services has been adjusted for the following items that are investing and financial activities:

(50,670)	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(32,903)
(14,252)	Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	(43,590)
(64,922)		(76,493)

# **Cash Flow Note 2 - Investing Activities**

(163,777)	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(126,783)
(6,929,681)	Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	(9,789,332)
50,670	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	32,903
6,955,965	Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	9,688,598
13,359	Other receipts from investing activities	46,347
(73,464)	Net cash flows from investing activities	(148,267)

## **Cash Flow Note 3 - Financing Activities**

0	Cash receipts of short- and long-term borrowing	51,560
(2,434)	Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities relating to finance leases and on-balance sheet PFI contracts	(2,792)
(3,455)	Repayments of short-term and long-term borrowing	(3,759)
(50,102)	Other financing activities	31,714
(55,991)	Net cash flows from financing activities	76,723

# **Cash Flow Note 4 - Reconciliation of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities**

	2021/22 I April £000	Financing Cash flows	Other non-cash changes	2021/22 31 March £000
Long-term borrowings	371,199	50,647	(1,382)	420,464
Short-term borrowings	6,409	(2,846)	1,528	5,091
Lease liabilities	1,669	(2)	0	1,667
On balance sheet PFI liabilities	93,536	(2,790)	0	90,746
Total liabilities from financing activities	472,813	45,009	146	517,968

	2020/21 I April £000	Financing Cash flows	Other non-cash changes	2020/21 31 March £000
Long-term borrowings	374,654	0	(3,455)	371,199
Short-term borrowings	6,445	(3,455)	3,419	6,409
Lease liabilities	1,671	(2)	0	1,669
On balance sheet PFI liabilities	95,968	(2,432)	0	93,536
Total liabilities from financing activities	478,738	(5,889)	(36)	472,813

# **Cash Flow Note 5 - Cash and Cash Equivalents**

52,760	Cash and bank balances	50,140
(605)	Bank overdraft	(667)
52,155	Total cash and cash equivalents	49,474

# **Notes to the Accounts**

**Note I - Expenditure and Funding Analysis** 

	2020/21		Expenditure and Funding Analysis		2021/22	
Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments Between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in CIES		Net Expenditure Chargeable to the General Fund and HRA Balances	Adjustments Between the Funding and Accounting Basis	Net Expenditure in CIES
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
49,221	51,419	100,641	Communities & Environment	48,643	5,096	53,739
12,470	16,953	29,423	Finance	30,282	12,604	42,886
16,039	501	16,540	Housing & Safer Communities	17,581	1,969	19,551
(17,434)	31,961	14,528	Housing Revenue Account	(15,731)	(41,306)	(57,037)
83,282	7,340	90,622	Health & Adult Services	79,058	5,030	84,088
4,416	1,039	5,455	Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills	(5,072)	9,560	4,488
79,270	12,696	91,966	Children's Services	89,226	21,552	110,778
227,264	121,910	349,174	Net Cost of Services	243,986	14,505	258,493
,						
1,555	(12,597)	(11,042)	Other Operating Expenditure (Note 3)	1,578	(19,126)	(17,548)
25,542	16,136	41,678	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure (Note 4)	25,154	38,518	63,672
(320,572)	14,999	(305,573)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income (Note 5)	(282,991)	(60,164)	(343,155)
(293,475)	18,538	(274,937)	Other Income and Expenditure	(256,259)	(40,772)	(297,031)
(66,210)	140,447	74,237	(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(12,272)	(26,267)	(38,539)
(175,737)			Opening General Fund Balance & Housing Revenue Account Balance	(241,947)		
(66,210)			(Surplus) or Deficit on General Fund & Housing Revenue Account Balance in Year	(12,272)		
(241,947)			Closing General Fund Balance & Housing Revenue Account Balance	(254,220)		

# Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement amounts 2021/22

	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net Change in Pension Adjustments	Other Differences	Total Adjustments
Communiciae 9 Familiarum ant	<b>£000</b> 504	£000	£000	£000
Communities & Environment Finance	7,678	5,183 5,010	(591) (83)	5,096 12,604
Housing & Safer Communities	748	1,221	(1)	1,969
Housing Revenue Account	(49,935)	9,047	(419)	-41,306
Health & Adult's Services	651	4,596	(218)	5,030
Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills	7,124	2,517	(80)	9,560
Children's Services	5,335	15,786	429	21,552
Net Cost of Services	(27,894)	43,362	(963)	14,505
Other Operating Expenditure	(19,126)	0	0	(19,126)
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	20,726	17,792	0	38,518
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(43,590)	0	(16,574)	(60,164)
Other Income and Expenditure	(41,990)	17,792	(16,574)	(40,772)
Difference Between General Fund (Surplus)/Deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	(69,884)	61,154	(17,537)	(26,267)

# Adjustments from General Fund to arrive at Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement amounts 2020/21

	Adjustments for Capital Purposes	Net Change in Pension Adjustments	Other Differences	Tota Adjustments
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Communities & Environment	47,537	3,334	548	51,419
Finance	13,558	3,379	15	16,953
Housing & Safer Communities	(203)	617	87	501
Housing Revenue Account	26,976	4,288	697	31,961
Health & Adult Services	4,804	2,295	240	7,340
Regeneration, Enterprise & Skills	(361)	1,271	129	1,039
Children's Services	1,705	7,992	2,999	12,696
Net Cost of Services	94,017	23,177	4,716	121,910
Other Operating Expenditure	(12,597)	0	0	(12,597)
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	0	16,136	0	16,136
Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	(14,252)	0	29,252	14,999
Other Income and Expenditure	(26,850)	16,136	29,252	18,538
Difference Between General Fund (Surplus)/Deficit and Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services	67,167	39,313	33,967	140,447

# **Note 2 - Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature**

2020/21	Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature	2021/22
£000		£000
	Expenditure	
292,538	Employee Benefits Expenses	303,036
653,678	Other Service Expenditure	709,613
94,017	Depreciation, Amortisation, Impairment	(25,734)
25,643	Interest Payments	25,586
1,555	Precepts & Levies	1,578
2,999	Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	580
(15,246)	(Gains)/Loss on the disposal of non-current assets	18,566
1,055,182	Total Expenditure	1,033,226
	Income	
(223,557)	Fees, Charges and Other Service Income	(261,847)
(451)	Interest and Investment Income	(432)
(305,573)	Income from Council Tax and Business Rates	(343,155)
(451,364)	Government Grants & Contributions	(446,625)
0	(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	(19,706)
(980,945)	Total Income	(1,071,765)
74,237	Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(38,539)

# **Note 3 - Other Operating Expenditure**

2020/21 Other Operating Expenditure		2021/22
£000		£000
1,555	Levies	1,578
2,999	Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	580
(15,596)	(Gains) / losses on the disposal of non-current assets	(19,706)
(11,042)	Total	(17,548)

# **Note 4 - Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure**

2020/21	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	2021/22	
£000		£000	
25,643	Interest payable and similar charges	25,586	
16,136	Pensions interest cost and expected return on pensions assets	17,792	
350	Impairment of investments	0	
0	(Gain)/Loss on Disposal of Academies	18,566	
0	Investment Properties Fair Value change	2,160	
(451)	Interest receivable and similar income	(432)	
41,678	Total	63,672	

### **Note 5 - Taxation and Grant Income**

Taxation and non-specific grant income

The Authority credited the following Grants, Contributions and Donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2021/22.

2020/21	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	2021/22
£000		£000
(101,812)	Council Tax Income	(110,905)
(77,140)	Business Rates	(109,262)
(69,721)	Non-ringfenced Government Grants	(63,026)
(42,647)	Non-ringfenced Government Grants - COVID-19	(16,372)
(14,252)	Capital Grants and Contributions	(43,590)
(305,573)	Total	(343,155)

# Specific Grant Income

Grant Income	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Dedicated Schools Grant	(215,834)	(220,118)
Rent Allowance Subsidy	(74,275)	(66,766)
Rent Rebate Subsidy	(51,546)	(50,554)
Public Health Grant	(23,603)	(24,397)

Private Finance Initiative – Building Schools for the Future	(12,291)	(12,291)
Pupil Premium	(9,972)	(9,623)
Post 16 Grant	(5,426)	(7,085)
Flexible Homelessness Support Grant	(3,245)	(2,606)
Rough Sleeping Initiative	(420)	(2,371)
Infants Free School Meal Grant	(2,719)	(2,236)
Benefit Administration Grant	(2,535)	(2,147)
Private Finance Initiative - Neighbourhood Resource Centres	(2,091)	(2,091)
Skills Funding Agency	(1,677)	(1,872)
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children Grant	(1,694)	(1,306)
Independ Living Fund Grant	(1,082)	(1,082)
Troubled Families Grant	(1,050)	(1,066)
Holiday Activities Grant	(8)	(1,057)
Local Implementation and Planning Grant	(1,199)	(1,012)
DHP Subsidy	(1,128)	(939)
Teachers' Pension Grant	(5,651)	(641)
Teachers Pay Grant	(1,824)	(227)
Other Miscellaneous Grants	(9,091)	(11,652)
COVID-19 Grants		
- BR Grants Principle	(6,774)	(6,510)
- Contain Outbreak Management Fund	(1,224)	(3,434)
- Infection Control Fund	(2,950)	(2,665)
- School Grants	(2,374)	(2,411)
- Workforce Recruitment & Retention	0	(2,203)
- Community Testing	(2,173)	(2,058)
- Winter Grant Scheme	(681)	(1,619)
- COVID-19 Hardship Fund	(3,188)	0
- Other COVID-19 (Under £1 million each)	(3,638)	(2,585)
Total	(451,364)	(446,625)

The Authority has received a number of Grants and Contributions that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned if not spent. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

Revenue Grant Receipts in Advance	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Skills Funding Agency	(713)	(805)
Devolved Formula Grant	(684)	(493)
Holiday Activities and Food Grant	(107)	(79)

Other(Under £100k each)	(100)	(24)
Council Tax Energy Rebate	0	(15,112)
Council Tax Energy Rebate Discretionary	0	(892)
Scheme		
COVID-19:		
Contain Outbreak Management Fund	(5,728)	(5,945)
Business Rates Grants	(4,253)	0
COVID-19 Test & Trace Funding	(2,160)	0
Community Champions Fund	(678)	(212)
Self Isolation Fund	(570)	(527)
Covid Additional Relief Fund	0	(5,221)
LA Practical Support Fund	(74)	(613)
Other COVID-19(Under £100k each)	(28)	(92)
Total	(15,096)	(30,015)

# Note 6 - 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 Authority in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Authority to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations 2021/22		Usable Reserves				
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources						
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:						
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(52,107)	(9,047)	0	0	0	
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	235	0	0	0	0	
Council Tax and Business Rates (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	16,574	0	0	0	0	

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations 2021/22	Usable Reserves				
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	309	419	0	0	0
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(34,751)	19,425	0	0	(43,590)
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	(69,740)	10,796	0	0	(43,590)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources					
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	1,866	31,034	(32,901)	0	0
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	0	(578)	578	0	0
Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	(580)	0	580	0	0
Posting of Housing Revenue Account resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	0	24,899	0	(24,899)	0
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	8,838	0	0	0	0
Capital expenditure financed from the revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	13,713	6,017	0	0	0
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	23,837	61,373	(31,743)	(24,899)	0
Adjustments to Capital Resources					
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	0	0	31,466	0	0
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	0	24,899	0
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	0	0	0	0	17,941
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts			0		
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	0	0	31,466	24,899	17,941
Total Adjustments	(45,903)	72,170	(278)	(0)	(25,649)

Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations 2020/21	Usable Reserves				
	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources  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:					
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(35,025)	(4,288)	0	0	0
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	235	0	0	0	0
Council Tax and Business Rates (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	(29,252)	0	0	0	0
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(4,254)	(697)	0	0	0
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(91,132)	(90,713)	30	0	(14,252)
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	(159,427)	(95,699)	30	0	(14,252)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources					
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	18,726	52,208	(71,122)	0	0
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve) Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	0 (2,999)	(308)	308 2,999	0	0
Posting of Housing Revenue Account resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	0	26,027	0	(26,027)	0
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	7,408	0	0	0	0
Capital expenditure financed from the revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	10,490	3,128	0	0	0
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	33,624	81,054	(67,814)	(26,027)	0
Adjustments to Capital Resources					
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	0	0	39,352	0	0
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	0	0	28,782	0
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	0	0	0	0	24,370
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts			20,010		
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	0	0	59,362	28,782	24,370
Total Adjustments	(125,803)	(14,645)	(8,421)	2,755	10,118

# Note 7a - Movements in Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2021/22.

Earmarked Reserves	31/03/20	Transfers Out	Transfers In	31/03/21	Transfers Out	Transfers In	31/03/22
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Other Earmarked Reserves	(11,863)	1,025	(12,704)	(23,543)	3,747	(10,819)	(30,615)
Schools	(21,755)	7,228	(9,334)	(23,861)	6,371	(1,669)	(19,160)
Education and Social Care	(17,704)	341	(10,849)	(28,212)	8,666	(8,884)	(28,430)
Council Tax and Business Rates	(17,119)	290	(359)	(17,188)	283	(6,999)	(23,904)
Risk (based upon risk of events occurring)	(19,047)	1,704	(5,186)	(22,528)	971	(7,631)	(29,189)
Coronavirus Emergency Funding	(9,175)	15,275	(18,577)	(12,477)	5,677	(8,933)	(15,733)
Coronavirus Grant Funding	0	0	(5,791)	(5,791)	1,460	(3,198)	(7,529)
Collection Fund (timing difference)	0	0	(17,180)	(17,180)	17,180	(6,868)	(6,868)
<b>Total</b> (excluding revenue reserves held specifically for capital purpose)	(96,663)	25,863	(79,980)	(150,780)	44,354	(55,002)	(161,428)
Reserves held specifically for Capital purposes							
Priority Investment Programme	(291)	1,036	(1,558)	(813)	1,692	(1,554)	(675)
Schools Capital	(4,665)	0	(3)	(4,668)	0	Ò	(4,668)
Section 106 Contributions	(11,642)	5,616	(411)	(6,438)	3,507	(2,264)	(5,194)
Vehicles and Other Capital Reserves	(15,353)	5,613	(13,905)	(23,645)	17,812	(17,350)	(23,183)
Minimum Revenue Provision Capacity	(18,586)	30	(1,864)	(20,420)	30	(2,622)	(23,013)
Total Reserves held specifically for Capital purposes	(50,538)	12,294	(17,740)	(55,984)	23,041	(23,789)	(56,732)
Total Earmarked Reserves	(147,201)	38,158	(97,721)	(206,764)	67,395	(78,792)	(218,161)

# **Note 7b - Capital Receipts Reserve**

2020/2 I Reserved	2020/21 Usable		2021/22 Reserved	2021/22 Usable
£000	£000	General Fund	£000	£000
0	(3,616)	Balance at 1st April	0	(13,350)
		Cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		
0	(17,802)	statement	0	(1,866)
0	0	Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	0	0
0	0	Transfer of receipts from Housing	0	0
0	0	Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve Reserve upon receipt of cash	0	0
0	8,068	Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	3,834
0	(13,350)	Balance at 31st March	0	(11,383)
		Housing Revenue Account		
0	(82,369)	Balance at 1st April	0	(81,057)
(738)	0	Transfer of reserved balance from Capitl Adjustment Account	(580)	0
		Cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		
(2,841)	(30,280)	statement	(2,320)	(29,294)
0	0	Transfer of receipts to General Fund	0	0
0	308	Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve towards administrative costs of non-current asset disposals	0	578
0	31,284	Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	0	26,472
0	0	Prior year adjustment	0	0
2,999	0	Contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	580	0
0	0	Transfer from Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	0	0
580	0	Transfer of reserved balance to Capital Adjustment Account at year end	2,320	0
0	(81,057)	Balance at 31st March	(0)	(83,301)
0	(94,407)	Total	(0)	(94,684)

# **Note 7c - Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve**

The capital grants unapplied reserve 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	2021/22
	£000	£000
Gov – Schools & Education	16,551	31,628
Gov – Disabled Facility Grant	4,587	5,795

Balance at end of the year	37,038	62,684
Other	2,195	2,214
Community Infrastructure Levy	3,539	6,154
GLA – Housing Grants	3,749	8,243
Gov – Future High Streets	0	2,218
Gov - Community Capacity Social Care	2,505	2,505
Gov – Sustainable Warmth	0	2,861
Gov – Public Sector Decarbonisation	3,912	1,066

#### Note 8 - Unusable Reserves

2020/21	Unusable Reserves	2021/22
£000		£000
(667,488)	Revaluation Reserve	(750,559)
(1,435,007)	Capital Adjustment Account	(1,500,491)
1,703	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	1,468
908,972	Pensions Reserve	729,351
(3,344)	Council Taxpayers Adjustment Account	(5,229)
(20,453)	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	(20,453)
17,963	Business Ratepayers Adjustment Account	3,274
12,916	Accumulated Absences Account	12,188
(1,184,740)	Total Unusable Reserves	(1,530,452)

#### Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Authority 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 its inception on I April 2007. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

2020/21	Revaluation Reserve	2021/22
£000		£000
(677,321)	Balance at   April	(667,488)
(65,882)	Upward revaluation of assets	(253,561)

(667,488)	Balance at 31 March	(750,559)
44,431	Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	21,528
25,424	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	758
19,007	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	20,770
(34,598)	Surplus / deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of	(104,599)
31,284	Downward revaluation of assets & impairment losses not charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of	148,962

#### Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account:

- is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis).
- is credited with the amounts set aside by the Authority as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement
- contains accumulated gains and losses on investment properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Authority
- contains revaluation gains accumulated on property, plant and equipment before I April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

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

2021/22 Capital Adjustment Account		2021/22	
£000		£000	£000
(1,473,302)	Balance at I April		(1,435,007)
	Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive I&E Statement		
29,645	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non current assets	28,695	
80,316	Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment	(33,305)	
12,101	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	11,574	
55,029	Amounts of non current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive I&E Statement	31,763	
177,091		38,727	_
(25,424)	Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(758)	
151,667	Net written out amount of the cost of non current assets consumed in the year		37,969
	Capital financing applied in the year		
(39,352)	Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(30,305)	
(28,782)	Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(24,899)	
(2,033)	Capital grants and contributions credited to the Comprehensive I&E Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(9,172)	
(22,337)	Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	(8,769)	

(1,435,007)	Balance at 31 March	(1	,500,491)
(113,372)	_		(103,453)
156	Reserved capital receipts	(1,740)_	
(13,618)	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(19,730)	
(7,406)	Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(8,838)	

### Financial Instruments Adjustment Account

The Financial Instruments Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for income and expenses relating to certain financial instruments and for bearing losses or benefiting from gains per statutory provisions. The Authority uses the Account to manage premiums paid on the early redemption of loans. Premiums are debited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement when they are incurred, but reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Over time, the expense is posted back to the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory arrangements for spreading the burden on council tax. In the Authority's case, this period is the unexpired term that was outstanding on the loans when they were redeemed. As a result, the balance on the Account at 31 March 2022 will be charged to the General Fund until extinguished in 2031/32.

2020/21	Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	20	21/22
£000		£000	£000
1,938	Balance at I April		1,703
(235)	Proportion of premiums incurred in previous financial years to be charged against the General Fund Balance in accordance with statutory requirements	(235)	
(235)	Amount by which finance costs charged to the Comprehensive I&E Statement are different from finance costs chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements		(235)
1,703	Balance at 31 March		1,468

#### **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 Authority 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 Authority makes employers' 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 shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and account for the resources that the Authority 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.

2020/21	Pensions Reserve	2021/22
£000		£000
704,205	Balance at I April	908,972
165,454	Actuarial gains or losses on pensions assets and liabilities	(240,775)
75,294	Reversal of retirement benefit items debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive I&E Statement	96,675
(35,981)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(35,521)
908,972	Balance at 31 March	729,35 l

#### **Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve**

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

2020/21	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	2021/22
£000		£000
(443)	Balance at I April	(20,453)
(20,010)	Transfer of deferred sales proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive I&E Statement	(0)
(20,453)	Balance at 31 March	(20,453)

### Council Taxpayers Adjustment Account

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

2020/21	Council Taxpayers Adjustment Account	2021/22
£000		£000
(9,448)	Balance at I April	(3,344)
6,104	Amount by which council tax income credited to the Comprehensive I&E Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(1,885)
(3,344)	Balance at 31 March	(5,229)

### Business Ratepayers Adjustment Account

The Business Ratepayers Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of business rates income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from business ratepayers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

2020/21	Business Ratepayers Adjustment Account	2021/22
£000		£000
(5,184)	Balance at I April	17,963
23,147	Amount by which business rates income credited to the Comprehensive I&E Statement is different from business rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(14,689)
17,963	Balance at 31 March	3,274

### 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.

2020/2 I	2 I Accumulated Absences Account		1/22	
£000		£000	£000	
7,964	Balance at I April		12,916	
(7,964)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(12,916)		
12,916	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	12,188		
4,952	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		(728)	
12,916	Balance at 31 March		12,188	

**Note 9 - Property, Plant and Equipment** 

Movements 2021/22	Council Dwellings	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles Plant Furniture and Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus assets	Assets under Construction	Total Property Plant and Equipment	PFI assets within PPE
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation								
At I April 2021	1,547,103	1,201,835	28,555	6,788	22,417	29,442	2,836,140	113,225
Adjustment to Balance b/fwd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	46,779	56,237	6,902	3,084	0	9,504	122,506	0
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in Revaluation Reserve	74,507	50,666	0	0	6,631	0	131,804	6,742
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in SoDoPS	(16,231)	(18,078)	0	0	(106)	0	(34,415)	0
Derecognise – Disposals	(12,981)	(18,566)	(4,333)	0	0	0	(35,880)	0
Derecognise – Other	0	0	0	(288)	0	0	(288)	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from Held for Sale	0	(5,010)	0	0	(648)	0	(5,658)	0
Other movements in cost or valuation	0	27,319	0	0	(675)	(26,644)	0	0
At 31 March 2022	1,639,177	1,294,403	31,124	9,584	27,619	12,302	3,014,209	119,967
Accumulated depreciation and Impairment								
At I April 2021	(51,857)	(21,598)	(19,094)	0	(429)	0	(92,978)	(1,954)
Depreciation charge	(24,185)	(20,322)	(1,862)	0	(142)	0	(46,511)	(2,066)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	24,105	18,759	0	0	35	0	42,899	1,954
Derecognise - Disposals	211	343	3,911	0	0	0	4,465	0
Other movements in depreciation and Impairment	0	50	0	0	11	0	61	0
At 31 March 2022	(51,726)	(22,768)	(17,045)	0	(525)	0	(92,064)	(2,066)
Net Book Value:		,						
At 31 March 2021	1,495,249	1,180,235	9,463	6,787	21,987	29,442	2,743,158	111,272
At 31 March 2022	1,587,451	1,271,635	14,079	9,584	27,094	12,302	2,922,145	117,901
Revaluations:								
Historic Cost	0	0	14,079	9,584	0	12,302	35,965	0
At 31 March 2022	1,587, <del>4</del> 51	1,196,593	0	0	27,094	0	2,811,138	117,901
At 31 March 2021	0	73,071	0	0	0	0	73,071	0
At 31 March 2020	0	4,971	0	0	0	0	4,971	0

Movements 2020/2 I	Council	Other Land and Buildings	Vehicles Plant Furniture and Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus assets	Assets under Construction	Total Property Plant and Equipment	PFI assets within PPE
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or valuation								
At I April 2020	1,525,399	1,161,337	26,968	6,600	10,945	16,630	2,747,879	107,033
Adjustment to Balance b/fwd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Additions	48,578	76,069	2,553	188	19,219	17,975	164,581	0
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in Revaluation Reserve	4,023	14,420	0	0	(5,465)	(138)	12,840	6,193
Revaluation increases / (decreases) recognised in SoDoPS	(24,579)	(48,890)	0	0	(2,284)	(6, 125)	(81,877)	0
Derecognise – Disposals	(6,317)	0	(964)	0	0	0	(7,281)	0
Derecognise – Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Assets reclassified (to) / from Held for Sale	0	(1,100)	0	0	0	1,100	0	0
Other movements in cost or valuation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	1,547,104	1,201,836	28,557	6,787	22,416	29,442	2,836,142	113,226
Accumulated depreciation and Impairment								
At I April 2020	(51,770)	(6,329)	(17,813)	0	(383)	0	(76,295)	0
Depreciation charge	(23,947)	(18,625)	(3,135)	0	(46)	(18)	(45,771)	(1,954)
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	23,760	3,353	930	0	0	18	28,128	0
Derecognise - Disposals	103	0	924	0	0	0	1,026	0
Other movements in depreciation and Impairment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
At 31 March 2021	(51,855)	(21,601)	(19,095)	0	(429)	0	(92,984)	(1,954)
Net Book Value:								
At 31 March 2020	1,473,629	1,155,009	9,155	6,600	10,563	16,630	2,671,580	107,033
At 31 March 2021	1,495,249	1,180,235	9,463	6,787	21,987	29,442	2,743,158	111,272
Revaluations:								
Historic Cost	0	0	9,463	6,787	0	26,644	42,894	0
At 31 March 2021	1,491,868	947,486	0	0	21,987	2,798	2,464,134	96,909
At 31 March 2020	3,381	230,528	0	0	0	0	233,909	14,363
At 31 March 2019	0	2,221	0	0	0	0	2,221	0

#### **Depreciation**

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

- Council Dwellings: 40 years
- Other Land and Buildings: 5 125 years
- Vehicles, Plant, Furniture and Equipment: 4 10 years
- Surplus: 4 40 years
- Community Assets: The majority of these assets are not depreciated as they have an indeterminable life. Where a community asset is being used as an operational building, then it has been depreciated in line with the policy relating to that category of asset.

#### Capital Commitments

As at 31 March 2022, the Authority had entered into a number of contracts for the construction or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment in 2021/22 and future years budgeted to cost £75.3m. Similar commitments at 31 March 2021 were £81.4m. The major commitments are:

- Housing Projects £48.0
- Transportation Capital Programme £0.2m
- Schools Capital Programme £6.5m
- Regeneration projects £9.0m
- Other schemes £11.6m

The Authority has also made available a £54.7m loan facility to Meridian Home Start Ltd for the delivery of affordable housing within the borough. As at 31 March 2022 £29.4m of this facility had been drawn down leaving up to £25.3m available for future years.

Non Current Assets - Schools

As at 31st March 2022, the following schools converted to academy status during the year:

Wingfield Primary School

This resulted in the sum of £18.6m being written out of the Royal Boroughs Balance Sheet to reflect the 125 year lease.

#### Revaluations

The Authority carries out a rolling programme that ensures all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at fair value is revalued at least every five years. All valuations were carried out internally. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimations set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. In estimating fair value, regard has been given to the nature of the property by reference to its use, location, size, method of construction, age, all other relevant matters, and the prevailing market forces.

All Held for Sale assets, Surplus assets and Investment Properties are measured at fair value and have been categorised as having a level 3 input level in the fairvalue hierarchy, except for these valued at £1. Further information on fair value measurement can be found under accounting policies.

#### **Note 9b - Infrastructure Assets**

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

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

	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Net book value (modified historical cost)		
At I April	135,664	135,023
Additions	2,173	4,514
Derecognition	0	0
Depreciation	(2,881)	(2,881)
Impairment	0	0
Other movements in cost	67	67
Net book value at 31 March	135,023	136,655

	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Infrastructure assets	135,023	136,655
Other PPE assets	2,743,158	2,922,145
Total PPE assets	2,878,181	3,058,800

The authority has elected to adopt the Temporary Relief for 2021/22 as it is unable to accuractly calculate the value of any infrastructure asset, such as roads and street lighting, that have been disposed of or replaced during the financial year. The authority has determined in accordance with Regulation [30M England or 24L Wales] of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England/Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for infrastructure assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil. The authority believes that the economic benefit from the net book value of infrastructure assets, as reported at the 31 March 2022, will continue to be realised through continued use.

## **Note 10 - Investment Properties**

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

	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Rental income from investment property	376	358
Net gain/(loss)	376	358

There are no restrictions on the Authority's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Authority's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Authority 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:

	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Balance at start of the year	7,000	7,000
Additions:	0	0
Disposals:	0	0
Net Gains/Losses from fair value adjustment	0	(2,160)
Balance at end of the year	7,000	4,840

# **Note IOA - Surplus Assets**

Surplus assets are those assets that are not being used to deliver services, but which do not meet the criteria to be classified as either investment properties or non-current assets held for sale The fair value of surplus assets is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of surplus assets over the year:

	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Balance at start of the year	10,563	21,988
Additions:	19,219	0
Transfers:		
To/from property, plant and equipment	0	(1,323)
Depreciation	(46)	(141)
Other Changes	(7,749)	6,570
Balance at end of the year	21,988	27,094

# Note II - Impairment Losses

The Authority's Valuer has assessed there has been no impairment with regards to the overall asset portfolio.

#### Note 12 - Assets Held for Sale

Assets Held for Sale	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Balance outstanding at start of year	53,682	107
Assets newly classified as held for sale – Property, Plant and Equipment	0	5,715
Additions	0	39
Revaluation gains	151	743
Revaluation losses	(4,028)	(1,160)
Assets declassified as held for sale – Property, Plant and Equipment	0	(57)

Assets sold	(49,698)	(61)
Balance outstanding at year-end	107	5,326

# **Note 13 - Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing**

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PFI contracts), 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, a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed. The Capital Financing Requirement is analysed in the second part of the note.

2020/2I	Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing	2021/22
£000		£000
718,072	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	783,554
	Capital Investment	
166,754	Property, Plant and Equipment	127,059
12,100	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	11,574
	Sources of Finance	
(39,352)	Capital receipts	(30,305)
(53,152)	Government grants and other contributions	(42,840)
(13,619)	Direct revenue contributions	(19,730)
(7,406)	MRP / loans fund principal	(8,838)
157	Reserved capital receipts	(1,740)
783,554	Closing Capital Financing Requirement	818,735
	Explanation of Movement in Year	
(1,885)	Increase in underlying need to borrow (supported by government financial assistance)	(1,868)
67,367	Increase in underlying need to borrow (unsupported by government financial assistance)	37,049
65,482	Increase / (decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	35,181

#### **Note 14 - Private Finance Initiatives and Similar Contracts**

The Authority has two PFI contracts.

#### **Provision of Neighbourhood Resource Centres (NRCs)**

A PFI agreement was signed in 2002 for the provision of three Centres. The three NRCs were designed to replace the Authority's four Homes for Elderly People (HEP) and deliver a range of high quality services for older people. The NRCs opened between May and August 2004 and the contract is for 30 years. The Authority is leasing the sites to the Provider for 30 years at nil value and will be returned to the Authority for nil consideration at the end of the contract.

### Provision of two secondary schools

The Authority entered into an agreement in 2009 for the provision of two schools, Crown Woods and Thomas Tallis. The schools came into operation during 2011/12 and the contract runs for 25 years. The sites were made available to the operator at nil value for the duration of the contract. In September 2014, Crown Woods converted to academy status. The Authority undertook a refinancing exercise of the PFI contract in 2016/17.

In accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting the assets provided under the PFI contracts and the sites provided by the Authority are recognised on the authority's Balance Sheet. Movements in value are detailed in the analysis movement on Property, Plant and Equipment.

Under these contracts the Authority paid £11.590m (NRCs) and £16.025m (secondary schools) in 2021/22. The Authority is required to make the following payments to the Providers of these contracts:

	NRCs			Secondary Schools			
Year	Services £000	Interest £000	Capital £000	Services £000	Interest £000	Capital £000	
2022/23	9,425	1,281	692	4,053	7,477	3,441	
2023/24 to 2026/27	42,084	3,668	2,223	23,213	24,841	13,273	
2027/28 to 2031/32	55,009	4,256	6,518	38,087	20,161	21,762	
2032/33 to 2036/37	30,738	416	4,438	27,223	11,274	38,399	
Total	137,256	9,621	13,871	92,576	63,753	76,875	

Although the payments made to the contractors are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractors for the fair value of the services delivered, the capital expenditure incurred in providing the facilities and interest payable. The payments under these PFI agreements are partially linked to Retail Price Index, adjusted for on an annual basis, and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet the service or availability standards set-out in the contracts. The liability outstanding to pay the contractors for the capital expenditure incurred is as follows:

	NRCs		Secondary	Secondary Schools	
Outstanding Liability	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Balance outstanding at start of year	15,186	14,560	80,783	78,976	
Payments during the year	(626)	(689)	(1,806)	(2,101)	
Balance outstanding at year-end	14,560	13,871	78,976	76,875	

The Authority has the right to terminate the contracts provided it compensates the contractors in full for all costs incurred, including the repayment of outstanding debt. In accordance with the contracts, the Authority may opt to refinance the PFIs through the contractors. During 2016/17 the Authority authorised the refinancing of its Secondary School PFI with the gain shared with the contractor. The savings realised by the Authority during 2021/22 and applied as a reduction in the interest charge was £0.309m (£0.337m 2020/21). The amounts held as deferred income in respect of this transaction at 31 March 2022 is;

PFI Deferred Income	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Not later than one year	309	282
Later than one year and not later than five years	993	909
Late than five years	1,411	1,213
Total	2,713	2,404

#### S106 Liabilities

Section 106 receipts are monies paid to the Authority by developers in relation to the granting of planning permission and typically detail works that are required to be carried out or relate to the provision of new facilities as a result of that permission (e.g. affordable homes, early years provision). These sums are ring-fenced and can only be spent as part of an agreement with the developer. As at 31st March 2022, the Authority held £40.908m of \$106 liabilities (£47.864m 2021/22).

#### Note 15 - Leases

# **Authority as Lessee**

#### **Finance Leases**

The Authority has an industrial estate and four premises held under finance leases. The assets acquired under these leases are carried as Property, Plant and Equipment in the Balance Sheet at the following net amounts:

Finance Lease (Lessee)	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Vehicles, Plant , Furniture and Equipment	6,693	6,693

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

Finance Lease Liabilities (net present value of minimum lease payments)	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	
Current	2	2	
Non Current	1,668	1,666	
Finance costs payable in future years	5,095	5,016	
Minimum lease payments	6,765	6,684	

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

Finance Lease Liabilities	Minimum L	ease Payments	Finance Lease Liabilities		
	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	
Not later than one year	82	82	2	2	
Later than one year and not later than five years	326	326	8	8	

Late than five years	6,357	6,276	1,660	1,658
Total	6,765	6,684	1,670	1,668

The minimum lease payments do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. In 2021/22 contingent rents payable by the Authority were £240,972 (2020/21: £240,972).

The Authority has sub-let some units of the industrial estate held under the finance lease. At 31 March 2022 the minimum payments expected to be received under non-cancellable sub-leases was £1,679,586.59 (£1,917,804.18 at 31 March 2021).

## **Operating Leases**

### **Property**

The Authority has acquired some land and a number of buildings to assist with service provision throughout the Borough. The future minimum lease payments due under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

Operating Leases	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Not later than one year	350	348
Later than one year and not later than five years	1,240	1,167
Later than five years	9,582	9,307
Minimum Lease payments	11,172	10,822

The leases are held for a variety of reasons and are charged to their relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement. The lease payments recognised as an expense in the period total £396,169 (£394,908 2020/21). The Authority has sub-let some of the assets held under the above operating leases. At 31 March 2022 the minimum payments expected to be received under non-cancellable sub-leases was £556,462 (£818,931 at 31 March 2021).

### **Internal Leasing**

The Authority operates an internal leasing fund for the acquisition of vehicles used principally in the provision of waste collection, building maintenance, street cleansing and passenger services. In 2021/22 the Authorities' accounts include expenditure to the value of £5,081,020 (£1,240,142 in 2020/21), which was funded by the internal leasing fund. Repayments were made to the fund in 2021/22 totalling £3,055,220 (£3,113,458 in 2020/21). The repayments are made to the fund to enable future replacement and are based on the expected primary life of the vehicle.

### **Authority as Lessor**

#### **Finance Leases**

The Authority has leased out part of a Car Park (Calderwood Street) to a Building Management company on a finance lease with a remaining term of 105 years. The Authority has a gross investment in the lease, made up of the minimum lease payments expected to be received over the remaining term and the residual value anticipated of the property when the lease comes to an end. The minimum lease payments comprise settlement of the long-term debtor for the interest in the property acquired by the lessee and finance income that will be earned by the Authority in future years whilst the debtor remains outstanding. The gross investment is made up of the following amounts:

Finance Lease Debtor (net present value of minimum lease payments)	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Non-current	308	308
Unearned finance income	7,623	7,548
Gross Investment in the Lease	7,931	7,856

The gross investment in the lease and the minimum lease payments will be received in the following periods:

Finance Lease Debtor	Gross Invi	vestment Lease	Minimum Lease Payments		
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Not later than one year	75	75	75	75	
Later than one year and not later than five years	299	299	299	299	
Later than five years	7,557	7,482	7,557	7,482	
Minimum Lease Payments	7,931	7,856	7,931	7,856	

There have been no contingent rents received in respect of the Calderwood Street Car Park lease in 2021/22 (£nil in 2020/21).

#### **Operating Leases**

The Authority leases out property and equipment under operating leases for the following purposes:

- For the provision of community services, such as sports facilities and community centres.
- 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:

Future Minimum Lease Payments	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Not later than one year	3,461	3,237
Later than one year and not later than five years	10,260	9,396
Later than five years	22,143	21,228
Minimum Lease Payments	35,865	33,861

There have been no contingent rents received under operating lease agreements in 2021/22 (£nil in 2020/21).

# **Note 16 - Financial Instruments**

# **Categories of Financial Instruments**

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

	Carrying Value				
	Long 7	Long Term		Гегт	
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Investments*					
Amortised Cost	25,027	29,659	70,497	166,632	
<u>Debtors**</u>					
Amortised Cost	22,163	22,126	51,464	43,044	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	0	0	52,760	50,140	
Total Financial Assets	47,190	51,785	174,721	259,816	
Borrowings					
Financial Liabilities at amortised cost	(371,199)	(420,464)	(6,409)	(5,090)	

Total Financial Liabilities	(463,613)	(508,743)	(64,925)	(77,719)
Cash Overdrawn	0	0	(605)	(667)
Amortised Cost	0	0	(55,119)	(67,827)
Creditors***				
PFI and Finance Lease Liabilities	(92,414)	(88,279)	(2,792)	(4,135)
Other Long Term Liabilities				

<sup>\*£146.5</sup>m of short-term Debt Management Account Deposit Facility balances held with the Bank of England and £19.9m in Govt. Treasury Bills. Long Term Debt £28.9m is held with Meridian.

### Income, Expense, Gains and Losses

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

Income, Expense, Gain and Loss	2020/21			2021/22			
	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: measured at fair value through Profit and Loss	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: measured at amortised cost	Financial Assets: measured at fair value through Profit and Loss	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Interest Expense	(25,643)	0	0	(25,586)	0	0	
Interest Income	0	202	0	0	224	0	
Gains/(losses) on financial assets	0	(350)	0	0	0	0	

<sup>\*\*</sup> The figure for short-term debtors (net of bad debts provision) excludes prepayments of £2.281m (2020/21 £3.407m) and also excludes Collection Fund, NNDR and Government entries of £25.489m (2020/21 £60.198m). The figure for long-term debtors excludes Collection Fund entries of £1.306m.

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> The figure for creditors excludes prepaid income of £8.161m (2020/21 £7.592m) and also excludes Collection Fund and Government entries of £56.757m (2020/21 £72,467m).

#### Fair Values of Assets and Liabilities

Financial liabilities, financial assets represented by Investment, long-term debtors and creditors are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- based on rates for equivalent loans at that date (premature redemption rates for PWLB)
- the fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount.
- where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months, carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.

Except for the financial assets carried at fair value (described below), all other financial liabilities and financial assets represented by investment 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 (Level 2), using the following assumptions:

- For loans from the PWLB payable, premature repayment rates from the PWLB have been applied to provide the fair value under PWLB debt redemption procedures. As the Debt Management Office provides a transparent approach allowing the exit cost to be calculated without undertaking a repayment or transfer it is appropriate to disclose the exit price. As an alternative, we have assessed the cost of taking a new loan at PWLB new loan rates applicable to existing loans on Balance Sheet date (which could be viewed as a proxy for transfer value);
- For non-PWLB loans payable, PWLB premature repayment rates have been applied to provide the fair value under PWLB debt redemption procedures;
- For loans receivable, the prevailing benchmark market rates have been used to provide the fair value;
- 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;

Financial liabilities are held with PWLB and Market lenders. All of these investments and borrowings were not quoted on an active market and a Level I valuation is not available. To provide a fair value which provides a comparison to the carrying amount, we have used a financial model valuation provided by Link Asset Services. This valuation applies the net present value approach, which provides an estimate of the value of payments in the future in today's terms as at the balance sheet date.

As new loan rate borrowing comparison would not reflect the effect of the penalty charge that PWLB would raise on early repayment, a supplementary measure of the fair value of PWLB Commitment is to compare the terms of these loans with estimates of the terms that would be offered for the market transactions undertaken at the balance sheet date, which has been assumed as the PWLB Premature Repayment Rate. At the balance sheet date the fair value for PWLB would be £418m (20/21 £419m), LOBO £ 254m (20/21 £288m) and OTHER LOANS £10m (20/21 £0). The PFI liabilities measure using Premature Repayment Rate would be £113m (20/21 £126m) The following table shows the Fair Value of PWLB, LOBO and OTHER LOANS measured at New Loan Rate.

The fair values calculated are as follows:

Financial Liabilities  Held at Amortised		31 Marc	31 March 2021		ch 2022
Costs	Fair	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
	Value Level	£000	£000	£000	£000
PFI/ Finance Lease	2	(95,207)	(118,292)*	(92,415)	(107,245)
PWLB	2	(247,809)	(358,352)	(284,483)	(355,152)
LOBO	2	(129,799)	(217,156)	(129,789)	(194,770)
Other Loans	2	0	0	(11,283)	(8,817)
Overdrawn	N/A	(605)	(605)	(667)	(667)

<sup>\*</sup>Restated from £127,264k to £118,292 to provide the fair value of PFI using PWLB new loan rate, rather than PWLB Premature Repayment Rate.

The fair value of the liabilities is higher than the carrying amount because the Authority's portfolio of loans includes a number of 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 2022) arising from a commitment to pay interest to lenders above current market rates.

Assets		31 Marcl	31 March 2021		h 2022
	Fair Value Level	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets held at amortised cost:					
Investment	2	95,524	95,419	196,291	196,072
Cash and cash equivalents	1	52,760	52,760	50,140	50,140

Short Term Debtors	N/A	51,464	51,464	43,044	43,044
Long Term Debtors	N/A	22,163	22,163	22,126	22,126

The fair value of the assets is lower than the carrying amount where the Authority's portfolio of investments includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate receivable is lower than the rates available for similar loans at the Balance Sheet date. This shows a notional future loss (based on economic conditions as at 31 March 2022) attributable to the commitment to receive interest below current market rates. Assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are carried in the Balance Sheet at their fair value. These fair values are based on public price quotations where there is an active market for the instrument. Short-term debtors and creditors are carried at cost as this is a fair approximation of their value.

# Note 17 - Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Authority's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks:

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

# Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

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

- by formally adopting the requirements of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice
- by the adoption of a Treasury Policy Statement and treasury management clauses within its financial regulations.
- by approving annually in advance prudential and treasury indicators for the following three years limiting:
  - o the Authority's overall borrowing
  - o its maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates
  - o its maximum and minimum exposures to the maturity structure of its debt
  - o its maximum annual exposures to investments maturing beyond a year.
- by the adoption of a Treasury Policy Statement and treasury management by approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year setting out its criteria

for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with Government guidance.

These are required to be reported and approved before the start of the year to which they relate. These items are reported with the annual treasury management strategy, which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Authority's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported after each year, as is a mid-year update.

The annual treasury management strategy which incorporates the prudential indicators was approved by Council on 24 February 2022 and is available on the Council's website - <a href="https://committees.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/CalendarofMeetings.aspx">https://committees.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/CalendarofMeetings.aspx</a>

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, investment securities and as credit exposures to the Authority'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. 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
- credit default swap spreads to give early warning of likely changes in credit ratings
- sovereign ratings to select counterparties from only the most creditworthy countries
- share prices and news and information from the City via Bloomberg and other sources.
- UK institutions provided with support from the UK Government
- a £30m credit limit (with the exception of the UK Government)

The Authority does not expect any losses from non-performance by any of its counterparties in relation to deposits and securities. The Authority does not generally allow credit for customers. The past due but not impaired amount (forming part of the Authority's debtors) can be analysed by age as follows (all sums owing are due to be settled within one year):

Debtor Age	2020/21	2021/22	
	£'000	£'000	
Less than three months	15,555	19,037	
Three to six months	4,377	2,506	
Six to one year	15,078	4,100	
More than one year	12,134	14,177	
Total	47,144	39,820	

A summary of the credit quality of the Council's investments at 31 March 2022 is shown below:

2020/21 £'000		2021/22 £'000
Amortised Cost	Fitch Ratings	Amortised Cost
70,392	AA-	166,413
25,132	N/A	29,878
95,524		196,291

### Liquidity Risk

The Authority manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures above, 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 Authority has term investments in the DMO, which are classified as "investment at amortised cost", The Authority has ready access to borrowings from banks to cover any day- to-day cash flow need and the PWLB and money markets for access to longer-term funds. The Authority 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. Instead, the risk is that the Authority will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its borrowings at a time of unfavourable interest rates (see Refinancing Risk).

#### Refinancing Risk

The Authority maintains a significant debt and investment portfolio. Whilst the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer-term risk to the Authority relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to both the maturing of longer term financial liabilities and longer term financial assets. The approved treasury indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments placed for greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk. The Authority approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks, and the central 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
- monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Authority's day to day cash flow needs and the spread of longer term investments provide stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer term cash flow needs.

The Authority sets limits on the proportion of its fixed rate borrowing during specified periods. Interest rates on loans varied between 0.96% -10.25% (2020/21: 3.52% - 10.25%). The principal maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

	2020/21 £'000					2021/22 £'000	
PWLB	BANK*	Total		PWLB	BANK*	Others	Total
3,455	-	3,455	Less than one year	1,382	-	608	1,990
1,382	_	1,382	Between one and two years	6,910	-	608	7,518
6,910	-	6,910	Between two and five years	6,910	-	1,825	8,735
19,002	-	19,002	Maturing in five to ten years	19,002	-	3,205	22,207
214,905	129,000	343,905	Maturing in more than ten years	247,995	129,000	5,010	382,005
245,654	129,000	374,654		282,199	129,000	11,256	422,455

<sup>\*</sup>The LOBO maturity profile assumes that the lender will not exercise their option until maturity.

Within the "more than ten years" category, are £129m of market loans (LOBO's). £119m is made up of varied interest rates between 3.99% and 4.55%, many of which have options built into them whereby, after a period of time the lender may ask for the rate payable to be changed. The Authority has the option to either accept this increase or repay the loan in full, without penalty. The risk to the Authority is that these options get exercised at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Authority has set a limit on its long-term borrowing that can be undertaken on this basis. The option dates have been spread over several years to ensure that the risk of this scenario occurring is reduced. All trade and other payables are due to be paid in less than one year. A further £10m market loan (LOBOS) has been fixed at 3.89% interest with Barclays Bank in this category. A new loan for £11.56m was taken out during the year with Amber Meef 2 LLP for our street lighting capital program with a preferential rate of 0.96%, whilst the remaining £282m is with PWLB Loans at various interest rates between 1.37% and 10.25%.

#### Market Risk

#### Interest Rate Risk

The Authority is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Authority. For instance, a rise in interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates the interest expense charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- borrowings at fixed rates the fair value of the liabilities will fall
- investments at variable rates the interest income credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services will rise
- investments at fixed rates the fair value of the assets will fall.

Borrowings are not carried at fair value, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings would not impact on the Surplus of 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 Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

The Authority has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. During periods of falling interest rates and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate loans will be repaid early to limit exposure to losses. The risk of loss is ameliorated by the fact that a proportion of government grant payable on financing costs will normally move with prevailing interest rates or the Authority's cost of borrowing and provide compensation for a proportion of any higher costs. The treasury management team has an active strategy for assessing interest rate exposure. The long-term borrowing of the Authority is held at a fixed rate and thus there would be no effect on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, or the debit to the Housing Revenue Account, if interest rates were different from those that prevailed on the Balance Sheet date. Investments are mostly held at fixed rates.

#### Price Risk

The Authority does not generally invest in equity shares but has holdings of Treasury Bills. The Authority was consequently exposed to gains or losses arising from movements in the prices of these instruments should they have wished to sell them before their maturity date. The Treasury Bills would be classified as 'Investment at amortised cost', meaning that all movements in price will impact on gains and losses recognised in income and expenditure in the surplus or deficit on the provision of services. There was one 0.25% bank base rate rise in interest rate between the date on which the securities were acquired and the Balance Sheet date, and the carrying value thus would have slightly changed the fair value of the Treasury Bills. It is the Authority's current policy not to trade the securities before their maturity date unless there are exceptional circumstances.

#### Foreign Exchange Risk

The Authority has no financial assets / liabilities denominated in foreign currencies and thus has no exposure to loss arising from movements in exchange rates.

### Note 18 - Pensions Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers employed by the Authority are eligible to be members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by the Department for Education. Certain Public Health employees who transferred to the Authority on I April 2013 are eligible to be members of the NHS Pension Scheme. The Schemes provide relevant employees with specified benefits upon their retirement and the Authority contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The Schemes are technically defined benefit schemes. However, the Schemes are unfunded and use notional funds as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. The Authority is not able to identify its share of the underlying financial position and performance of the Schemes with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, they are accounted for on the same basis as defined contribution schemes.

In respect of Teacher's Pensions, the Authority is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. These costs are accounted for on a defined benefit basis and included within Note 19.

Scheme	Year ending 3	I March 2021	Year ending 31 March 2022		
	Contributions paid	Percentage of pensionable pay	Contributions paid	Percentage of pensionable pay	
	£000	%	£000	%	
Teacher's Pensions	15,782	23.68	15,732	23.68*	
NHS Pension scheme	110	14.38	114	14.38	
Total	15,892	-	15,846		

<sup>\*</sup>Total contributions paid into the Teachers' Pension Scheme in 2021/22 was £22.342m (£22.399m in 2020/21).

## **Note 19 - Defined Benefit Pension Schemes**

## Participation in Pension Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Authority makes contributions towards the cost of post- employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Authority has a commitment to make the benefit payments, and that needs to be recognised and disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement. Benefits are therefore, guaranteed.

The Authority participates in two post- employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), administered locally by the Royal Borough of Greenwich (RBG) this is a funded defined benefit career average re-valued earnings scheme, meaning that the Authority and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets. The Authority is an employer within the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA), which is also a LGPS fund.
- Discretionary post- retirement benefits upon early retirement this is an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. However, there are no investment assets built up to meet these pensions liabilities and cash has to be generated to meet actual pensions payments as they eventually fall due. No further awards have been made since 2008 in respect of the LGPS. However, this facility remains as part of the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

The policy for recognising actuarial gains and losses is that actuarial gains and losses are recognised in the reserves i.e. in Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.

## Transactions Relating to Post-employment Benefits

The costs of retirement benefits are recognised in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions (in accordance with IAS 19). However, the charge required to be made against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year (derived from the employer contribution rates of 18.5% for RBG and 22.2% for LPFA, plus lump sums as required), therefore, 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:

Total Expense Recognised in the Comprehensive I&E Statement	LGPS (Funded)			Dis	Discretionary Benefits (Unfunded)				
for Post-Employment Benefits									
	2020/21		2021/22		2020/21	2	021/22		
	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Comprehensive I&E Statement									
Cost of Services									
Service cost comprising									
Current service cost including admin expenses	57,692	79,763	290	80,053		-	_	-	
Settlements and curtailments	1,466	(1,170)	0	(1,170)	-	-	-	-	
Past Service Cost	0	0	0	0					
Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure									
Net interest expense	15,099	16,928	(23)	16,905	1,037	843	44	887	
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to SoDoPS	74,257	95,521	267	95,788	1,037	843	44	887	
Other Post Employment benefit Charged to the Comprehensive I&E Statement									
Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:									
Return on plan assets	(253,605)	(72,113)	(9,856)	(81,969)		-	-	_	
Actuarial (gains) or losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	(27,901)	(105,931)	(2,610)	(108,541)	(706)	-	135	135	
Actuarial (gains) or losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	466,182	(89,749)	(972)	(90,721)	4,597	984	5	989	
Experience (gain)/loss	(24,915)	30,325	(3,039)	27,286	(672)		50	50	
Other actuarial (gains)/losses		(4,378)	(2,353)	(6,731)					
Other	2,474	-	18,727	18,727	-	-	-	-	

Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to other Income and Expenditure in the CIES	162,235	(241,846)	(103)	(241,949)	3,219	984	190	1,174
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the CIES	236,492	(146,325)	164	(146,161)	4,256	1,827	234	2,061
Movement in Reserves Statement								
Reversal of net charges made to SoDoPS for post- employment benefits (per Code)  Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year	(74,257)	(95,521)	(267)	(95,788)	(1,037)	(843)	(44)	(887)
Employer's contributions payable to the scheme Retirement benefits payable to pensioners	31,702	31,609	133	31,742	4,279	3,596	183	3,779

# 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 it defined benefits plans is as follows:

Pensions Assets and Liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet	e LGPS (Funded)						
	2020/21		2021/22				
	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total			
	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Present value of defined benefit obligation	(2,317,917)	(2,143,558)	(75,500)	(2,219,058)			
Fair value of plan assets	1,457,779	1,455,707	97,543	1,553,250			
Other movements in liability/(assets) – asset ceiling	(2,507)	-	(21,282)	(21,282)			
Net liability arising from Defined Benefit Obligation	(862,645)	(687,851)	761	(687,090)			

Pensions Assets and Liabilities recognised in the Balance Sheet	Dis	Benefits (Unf	efits (Unfunded)		
	2020/21	2021/22			
	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Net liability arising from Defined Benefit Obligation	(46,327)	(40,207)	(2,054)	(42,261)	

# Reconciliation of the movements in the Fair Value of Scheme (Plan) Assets

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets underlying the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption yields as at the Balance Sheet date. Expected returns on equity investments reflect long-term real rates of return experienced in the respective markets. However, from 2013/14 the expected return and the interest cost has been replaced with a single net interest cost, which will effectively set the expected return equal to the IAS19 discount rate.

Loca	I Governmen	t Pension Sc	theme
2020/21		2021/22	
Total	RBG	LPFA	Total
£000	£000	£000	£000
1,191,750	1,370,048	87,731	1,457,779
27,797	27,214	1,629	28,843
253,605	72,113	9,856	81,969
-	4,378	2,353	6,731
(1,155)	(1,047)	(29)	(1,076)
	2020/21 Total £000 1,191,750 27,797 253,605	2020/21  Total RBG  £000 £000  1,191,750 1,370,048 27,797 27,214  253,605 72,113 - 4,378	Total RBG LPFA  £000 £000 £000  1,191,750 1,370,048 87,731 27,797 27,214 1,629  253,605 72,113 9,856 - 4,378 2,353

Closing balance 31 March	1,457,779	1,455,707	97,543	1,553,250
Settlements	(900)	(1,773)	-	(1,773)
Benefits paid	(61,450)	(62,536)	(4,353)	(66,889)
Contributions by scheme participants	12,151	12,105	40	12,145
Employer contributions	35,981	35,205	316	35,521

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

Reconciliation of present value of the		LGPS (Fund	Discr	etionary (Ur	nfunded)						
Scheme Liabilities (Defined Benefit Obligation)											
	2020/21		2021/22		2020/21	2	2021/22				
	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total			
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000			
Opening balance I April	(1,849,683)	(2,233,865)	(84,052)	(2,317,917)	(46,240)	(43,944)	(2,383)	(46,327)			
Current service cost	(56,537)	(78,716)	(261)	(78,977)	-	-	-				
Interest cost	(42,895)	(44,142)	(1,558)	(45,700)	(1,037)	(843)	(44)	(887)			
Contributions by scheme participants	(12,151)	(12,105)	(40)	(12,145)	-	-	-	-			
Remeasurement gains and losses	(466,182)	-	-	-	(4,597)	-	-	-			
Change in demographic assumptions	27,901	105,931	2,340	108,271	706	-	135	135			
Change in Financial Assumptions	-	87,781	962	88,743	-	984	5	989			
Experience (loss)/gain on defined benefit obligation	24,915	(30,325)	2,939	(27,386)	672	-	50	50			
Benefits paid	57,281	58,940	4,170	63,110	4,169	3,596	183	3,779			
Settlements	1,309	4,232	-	4,232	-	-	-	-			
Past service costs, including Curtailments	(1,875)	(1,289)	-	(1,289)		-	-	-			
Closing balance 31 March	(2,317,917)	(2,143,558)	(75,500)	(2,219,058)	(46,327)	(40,207)	(2,054)	(42,261)			

# Local Government Pension Scheme Assets

The Discretionary Benefits arrangement has no assets to cover its liabilities. The LGPS assets consist of the following categories, by amount and proportion of the total assets held:

<b>RBG Pension Fund</b>		2020/21			2021/22	
	Quoted price in active markets £000	Not quote price in active markets £000	d Total £000	price in active markets	Not quoted price in active markets £000	Total £000
UK and Overseas Unit Trusts	-	340,6	3 <b>40,659</b>			-
Unitised insurance policies	-	535,0	<b>535,000</b>			-
Equity	-	126,7	778 <b>126,778</b>		- 731,753	731,753
Bonds	-	229,	5  <b>229, 5 </b>			-
Fixed Income	-				- 220,709	220,709
Property	-	121,3	891 <b>121,391</b>			-
Property- Unit trust	-				- 144,276	144,276
Multi Asset	-				- 178,507	178,507
Infrastructure	-				- 11,060	11,060
Private Debt	-				- 32,335	32,335
Diversified Alternative	-				95,370	95,370
Private equity	-				- 1,725	1,725
Property-Freehold	-				- 3,639	3,639
Cash/other investment balance		17,0	)69 <b>17,069</b>	•	- 36,333	36,333
Closing balance 31 March		1,370,0	)48 <b>1,370,048</b>		- I,455,707	1,455,707

LPFA		2020/21		2021/22		
	Quoted price in active markets	Not quoted price in active markets	Total	Quoted price in active markets	Not quoted price in active markets	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Equity investments	48,487	-	48,487	54,968	-	54,968

Cash Closing balance 31 March	68,733	3,685 <b>18.998</b>	3,685 87.731	75,795	2,827 <b>21.748</b>	2,827 97,543
Cook		2.405	2 (05		2 027	2 027
Target Return Portfolio	20,246	_	20,246	20,827	-	20,827
Infrastructure	-	7,535	7,535	-	10,298	10,298
Property	-	7,778	7,778	-	8,623	8,623

# 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. Both the LGPS and Discretionary Benefits liabilities have been assessed by Barnett-Waddingham, an independent firm of actuaries, using data from the full triennial valuation as at 31 March 2022.

The principal assumptions used by the actuary have been:

RI	BG	LPFA	
2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22
20.5	19.5	21.4	20.8
23.3	22.9	23.9	23.5
21.9	20.9	21.9	21.0
24.9	24.4	25.8	25.3
2.80	3.20	2.85	3.45
3.80	4.20	3.85	4.45
2.80	3.20	2.85	3.45
2.00	2.60	1.90	2.60
50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
	20.5 23.3 21.9 24.9 2.80 3.80 2.80 2.00	20.5 19.5 23.3 22.9 21.9 20.9 24.9 24.4 2.80 3.20 3.80 4.20 2.80 3.20 2.00 2.60	2020/21     2021/22     2020/21       20.5     19.5     21.4       23.3     22.9     23.9       21.9     20.9     21.9       24.9     24.4     25.8       2.80     3.20     2.85       3.80     4.20     3.85       2.80     3.20     2.85       2.80     3.20     1.90

<sup>\*</sup>effectively also equal to the expected return.

RBG and LPFA assume all members will retire at one age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the weighted average tranche retirement age.

There have been marginal changes in the rate for discounting scheme liabilities between 2020/21 and 2021/22 for RBG and the LPFA scheme. RBG increased by 0.60% and LPFA increased by 0.70%. Had the discount rate remained at 2020/21 levels, the defined benefits obligation for RBG would have increased by £43.7m and LPFA would have increased by £1.5m.

Change in Assumptions	Increa	se in assur	mption	Decrease in assumption		
	RBG	LPFA	Total	RBG	LPFA	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities (increase or decrease by 0.1 %)	(42,063)	(918)	(42,981)	43,343	937	44,280
Rate of increase in salaries (increase or decrease by 0.1 %)	2,774	25	2,799	(2,757)	(24)	(2,781)
Rate of increase in pensions (increase or decrease by 0.1 %)	40,271	904	41,175	(39,105)	(887)	(39,992)
Longevity (increase or decrease in 1 year)	121,829	5, <del>4</del> 87	127,316	(114,897)	(5,109)	(120,006)

## Impact on the authority's cash flows

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Authority has in the long run to pay post- employment (retirement) benefits. The total liability of £729.351m (2020/21: £908.972m) has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Authority as recorded in the Balance Sheet resulting in an overall balance of £1.949bn (2020/21: £1.565bn). However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Authority remains healthy:

- the deficit on the LGPS will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the scheme actuary
- finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when the pensions are actually paid.

The objective of the scheme is to achieve 100% funding. Funding levels are monitored on an annual basis. A triennial valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2022, utilising three pools of employers within the scheme. The valuation has taken account of the national changes to the scheme under the Public Pensions Services Act 2013. The Act provides for scheme regulations to be made within a common framework, to establish new career average re-valued earnings to pay pensions and other benefits to certain public servants. This latest valuation as at 31 March 2022 has been be reflected in the 2021/22 accounts. This valuaion has set contribution rates for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026. The total contributions expected to be made in respect of funded defined benefits by the

Authority in the year to 31 March 2023 are £31.0m. The weighted average duration of the defined benefit obligation for RBG scheme members is 20 years and LPFA scheme members 12 years.

**Note 20 - Short Term Debtors** 

31-Mar-21 £000	Short Term Debtors	31-Mar-22 £000
27,506	Central government bodies	7,165
22,300	Other local authorities	3,519
4,936	NHS bodies	3,715
1,131	Council Tax Court Cost	1,636
10,223	Council Tax Arrears	11,026
6,279	Housing Benefit Overpayment Debt	5,992
2,910	Housing Rents	3,124
262	Business Rates Debt	832
39,521	Other	33,804
115,069	Total	70,813

Debtors are shown net of bad debts provision of £56.520m at 31st March 2022 and £56.252m at 31st March 2021

# **Note 21 - Debtors for Local Taxation**

Aged Taxation Arrears	Council Tax		Business Rates		
-	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Not later than one year	4,272	3,896	80	555	
Later than one year and not later than five years	4,139	5,268	177	263	
Later than five years	1,812	1,862	5	14	
Total	10,223	11,026	262	832	

Council Tax debtors are shown net of bad debts provision of £21.262m at 31st March 2022 and Business Rates debtors are shown net of bad debts provision of £2.747m at 31st March 2022.

# **Note 22 - Short Term Creditors**

31-Mar-21	Short Term Creditors	31-Mar-22	
£000		£000	
(43,548)	Central government bodies	(35,222)	
(23,724)	Other local authorities	(16,786)	
(1,337)	NHS bodies	(2,436)	
(6,340)	HRA	(6,228)	
(6,910)	Council Tax	(7,058)	
(822)	Business Rates	(1,563)	
(52,498)	Other entities and individuals	(63,452)	
(135,178)	Total	(132,745)	

# **Note 23 - Provisions**

Provisions	l April 2021	Amounts Used/Reversed	Additional Provisions	31 March 2022	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Accumulated Absence	(12,916)	12,916	0	0	
Total (Short Term)	(12,916)	12,916	0	0	
Insurance	(6,000)	0	0	(6,000)	
Business Rates Appeals	(3,667)	2,384	0	(1,283)	
Thames Water Provision	(5,505)	0	0	(5,505)	
Total (Long Term)	(15,172)	2,384	0	(12,788)	

#### **Accumulated Absence**

The Accumulated Absences provision represents the accrual for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Due to the coronavirus pandemic and increased workloads required to deliver services, the number of leave days outstanding is higher than usual.

#### Insurance

The Authority's internal insurance fund account is used to cover the cost of insurance. The fund is used to meet the insurance premiums, meet the cost of the insurance claims beneath the insurance excess and provide for insurance claims that have yet to be settled. Through the fund a wide range of insurance risks are covered. These include public liability, employer's liability, vehicles and fire. The timing of any outstanding claims is dependent upon third party solicitors and the courts and it is therefore impossible to state clearly, when the resultant economic benefit transfer will occur. There is also uncertainty around existing claims so no assumptions have been made in respect of future events, and reimbursements. The costs within the Authority's internal insurance fund are met through contributions from departmental services towards the cost of insurance, through central support charges. The Authority previously used Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited to provide insurance cover, until its demise in the 1990s. MMI has continued to meet claims covering the period up until it ceased providing further cover. However, under the administration arrangements, there was provision for scheme creditors (of which the Authority is one) to be called upon to contribute to future scheme liability.

# **Business Rates Appeals**

The Business Rates Appeals provision represents the Authority's share of contributions made to the Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account for a provision in relation to business rate appeals.

### **Thames Water**

Under the terms of agreements made in 2002 and 2006 between Thames Water Utilities and a number of Councils including RBG, the Council acted as the collector of water rates on behalf of Thames Water. The water rates were collected by the council as part of the rent in return for a discount from the standard water charge. In 2006 the government implemented the Water Resale Order 2006 which provided that water resellers may only recover from tenants the same sum for water charges as they pay to the water provider (plus a nominal administration fee).

In 2016 the High Court in the case of Kim Jones v Southwark LB ordered London Borough of Southwark to reimburse all their tenants the difference between the annual sum charged to tenants as water rates and the annual sum Southwark paid to Thames Water.

The terms used in the agreements between RBG and Thames Water were identical in all material respects to those agreed between Southwark LB and Thames Water. In the circumstances RBG were considered to be a Water reseller within the meaning of the Water Reseller Order 2006. This makes RBG liable to

reimburse all affected tenants in the same way that Southwark LB was ordered to refund. That liability continued to accrue with each weekly rent period. The liability has been estimated at £5,504,747.

# **Note 24 - Agency Services**

## Mayoral CIL

The Authority acts as an Agent for Transport for London in respect of Mayoral (CIL) raised to support strategic infrastructure projects across the Capital and is able to retain up to 4% for administration and collection purposes. During 2021/22 £0.127m was retained and as at 31 March 2022 £1.816m was held on behalf of Transport for London.

Mayoral (CIL)		
	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Balance at start of the year	1,276	1,650
Contributions	1,015	3,433
Recognised administration fee	(65)	(127)
Transfers to TfL	(576)	(3,140)
Balance at end of the year	1,650	1,816

## **Business Rates Grants**

The Authority acts as an Agent for Central Government in respect of the majority of Business Rates Grants that are used to support business during the current Covid pandemic.

During 2021/22 £0.570m was retained by Greenwich, with the remaining £10.284m as at 31 March 2022 held to as a government creditor.

<b>Business Rates Grants</b>	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Balance b/fwd	0	(13,342)
Contributions from the Government	(64,832)	(12,792)
Payments to Businesses	51,320	12,824
Unspent grant refunded back	0	2,456
Recognised administration fee	170	570

Balance at end of the year	(13,342)	(10,284)
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### Council Tax and NDR

The collection of Council Tax and Business Rates income is in substance also an agency arrangement.

## **Note 25 - Dedicated Schools Grant**

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget, as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2022. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2021/22:

Dedicated Schools Grant	Central Expenditure	Individual Schools Budget	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Final DSG for 2021/22 before academy and high needs recoupment			334,100
Academy and high needs figure recouped for 2021/22			113,982
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment for 2021/22			220,118
Plus: Brought Forward from 2020/21			7,094
Less: Carry-forward to 2021/22 agreed in advance			0
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2021/22	35,692	191,520	227,212
In year adjustments	-	-	-

Final Budget distribution for 2021/22	35,692	191,520	227,212
Less: Actual central expenditure	35,744		35,744
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		187,419	187,419
In year Carry-forward to 2022/23	(52)	4,100	4,048
Plus: Local authority contribution for 2021/22	-	-	-
Carry-forward to 2022/23	(52)	4,100	4,048

The total amount of individual school reserve balances at 31 March 2022 was £12.748m (£15.427m at 31 March 2021).

# **Note 26 - Pooled Budgets**

Under the terms of a Section 75 Agreement (National Health Service Act 2006), a partnership arrangement exists between the Authority and Oxleas National Health Service Foundation Trust in respect of mental health. The pooled budgets meet the cost of providing all care co-ordinating services for people from this client group.

Greenwich Integrated Mental Health Service	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	
Funding provided to the pooled budget by			
the Authority	(2,215)	(2,494)	
the Trust	(29,192)	(33,416)	
Sub Total	(31,407)	(35,910)	
Expenditure met from the pooled budget by			
the Authority	2,616	2,494	
the Trust	31,691	34,410	
Sub Total	34,307	36,904	
Net (surplus) / deficit arising on the pooled budget during the year	2,900	994	

As it is the lead partner, all detailed transactions are shown in Oxleas Trust accounts.

The national £3.8bn Better Care Fund (BCF) was announced by the Government in the June 2013 spending round as a mechanism for the transformation of integrated health and social care. From 2015/16, there was a national requirement to operate the BCF as a pooled budget. Resources would be transferred to individual Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG's) from NHS England, and from the CCG's to the pooled budgets. The Authority and Greenwich CCG have entered into such an arrangement, and an agreed level has been entered into a single pot that has then been used to commission and/or deliver health and social care services. The total BCF pot for Greenwich in 2021/22 (CCG & Authority), was £25.404m (inc DFG).

Better Care Fund	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	
Pooled Budget Funding			
the Authority	(14,412)	(15,061)	
the Greenwich CCG	(9,792)	(10,343)	
Sub Total	(24,204)	(25,404)	
Expenditure incurred from pooled budget			
the Authority	13,551	15,061	
the Greenwich CCG	9,867	10,357	
Sub Total	23,418	25,418	
Net (surplus) / deficit arising on the pooled budget during the year	(786)	14	

## **Note 27 - External Audit Costs**

The Authority has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and to non-audit services provided by the Authority's external auditors:

External Audit Costs		2021/22	
	£000	£000	
Fees payable to external auditors with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	228	237	
Fees payable to external auditors for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year.	15	78	
Fees payable to external auditors in respect of CFO Insights	10	0	
Total	253	315	

## **Note 28 - Related Parties**

The Authority is required to disclose material transactions with related parties, bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the Authority or to be controlled or influenced by the Authority. Disclosure of these transactions allows readers to assess the extent to which the Authority 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 Authority. The UK Government exerts significant control over the general operations of the Authority – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Authority operates, provides a significant amount of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many transactions that the Authority has with other parties (e.g., housing benefits). Grants received from government departments are set out in Note 5 Taxation and Grant Income.

## **Officers**

- J Carswell, an employee of the Authority, is married to the Executive Director of London & Quadrant Housing Association. An amount of £33,028 was paid to the organisation from the Authority during the year.
- T Dorling, an employee of the Authority, is a Managing Director of D G Cities Limited. See note below.
- K Scotford, an employee of the Authority, is a Director on the Board of Greenwich Service Plus. See note below.
- M Armstrong, an employee of the Authority, is seconded to support the senior management and financial strategies of Greenwich Service Plus and Greenwich Service Solutions Ltd. Please see note below.
- M Bakalovic an employee of the Authority, is the managing director of Greenwich Service Plus and Greenwich Service Solutions Ltd. Please see note below.
- I Tasker an employee of the Authority, was a director of Greenwich Service Plus and Greenwich Service Solutions Ltd. Please see note below.

Members of the Authority have direct control over the Authority's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2021/22 is shown in Note 29.

- Councillor M Hartley, acting in a personal capacity, is a Director of Greenwich and Bexley Credit Union. Payments for investments on behalf of members were paid over from the Authority to the amount of £1,452,184 during the year.
- Councillor A Khaireh, employed at the Greenwich Islamic Centre, an amount of £212,199 was paid to the organisation during the year.

Some Members of the Authority are nominated to the board of local organisations as Authority Appointed Members and have declarable transactions not listed above, as follows:

Name of Organisation	Councillor(s)	Value of Transactions £	Outstanding Balances £
Charlton Triangle Homes	Councillor G Parker (Member) Councillor L Perks (Member)	167,875	0
Visit Greenwich	Councillor A Khaireh (Member)	See note below	See note below
DG Cities Limited	Councillor S Brain (Member)		
	Councillor D Scott-Mcdonald (Member)	See note below	See note below
Eltham Crematorium Joint Committee	Councillor A Khaireh (Member) Councillor D Scott McDonald (Deputy)		
	Councillor L Perks (Deputy) Councillor M Lolavar (Deputy) Councillor M Morrow (Deputy) Councillor S Merrill (Member) Councillor A Okereke (Deputy) Councillor J Smith (Member) Councillor D Thorpe (Deputy)		
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	See note below	See note below
Eltham United Charities	Councillor S Drury (Member)	4,707	0
Greenwich Dance Agency	Councillor N Adams	117,881	0
Greenwich & Docklands International Festival	Councillor M Williams	175,367	0
Greenwich Housing Rights	Councillor G Dillon (Committee Member)	79,500	0
Greenwich Leisure Ltd	Councillor P Slattery (Member) Councillor P Brooks (Committee Member) Councillor S Bauer (Member) Councillor A Smith (Member) Councillor M Williams (Member)	11,501,021	37,115
Greenwich Services Plus	Councillor G Dillion	See note below	See note below
Greenwich Service Solutions	Councillor S Brain	See note below	See note below
Greenwich Theatre Board	Councillor N Fletcher (Committee Member) Councillor D Stanley (Committee Member)	51,743	0
Greenwich Wildlife Advisory Group	Councillor G Dillon (Committee Member)	3,647	0
Greenwich Young People's Theatre	Councillor   Smith (Member)	98,502	0

	Councillor M Williams (Committee Member)		
ICA Consul Assembly	Councillor A Okereke (Member)	F1 (40	•
LGA General Assembly	Councillor D Scott-McDonald (Member)	51,648	0
	Councillor D Thorpe (Committee Member)		
Local Government Information Unit	Councillor A Smith (Member)	22,995	0
London Councils (Grants Committee)	Councillor A Khaireh (Member)	160,682	0
	Councillor M Williams (Deputy)		
London Councils (Greater London Employment Forum)	Councillor L Perks (Member)	115,671	0
London Councils (Leaders Committee)	Councillor D Scott-McDonald (Deputy) Councillor D Thorpe (Committee Member) Councillor Sarah Merrill	0	0
London Councils (Pensions Collective Investment Vehicle)	Councillor P Brooks (Committee Member)	0	0
London Councils (Transport & Environment Committee)	Councillor M Lolavar (Deputy) Councillor Sarah Merrill (Member)	29,920	0
Long Lane Football Club	Councillor D Stanley (Committee Member)	10,813	0
Meridian Home Start Ltd	Councillor A Okereke (Observer)	7,104,786	0
Middle Park Community Centre	Councillor M James	67,075	0
	Councillor C May		
New Charlton Community Centre	Councillor D Mbang (Member)	342	0
Oxleas Foundation	Councillor M Williams (Member)	10,948,561	1,276,308
Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust	Councillor G Parker (Member)	See note below	See note below
South East Enterprise	Councillor M Lolava (Member)	55,000	0
South East London Combined Heat and Power Company (SELCHP)	Councillor S Merrill	6,983,381	0
Trinity Laban	Councillor I Hawking (Member)	906	0
Twinkle Park Trust	Councillor A Smith (Member)	9,500	0
Woolwich Creative District Trust	Councillor D Hyland (Trustee)	103,536	290

## **Other Public Bodies**

The Authority has entered into a pooled budget agreement with Oxleas NHS Foundation Trust as outlined in Note 26.

## Eltham Crematorium

The Authority runs the Eltham Crematorium under a joint committee arrangement with the London Borough of Bexley and Dartford Borough Council.

2020/21	2020/21 Eltham Crematorium Transactions	
£000		£000
667	Amounts held in Royal Borough of Greenwich bank account	1,110
264	Annual Support Service Cost	763
345	Surplus Distribution	220

## Pension Fund

The Royal Borough of Greenwich is the Administering Authority for the Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund.

2020/21 £000	Pension Fund Transactions	2021/22 £000
1,121	Annual Support Service Cost	1,111
30,750	Employer Contributions into the Fund	30,923

## **Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Authority**

Greenwich Service Solutions Limited (GSS) - subsidiary

Established in 2008 with a share capital of one hundred £1 shares, GSS activities include:

- Catering
- Cleaning
- Facilities Management.

## Greenwich Service Plus Limited (GSP) - subsidiary

Established in 2009, limited by guarantee, GSP is a Teckal company undertaking activities including:

- Catering
- Fleet Management and Maintenance
- Passenger Services
- Building Cleaning
- Facilities Management.

## D G Cities Limited. - subsidiary

Formed in 2015 with a share capital of one hundred £1 shares, DG Cities Ltd is a wholly owned Council company. The company was established to advance the Council's work on the digital economy, smart city innovation, and secure innovation funding for the Borough.

Transactions during the year included payments to DG Cities Ltd from RBG for reimbursement of costs in delivery of the Gateway Driverless Car Project. The cost to RBG will be negated with funding provided by Innovate UK.

Royal Borough of Greenwich Destination Management Company (RBGDMC) - associate

Established in 2013, RBGDMC is a community interest company, which was formed between six parties:

- Royal Borough of Greenwich
- Greenwich Hospital
- Ansco Arena Limited
- Enderby Wharf Limited
- Greenwich Trading Company Limited
- National Maritime Museum.

The Board has capacity for thirteen directors, with the authority appointing two, each other member appointing one and six to be appointed by those seven directors.

Its main objectives are to promote tourism and investment into the Royal Borough, and contribute to enhancing perceptions of the Royal Borough of Greenwich as a place to visit, live, work and study.

## Royal Greenwich Heritage Trust (RGHT) - associate

Established in 2014, RGHT is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. The Board has capacity for thirteen trustees, with the authority appointing two. A formal Transfer Agreement between the authority and RGHT included Charlton House, the Greenwich Heritage Centre & the Tudor Barn in Eltham.

RGHT will act in the role of custodian for certain borough memorials and includes as its key charitable objectives:

- Care and conservation of assets
- Education concerning the history of the Royal Borough.

## Related Party Transactions of Entities Controlled or Significantly Influenced by the Authority

	2020/2	21	Transactions			2021/22			
Payable £000	Creditor £000	Receivable £000	Debtor £000		Payable £000	Creditor £000	Receivable £000	Debtor £000	
(0)	0	0	0	GSS	(2)	0	0	0	
(20,203)	(4,008)	866	4,422	GSP	(20,970)	(3,465)	630	4,201	
(65)	(15)	67	0	D G CITIES	(193)	0	25	0	
(273)	0	3	0	Visit Greenwich	(292)	0	3	0	
(616)	(465)	37	0	RGHT	(916)	0	39	11	

## Note 29 - Members' Allowances

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

Members Allowances	2020/21 £	2021/22 £
Allowances	957,182	970,767

# **Note 30 - Officers' Remuneration**

# **Senior Employees**

The remuneration paid to the Authority's senior employees is as follows:

Post Title	Name	Year	Salary, Fees and Allowances	Compensation for loss of office	Pension Contributions	Totals
			£	£	£	£
Chief Executive	D Warren	2021/22	206,982		38,292	245,274
	D Warren	2020/21	203,923		37,726	241,649
Director of Communities and Environment	K Delaney*	2021/22	105,381	93,800	7,336	206,517
(Deputy Chief Exec)	K Delaney	2020/21	185,385		34,296	219,681
Director of Health and Adult's Services	S McClinton**	2021/22	184,016		34,043	218,059
	S McClinton	2020/21	169,028		31,270	200,298
Director of Children's Services	F Kroll	2021/22	160,495		29,692	190,187
	F Kroll	2020/21	159, <del>4</del> 07		29,490	188,897
Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills	P Hack	2021/22	160,495		29,692	190,187
	P Hack	2020/21	158,123		29,253	187,376
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)	D Cook	2021/22	150,718		27,883	178,601
·		2020/21	141,765		26,226	167,991
Director of Communities, Environment and Central	M Bakalovic	2021/22	150,718		27,883	178,601
Director of Improvement / DD of Communities and Environment / MD of GSP & GSS		2020/21	141,765		26,226	167,991
Director of Housing and Safer Communities		2021/22	149,427		27,644	177,071
		2020/21	147,218		27,235	174,453
Director of Legal and HR (Monitoring Officer)		2021/22	143,892		26,620	170,512
<u> </u>		2020/21	141,765		26,226	167,991

<sup>\*</sup> Postholder last day of service 17/06/21 \*\*Postholder acting Deputy Chief Executive

# Officer Bandings

The Authority's employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year, excluding the senior officers listed above (but excluding employer's pension contributions) were paid the following amounts:

Remuneration Band	2020/21	2021/22
	No of employees	No of employees
£50,000 - £54,999	300*	313*
£55,000 - £59,999	211*	229*
£60,000 - £64,999	137*	122*
£65,000 - £69,999	<b>56</b> *	<b>75</b> *
£70,000 - £74,999	34*	31
£75,000 - £79,999	49*	34
£80,000 - £84,999	19*	32
£85,000 - £89,999	11	20*
£90,000 - £94,999	H	9
£95,000 - £99,999	12	8
£100,000 - £104,999	2	4
£105,000 - £109,999	9	6
£110,000 - £114,999	4	7
£115,000 - £119,999	2	4
£120,000 - £124,999	1	1
£125,000 - £129,999	2	1
£130,000 - £134,999	0	1
£135,000 - £139,999	0	1
£140,000 - £144,999	*	0
£145,000 -£149,999	1	0
£150,000 +	*	I

<sup>\*</sup> includes amounts payable in respect of compensation for loss of office.

#### **Termination Benefits**

A number of employee contracts have been terminated. Amounts contained within the Accounts relating to their remuneration by way of redundancy / other payments made are shown below. An element relating to pension fund strain is also recorded within the figures. The strain is calculated under IAS19, but the amounts actually payable by the Authority to the relevant pension fund are calculated separately and are on a different basis. The vast majority of the strain is taken into account at each triennial valuation - totals within the bandings below for the year include £0.951m relating to pension strain (£1.875m in 2020/21). The numbers of exit packages with total value per band and total cost of the compulsory and other redundancies are set out in the table below:

Exit Package Cost Band	•	Compulsory Redundancies		Other Departures Agreed		Total Exit Packages by Cost Band		t of Exit each Band
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21 2021/22 No No	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22
	No	No		No	No	£	£	
£0 - £20,000	5	2	17	42	22	44	£168,577	£329,204
£20,001 - £40,000	0	2	11	13	11	15	£297,868	£425,740
£40,001 - £60,000	0	0	5	4	5	4	£246,175	£171,396
£60,001 - £80,000	0	0	4	0	4	0	£271,360	£0
£80,001 - £100,000	0	0	4	1	4	1	£377,236	£87,016
£100,001 - £150,000	0	0	6	1	6	1	£741,416	£118,120
Above £150,000	0	0	7	2	7	2	1,228,760	£805,117
Total	5	4	54	63	59	67	£3,331,392	£1,936,593

# **Note 31 - Contingent Liabilities**

As at 31 March 2022, the Authority had no material contingent liabilities.

# Note 32 - Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The accounts contain estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Authority about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates. The items in the Authority's balance sheet at 31 March 2022 for which there is a risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainty	Effect if actual result	s differ from ass	umptions		
Comment Value	Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are re-valued regularly, and at intervals of not less than 5 years, to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value.	At the balance sheet day £456.795m (£384.708m		ue of assets held at	Current Value was	
Current Value Estimations	Where assets are not revalued in-year there is a risk that the carrying value may be materially misstated. A desktop review is undertaken to apply percentage uplifts to these asset values to assess the likely movement in values and whether these are material.	plifts				
Fair Value Estimations	When the fair values of surplus assets, investment properties and assets held for sale cannot be measured based on quoted prices in active markets (i.e. Level I inputs), their fair value is measured using valuation techniques. 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 Authority primarily uses evidence of property transactions and market interest in properties not yet transacted to measure the fair value of its surplus assets, investmen properties and assets held for sale. The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement include judgements made by valuers on how to apply such evidence.  Significant changes in any of the unobservable inputs would result in a lower or higher fair value measurement The impact of a 1% change in valuations is set out below:				
	the assumptions used could affect the fair value of the Authority's assets.  Where Level I inputs are not available, the Authority employs relevant experts to identify the most appropriate valuation techniques to determine fair value.	Category	Carrying Value £000	1% Change £000		
		Assets Held for Sale	5,327	53		
		Investment Properties	4,840	48		
		Surplus Assets	27,235	272		
HRA Dwelling Valuations	Council dwellings held within the HRA are valued using the beacon methodology every 5 years. These valuations are adjusted annually using a local, market-based indexation factor.  The beacon methodology relies on similar movements in individual asset values between beacon years and comparable maintenance and management.	At the balance sheet dat £1,587.451m (£1,495.24				
	A beacon revaluation exercise was undertaken during the accounting period.	The impact of a 1% change on the valuation of dwellings would be £15.875m.				
Pension Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements, including those relating to:					
-	<ul><li>the discount rate used</li><li>the rate at which salaries are projected to increase</li></ul>		ne year younger).	If discount rates d	ecrease by 0.1%, then the	

- the rate at which pensions are projected to increase
- longevity rates.

herein. However, the assumptions interact in complex ways and during 2021/22, the actuaries advised that, overall, the net pensions liability had decreased by £180m as a result of updating estimates to reflect current market conditions.

The Council own 88.75% of the asset in the RBG Pension Fund, Below provides a breakdown of the different level 3 investment

#### **Diversified alternative**

Diversified Alternative investment are valued using variety of methods and makes assumptions that are not always supported by observable market prices or rates. These investments are not publicly listed and as such, there is a degree of estimate involved in the valuation.

The Council total value of Level 3 investment in Diversified Alternative is £95m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 13.81% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of +/-£13.1m

#### Renewable Infrasture

Pension Fund

Infrastructure investments are valued using best practices prevailing within the investment management industry to determine each underlying investment's fair market value.

Renewable Infrasture, Private Debt,diversified alternative & Property- Unit

trust

These valuations are validated by third party independent apprasisal firms.

### **Private Debt**

Private debt investments are valued at fair valued in accordance with industry guidelines, based on the fund manager valuations as at the end of the reporting period.

These investments are not publicly listed and as such there a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.

### **Property- Unit trust**

The Fund valued at the fair values provided by the administrators of the underlying funds. These investments are not publicly listed and as such, there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.

The total value of Level 3 investment in LCIV renewable infrastructure is £10.3m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 3.8% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of  $\pm$ 10.4m

The total value of Level 3 investment in LCIV Private Debt is £30.4m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 4.9% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of  $\pm$ 1.5m.

The total value of Level 3 investment in CBRE property unit trust is £56.7m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 4.4% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of +/- £2.5m

PFI / Finance Leases	These arrangements have an implied finance lease within the agreement which (on a constant basis) has been used to calculate future payments disclosed within the accounts.	The PFI arrangements are inherently long term in nature. Fluctuations in the inflation indexation could result in future payments being higher than presented.
	Financial modelling for the Councils two PFI contracts assumes a base inflation rate of $2.5\%$ for the indexed elements of the Unitary Charge.	A 1% increase in RPIx would increase the service operational cost by £0.131m in 2022/23 and £17,405m over the remaining life of the contracts.
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 environment 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 the 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 £2.691m for every year that useful lives had to be reduced.

# Note 33 - Accounting Standards That Have Been Issued but Have Not Yet Been Adopted

The Code requires the disclosure of information relating to the expected impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. This applies to the adoption of the new or amended standards within the 2022/23 Code. New or amended standards contained in the 2022/23 code that will apply from I<sup>st</sup> April 2022 are:

#### Amendments to

IFRS 16 Leases - Supersedes IFRS 17 and no longer distinguishes between financing and operating leases, requiring that a right-of-use asset be recognised for all leases (there are exemptions for short-term and low value leases). In light of the outbreak of Covid-19 and delays to public sector audits CIPFA/LASAAC announced a further deferral to the adoption of IFRS 16 to accounting periods commencing on or after 1 April 2024. The Royal Borough of Greenwich has not taken up the option for the early adoption of the standard for the accounting period commencing 1 April 2022.

- Recognition of future cash flows for contingent rental elements on existing finance leases will be reviewed in due course.
- Rental Income derived from sub-leased properties will be recognised as a capital receipt and not revenue. The impact of this change arising from the new leasing standard on leases in place at 31 March 2021 will be reviewed in due course.
- A review of the Councils Contract Register has been undertaken to identify any embedded lease liabilities. No non-exempt leases have been identified to date.

#### IFRS 3 Business combinations

• update a reference in IFRS 3 to the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting without changing the accounting requirements for business combinations.

## IAS 16 Property, plant and equipment

• prohibit a company from deducting from the cost of property, plant and equipment amounts received from selling items produced while the company is preparing the asset for its intended use. Instead, a company will recognise such sales proceeds and related cost in profit or loss.

### IAS 37, 'Provisions, contingent liabilities and contingent assets'

• specify which costs a company includes when assessing whether a contract will be loss-making.

Annual improvements make minor amendments to IFRS 1, 'First-time Adoption of IFRS', IFRS 9, 'Financial instruments', IAS 41, 'Agriculture' and the Illustrative

### Examples accompanying IFRS 16, 'Leases'.

- IFRS I First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards Subsidiary as a First-time Adopter
- IFRS 9 Financial Instruments Fees in the '10 per cent' Test for Derecognition of Financial Liabilities
- Illustrative Examples accompanying IFRS 16 Leases Lease Incentives
- IAS 41 Agriculture Taxation in Fair Value Measurements

#### IAS I Presentation of financial statements.

• These narrow-scope amendments to IAS I, 'Presentation of financial statements', clarify that liabilities are classified as either current or non-current, depending on the rights that exist at the end of the reporting period. Classification is unaffected by the expectations of the entity or events after the reporting date (for example, the receipt of a waiver or a breach of covenant). The amendment also clarifies what IAS I means when it refers to the 'settlement' of a liability.

Narrow scope amendments to IASI, Practice statement 2 and IAS8.

• The amendments aim to improve accounting policy disclosures and to help users of the financial statements to distinguish between changes in accounting estimates and changes in accounting policies.

## IASI2 -deferred tax related to assets and liabilities arising from a single transaction.

• These amendments require companies to recognise deferred tax on transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences.

## IFRS 17, 'Insurance contracts',

• as amended in December 2021This standard replaces IFRS 4, which currently permits a wide variety of practices in accounting for insurance contracts. IFRS 17 will fundamentally change the accounting by all entities that issue insurance contracts and investment contracts with discretionary participation features.

# **Note 34 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

Significant judgements are made by management in applying accounting policies, which could have a material effect upon the accounts.

## **Group Boundaries**

The group boundaries have been estimated using the criteria associated with the Code. In line with this, the Authority has identified three subsidiaries and two associates. The authority has deemed that the activities of these entities are not sufficient to produce full group accounts.

## PFI and Similar Contracts

The authority is deemed to control the services provided under the outsourcing agreement for the social care provision at three residential homes and also to controls the residual value of the assets at the end of the agreement. The accounting policies for PFI schemes and similar contracts have been applied to the arrangement and the assets (valued at £26.3m) are recognised as property, plant and equipment on the authority's Balance Sheet.

The authority is also deemed to control the services provided under the outsourcing agreement for the facilities management of two schools. Since entering into the PFI contract one school, Stationers' Crown Woods Academy, converted to academy status, the Council therefore controls the residual value of one school, Thomas Tallis, at the end of the agreement. The accounting policies for PFI schemes and similar contracts have been applied to the arrangement and the asset (valued at £91.6m) is recognised as property, plant and equipment on the authority's Balance Sheet.

## Note 35 - Material Items of Income and Expense

The Council received various COVID-19 related income streams from Central Government to 'passport' to local taxpayers, in an agent capacity. This income is not reflected in the Council's CIES as it does not belong to the Council. This is reflected in note 24 (Agency Services).

# Note 36 - Events after the Reporting Period

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the \$151 Officer on 01 July 2022. 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 2022, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information. There were no adjusting events taking place between the reporting period end and the authorised for issue date.

## **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 statements show 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 business rates.

Income and Expenditure Account	Note	Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	Total 31/03/21 £000	Council Tax £000	Business Rates £000	Total 31/03/22 £000
Income							
Council Tax Income	4	(134,363)	0	(134,363)	(144,392)	0	(144,392)
Business Rates Receivable	5	0	(39,117)	(39,117)	0	(76,777)	(76,777)
Business Rates Supplement	6	0	(1,053)	(1,053)	0	(2,227)	(2,227)
Business Rates Transitional Payments	_	0	152	152	0	(652)	(652)
Total Income		(134,363)	(40,018)	(174,381)	(144,392)	(79,656)	(224,048)
Expenditure							
Precepts and Demands							
Council Tax							
Royal Borough of Greenwich		101,721	0	101,721	105,768	0	105,768
Greater London Authority		27,783	0	27,783	30,132	0	30,132
Business Rates							
Royal Borough of Greenwich		0	29,267	29,267	0	28,555	28,555
Greater London Authority		0	36,096	36,096	0	35,217	35,217
Central Government		0	32,193	32,193	0	31,410	31,410
Business Rates Supplement	6	0	1,047	1,047	0	2,221	2,221
Previous Year's Surplus/(Deficit)							
Council Tax	7	7,894	0	7,894	4,141	0	4,141
Business Rates	7	0	10,539	10,539	0	(60,468)	(60,468)
Collection Fund Charges							
Council Tax bad debts	8	4,742	0	4,742	1,807	0	1,807
Business Rates bad debts	9	0	4,369	4,369	0	853	853
Business Rates appeals	10	0	(3,529)	(3,529)	0	(7,944)	(7,944)
Business Rates cost of collection		0	299	299	0	303	303
Business Rates Supplement cost of collection	6	0	6	6	0	6	6
Business Rates transitional payments		0	(152)	(152)	0	652	652
Total Expenditure	_	142,140	110,135	252,274	141,848	30,805	172,653

(Surplus) / Deficit for Year	7,777	70,117	77,894	(2,544)	(48,851)	(51,395)
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Fund Statement (£000)	Note	Council Tax	Business Rates	Total 31/03/21	Council Tax	Business Rates	Total 31/03/22
Fund Balance B/F		(12,036)	(10,352)	(22,388)	(4,259)	59,765	55,507
(Surplus) / Deficit for Year		7,777	70,117	77,894	(2,544)	(48,851)	(51,395)
Fund Balance C/F	11	(4,259)	59,765	55,507	(6,803)	10,914	4,111

## **Note I - The Council Tax System**

The council tax is the means of raising income from local residents to pay for services within the Royal Borough. The council tax is levied on domestic properties and the charge is based on the valuation band assessed for each dwelling. The Valuation Office has appointed a Listing Officer for the Royal Borough who is responsible for property valuations, valuation registers and appeals. Council tax collected in the Borough is split between relevant preceptors, the Borough (78%) and the GLA (22%).

### **Note 2 - The Business Rates System**

The business rate is the means of raising income from local businesses to pay for services within the Royal Borough. The business rate is levied on non-domestic properties and the charge is based on the valuation band assessed for each premises. The Valuation Office has appointed a Listing Officer for the Royal Borough who is responsible for property valuations, valuation registers and appeals. Between 2018/19 and 2020/21 the Royal Borough participated in the London Business Rates Pool with all the other London Boroughs. Business rates collected across the Borough are therefore split between the relevant parties within the pool, who are the London Boroughs, the GLA and Central Government. The London wide pooling arrangement ceased in 2021/22.

## **Note 3 - Accounting Policies**

The Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account is prepared on an accruals basis and complies with appropriate regulations and the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting. The transactions of the Collection Fund are wholly prescribed by legislation. The year-end surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund is apportioned between the relevant interested parties.

## **Note 4 - Council Tax Income**

In 2021/22 the Royal Borough set a band D tax of £1,640.00 (£1,547.75 in 2020/21). These charges are before any appropriate discounts. The charge for each band is a ratio of band D. The 2021/22 charges were:

Band	Ratio to	Council Tax			
	Band D	2020/2 I	2021/22		
		£	£		
Α	6/9	1,031.83	1,093.33		
В	7/9	1,203.81	1,275.56		
С	8/9	1,375.77	1,457.77		
D	I	1,547.75	1,640.00		
Е	11/9	1,891.69	2,004.44		
F	13/9	2,235.64	2,368.89		
G	15/9	2,579.58	2,733.33		
Н	18/9	3,095.50	3,280.00		

The Royal Borough's taxbase, which is used in the tax calculation, is based on the number of dwellings in each band on the listing produced by the Listing Officer. This is adjusted for exemptions, discounts, disabled banding changes and appeals. The taxbase estimate for 2021/22 was 82,859 (83,665 in 2020/21) as calculated below.

2020/2 I		2021/22					
Band D Equivalent	Band	Dwellings Per Valuation List	Adjustment For Disabled Banding Appeals, Discounts and Exemptions	Revised Dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Band D Equivalent	
2	A (Disabled)	0	3	3	5/9	2	
4,329	Α	10,952	(4,885)	6,067	6/9	4,045	
11,148	В	21,882	(7,978)	13,904	7/9	10,814	
29,995	С	43,804	(10,269)	33,535	8/9	29,810	
20,727	D	25,318	(4,497)	20,821	I	20,82	
13,286	E	12,264	(1,657)	10,607	11/9	12,964	

83,665	Royal Borou	gh Tax Base				82,859
248	plus Adjustme	nt for Armed For	ces Dwellings			251
(5,089)	less Allowance	for Non Collecti	on			(5,040)
88,506	Total	120,607	(29,748)	90,859		87,648
607	Н	349	(34)	315	18/9	630
3,467	G	2,234	(145)	2,089	15/9	3, <del>4</del> 81
4,945	F	3,804	(286)	3,518	13/9	5,081

Based on the estimated tax base of 82,859 an income yield for 2021/22 of £135.9m (£129.5m in 2020/21) was anticipated. The actual taxbase was equivalent to 88,043 (86,812 in 2020/21) including backdated transactions and the equivalent yield was £144.4m (£134.4m in 2020/21).

Note 5 - Business Rate Income

Business Rate Income	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Debits Raised	124,824	126,755
Relief and Exemption granted	(84,806)	(47,099)
Total Collectable	40,018	79,656

The Business Rate Multiplier is set nationally and for 2021/22 was 51.2p (51.2p in 2020/21). The total rateable value for non-domestic rated property in the Royal Borough for 2021/22 was £247.0m (£246.9m in 2020/21). The 2021/22 relief includes £21.3m granted to the retail and hospitality industry as continued support to businesses in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This relief is fully funded by Central Government.

## **Note 6 - Business Rates Supplement**

In April 2010, a levy of 2p on non-domestic properties with a rateable value of over £55,000 in London was introduced. From April 2017, the threshold applicable to the levy was increased to properties with a rateable value of over £70,000. This is paid to the GLA and helps to finance Crossrail.

## **Note 7 - Collection Fund apportionment of surplus**

A council tax surplus of £4.141m was distributed in 2021/22 to the Royal Borough (£3.253m) and the GLA (£0.888m). There was a business rate deficit of £60.468m recovered in 2021/22 (Central Government £19.939m / RBG £18.174m / GLA £22.355m). The RBG deficit is funded by Government grant received in 2020/21 to compensate for the enhanced relief scheme offered to businesses in the retail and hospitality industry in response to the ongoing effects from the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Note 8 - Provision for Irrecoverable Council Tax Debts

Contributions are made from the Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account to a provision for bad debts. During 2021/22, £1.807m (£4.742m in 2020/21) was contributed to the council tax bad debt provision and £0.147m of irrecoverable debts were written off in year (£0.115m in 2020/21).

#### Note 9 - Provision for Irrecoverable Business Rates Debts

Contributions are made from the Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account to a provision for bad debts. During 2021/22 £0.853m (£4.369m in 2020/21) was contributed to the business rates bad debt provision and there were no irrecoverable debts written off in 2020/21 and 2021/22.

## **Note 10 - Provision for Business Rates Appeals**

Contributions are made from the Collection Fund Income and Expenditure Account to a provision for business rate appeals. The provision was calculated on the basis of outstanding appeals at 31 March 2022 as supplied by the Valuation Office. The percentage of appeals that are likely to be successful and the percentage reduction in rateable value on successful appeals were estimated based on historical trends. During 2021/22 a net reduction of £7.944m (reduction of £3.259m in 2020/21) was made to the provision.

#### **Note 11 - Collection Fund Position**

## Council Tax Surplus

The balance on the Fund for council tax at 31 March 2022 is £6.802m. Of this sum, £1.574m is the GLA's share of the Collection Fund and is shown as a creditor in the Authority's Balance Sheet. The balance of £5.228m is the Royal Borough's share of the Collection Fund. The council tax balance will be taken into account in future budget setting processes.

#### **Business Rates Deficit**

The balance on the Fund for Business Rates at 31 March 2022 is a deficit of £10.914m. Of this sum £4.038m is the GLA's share and £3.602m is the Government share. The remaining £3.274m is the balance in the Collection Fund. This deficit is primarily due to the Government's oingoing business rate relief scheme in 2021/22 to support the retail and hospitality sectors in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This deficit has been predominantly funded with Government grant received in year which is currently held on the Authority's balance sheet within Earmarked Reserves (Note 7) and will offset the deficit in 2022/23.

# **Housing Revenue Account**

The HRA Income and Expenditure Statement shows the economic cost in the year of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants. Authorities charge rents to cover expenditure in accordance with the legislative framework; this may be different from the accounting cost. The increase or decrease in the year, on the basis of which rents are raised, is shown in the Movement on the HRA Statement.

2020/21 £000	HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	2021/22 £000
	Expenditure	
20,048	Repairs and Maintenance	23,226
57,288	Supervision and Management	56,473
1,845	Rent, Rates, Taxes and Other Charges	1,973
56,131	Depreciation, Impairments and Revaluation Losses in relation to Non-current Assets	(19,019)
114	Debt Management Costs	114
489	Movement in the allowance for bad debts (not specified by code)	67
135,915	Total Expenditure	62,835
	<u>Income</u>	
(95,901)	Dwelling Rents	(96,846)
(2,533)	Non Dwelling Rents	(2,978)
(19,737)	Charges for services and facilities	(19,769)
(3,217)	Contribution towards expenditure	(280)
(121,388)	Total Income	(119,873)
14,527	Net (Income)/Expenditure of HRA Services	(57,037)
	HRA share of the operating income and expenditure included in the whole Authority Comprehensive I&E Statement	
(13,748)	(Gain) or Loss on sale of HRA non-current Assets	(18,056)
14,866	Interest Payable and Similar Charges	14,601
(3,680)	Capital Grants and contributions receivable	(12,807)
0	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability / (asset)	0
11,965	(Surplus) / Deficit for the Year on HRA Services	(73,299)

2020/21	Movement on the HRA Statement	2021/22
£000		£000
(12,862)	Balance on the HRA as at the end of the previous reporting period	(15,541)
11,965	(Surplus) or deficit for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	(73,299)
(14,644)	Adjustment between accounting basis and funding basis under statute	72,170
(2,679)	(Increase) or decrease in year on the HRA	(1,130)
(15,541)	Balance on the HRA at the end of the current reporting period	(16,670)

## **Note I - Depreciation and Impairment**

HRA Depreciation and Impairment	2020/21	2021/22	
	£000	£000	
Dwellings	23,947	24,185	
Other Land & Buildings	691	708	
Vehicles	37	0	
Surplus	5	6	
Total Depreciation	24,680	24,899	
Impairment and Revaluation Losses	21,817	16,474	

HRA valuations were reviewed at I April 2021 and 31 March 2022. A further reassurance exercise is undertaken to ensure that valuations are correct as at the 31 March 2022 carrying date. The valuations are based on Stock Valuation for Resource Accounting, a guide issued by CLG. This guide incorporates a factor to recognise the specific nature of valuing social housing. This factor, which reduces the assessed value, has remained at 25%.

## **Note 2 - Housing Stock**

The Council was responsible for managing 20,375 dwellings as at 31 March 2022. The property is analysed below

Analysis of HRA Dwellings at 31 March 2022	l Bed	2 Beds	3 & more	Total
Low rise flats in blocks up to 2 storeys	1,233	515	905	2,653
Medium rise flats in blocks of 3-5 storeys	3,320	2,615	2,092	8,027
High rise flats in blocks of 6 or more storeys	1,450	1,507	191	3,148
Houses and bungalows	245	885	5,404	6,534

Multi occupied dwellings	13
Total	20,375

The movement in the stock numbers includes the loss of 186 properties through Right to Buy disposals (89 in 2020/21) in accordance with the Housing Act 1985.

The HRA valuations were undertaken as at 31 March 2022.

31 March 2021 Balance Sheet Valuation of HRA Assets		31 March 2022
£000		£000
1,473,626	Dwellings	1,587,451
44,119	Property Plant and Equipment - Other	47,326
57	Assets held for Sale	0
1,517,802	Total	1,634,777

The Vacant Possession Value is the Authority's estimate of the total sum that it would receive if all the assets were sold on the open market. The balance sheet value is calculated on the basis of rents receivable on existing tenancies. These are less than the rent that would be obtainable on the open market, and the balance sheet value is therefore lower than the Vacant Possession Valuation. The difference between the two values therefore shows the economic cost of providing housing at less than market value.

I April 2020	Vacant Possession Value	l April 2021
£000		£000
5,894,505	Total	5,498,682

The Royal Borough has provided grant funding to a Registered Providers and Community Benefit Society which has resulted in the provision of 46 affordable rented homes, under the Right to Buy Retention Agreement funded from Right to Buy I-4-I receipts.

# Note 3 - Major Repairs Reserve

2020/21	Major Repairs Reserve	2021/22
£000		£000
(9,503)	Balance as at   April	(6,748)
(24,660)	Depreciation for the year	(24,899)
(1,367)	Other contributions from revenue	0
28,782	Financing of Capital Expenditure for year	24,899
(6,748)	Balance as at 31 March	(6,748)

# **Note 4 - Capital Financing**

2020/21	HRA Capital Expenditure	2021/22
£000		£000
52,276	Houses	46,779
0	Other Property	0
52,276	Total	46,779
	Financed By:	
17,933	Capital Receipts	11,731
28,782	Major Repairs Reserve	24,899
2,434	Other Grants	4,132
3,127	Revenue	6,017
52,276	Total	46,779

# **Note 5 - Rent and Service Charge Arrears**

HRA rent and service charge arrears at 31 March 2022 totalled £11.795m. These arrears are charges due from tenants i.e. rent, service charges, heating and other charges. The HRA has been setting aside funds to meet irrecoverable debts in respect of such arrears. At 31st March 2022 the provision totalled £8.295m.

2020/21	Arrears	2021/22
£000		£000
7,051	Due from Current Tenants	6,718
4,484	Due from Former Tenants	5,077
11,535	Total	11,795

#### **Note 6 - Tenants Service Charges**

From February 2017 the Authority agreed to introduce service charges for tenant's services and facilities that were previously pooled in the HRA.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Royal Borough of Greenwich on the Pension Fund Financial Statements of Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund

# **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund (the 'Pension Fund') administered by Royal Borough of Greenwich (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and notes to the pension fund 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 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2022 and of the amount and disposition at that
  date of the fund's assets and liabilities:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

# **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law, as required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) ("the Code of Audit Practice") approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Pension Fund's 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.

## Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial

statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Pension Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the Section 151 Officer's conclusions, and in accordance with the expectation set out within the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 that the Pension Fund's financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuation of services provided by the Pension Fund. In doing so we had regard to the guidance provided in Practice Note 10 Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom (Revised 2020) on the application of ISA (UK) 570 Going Concern to public sector entities. We assessed the reasonableness of the basis of preparation used by the Authority in the Pension Fund financial statements and the disclosures in the Pension Fund financial statements over the going concern period.

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 Pension Fund'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.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Section 151 Officer's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the Pension Fund financial statements is appropriate. The responsibilities of the Section 151 Officer with respect to going concern are described in the 'Responsibilities of the Authority, the Section 151 Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements' section of this report.

#### Other information

The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the Pension Fund's financial statements, our auditor's report thereon, and our auditor's report on the Authority's financial statements. Our opinion on the Pension Fund's 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 Pension Fund's financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Pension Fund's financial statements, or our knowledge of the Pension Fund 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 Pension Fund 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 the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Opinion on other matter required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) published by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice)

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements and our knowledge of the Pension Fund, the other information published together with the Pension Fund's financial statements in the Statement of Accounts, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the Pension Fund financial statements.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters in relation to the Pension Fund.

# Responsibilities of the Authority, the Section 151 Officer and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Authority 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 authority, that officer is the Section 151 Officer. The Section 151 Officer is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the Pension Fund'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 2021/22, for being satisfied that they

give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Section 151 Officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Pension Fund's financial statements, the Section 151 Officer is responsible for assessing the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention by government that the services provided by the Pension Fund will no longer be provided.

The Audit and Risk Management Panel is Those Charged with Governance for the Pension Fund. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Pension Fund's 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.

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.

# Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

• We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Pension Fund and determined that the most significant ,which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements, are those related to the reporting frameworks (international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, The Local

Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, The Local government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

- We enquired of senior officers and the Audit and Risk Management Panel, concerning the Authority's policies and procedures relating to:
  - o the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
  - o the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
  - o the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations
- We enquired of senior officers, internal audit and the Audit and Risk Management Panel, whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Pension Fund's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating
  officers' incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risk of management override of
  controls. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to:
  - o journal entries that altered the Fund's financial performance for the year;
  - o potential management bias in determining accounting estimates, especially in relation to the calculation of the Funds Investment Assets.
- Our audit procedures involved:
  - o evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls that the Section 151 Officer has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
  - o journal entry testing, using data analytics to consider all journal entries against specific criteria to identify entries we considered to be of higher risk of fraud. Such criteria included journals with unusual values, journals posted after the year end, journals with a material impact on the Fund's financial position for the year and journals created by senior managers;
  - o challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of level 3 investments and IAS 26 pensions liability valuations; and
  - o assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
- These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.
- The team communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations, including the potential for fraud in revenue and expenditure recognition.

- Our assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's.
  - o understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
  - o knowledge of the local government pensions sector
  - o understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the Pension Fund including:
  - o the provisions of the applicable legislation
  - o guidance issued by CIPFA, LASAAC and SOLACE
  - o the applicable statutory provisions.
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
  - o the Pension Fund's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
  - o the Authority's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the Authority to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

# Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and as set out in paragraph 43 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 Authority's members 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 Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

## Joanne Brown, Key Audit Partner

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor, London 7 September 2023

# Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund

2020/21	Fund Account	Notes	2021/22
£000			£000
	Dealings with Members, Employers and Others directly involved in the Scheme		
	Contributions Receivable:		
(38,986)	Employer Contributions	6	(39,669
(14,217)	Member Contributions	6	(14,435
(3,863)	Transfers in from Other Pension Funds	7	(10,647
	Benefits:		
47,466	Pensions	8	49,01
10,435	Lump Sum & Death Benefits	8	13,23
1,609	Payments to and on account of Leavers	9	8,74
2,444	Subtotal: Net (additions) / withdrawals from Dealings with Members	-	6,25
7,916	Management Expenses	I0a	8,49
10,360	Subtotal: Net (additions)/withdrawals including fund management expenses	-	14,74
	Returns on Investment		
(4,420)	Investment Income	П	(65,353
(300,507)	(Profit) and Losses on disposal of Investments and Changes in Value of Investments		(51,769
0	Taxes on Income	Ha	4
(304,927)	Net Returns on Investment	-	(117,078
(294,567)	Net (increase) / decrease in the Net Assets available for Benefits during the year		(102,337)

31 March 2021 £000	Net Asset Statement	Notes	31 March 2022 £000
	Investment assets		
	Pooled Investment Vehicles:		
0	Equities	14	822,196
256,479	Fixed Interest	14	(
0	Fixed Income	14	247,940
134,010	Property Unit Trusts	14	162,065
598,805	Unitised Insurance Policies	14	(
381,444	Other Unit Trusts	14	(
0	Multi Asset	14	200,532
0	Infrastructure	14&22	12,42
0	Private Debt	14&22	36,32
138,922	Diversified Alternative	14	107,13
2,975	Private Equity	14&22	1,93
3,100	Property - Freehold	3&14	4,10
58	Cash Deposits	19	7.
9,631	Cash Equivalents	19	12,16
254	Other Investment Balances	18	2,91
	Investment Liabilities		
(3,355)	Other Investment Balances	18	(1,781
1,522,323	Net Investment Assets / (Liabilities)		1,608,02
	Current Assets		
571	Contributions Due	18	67
476	Other Current Assets	18	67
10,709	Cash Balances	19	27,25
	Current Liabilities		
(384)	Unpaid Benefits	18	(504
(717)	Other Current Liabilities	18	(808)
10,655	Net Current Assets / (Liabilities)		27,28
1,532,978	Net Assets of the Scheme available to fund Benefits at the Period End		1,635,31

The financial statements of the Fund do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after 31 March 2022. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed in note 17.

# Note I - Description of The Fund

The following description of the Fund is a summary only. For more detail, reference should be made to the Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund Annual Report 2021/22 and the underlying statutory powers underpinning the scheme, namely the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations.

#### General

The Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund (the "Fund") is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by the Royal Borough of Greenwich. It is a defined benefit pension scheme providing pensions and other benefits for employees of the Royal Borough of Greenwich and those organisations with admitted or scheduled body status within the Fund. The Fund is overseen by the Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Investment and Administration Panel. The Fund is governed and administered in accordance with the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the following Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations:

- The LGPS Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- The LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- The LGPS (Management and Investment of Funds and Amendment) Regulations 2016

# Membership

All employees are able to join the pension scheme (except teachers). Those with a contract of employment of at least 3 months are contractually enrolled into the pension scheme on commencement of employment. Membership of the Fund is voluntary and employees are free to choose whether to join the scheme, remain in the scheme or make their own personal arrangements outside the scheme. Organisations participating in the Fund include:

- Administering Authority: This is the Royal Borough of Greenwich (the "Authority")
- Scheduled Bodies: Local authorities and similar bodies whose staff are automatically entitled to be members of the Fund.
- Admitted Bodies: Other organisations that participate in the Fund under an admission agreement between the Fund and the relevant organisation. These
  include voluntary, charitable and similar bodies or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

There were 63 active employer organisations within the Fund as at 31 March 2022 (56 as at 31 March 2021). The following table summarises the composition of the registered membership of the Fund as at 31 March 2022.

Membership		nistering nority	Adm Bod	itted ies	Scheduled Bodies	
	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22
Employees contributing into Fund	6,376	6,297	326	326	1,974	1,981
Pensioners / Dependents	6,955	7,122	251	273	396	461
Former Members entitled to Deferred Benefits	7,615	7,587	309	316	1,280	1,530
Totals	20,946	21,006	886	915	3,650	3,972

# **Funding**

Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members in accordance with the LGPS Regulations 2013 and range from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year end 31 March 2022. Employee contributions are matched by employers' contributions which are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations.

## **Benefits**

Prior to I April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service. From I April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of I/49th. Accrued pension is updated annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index. There are a range of other benefits provided under the scheme including early retirement, ill-health pensions and death benefits.

### Governance

The Royal Borough of Greenwich has delegated management of the Fund to the Pension Investment and Administration Panel. The Panel is made up of four committee members, each with voting rights. The Panel is responsible for agreeing an appropriate investment strategy, review and scrutiny of investment

manager performance, quarterly account review and policy statement review. The Panel receives guidance, where appropriate, from the Fund's investment advisors, actuary and Fund managers. The Panel receives regular training in line with CIPFA's Knowledge and Skills Framework.

It is a requirement under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 for LGPS funds to set up a Local Pension Board. The Royal Greenwich Pension Board is made up of two member representatives and two employer representatives who act in an overview and scrutiny role to ensure strong governance of the Fund. The Board also receives regular training under the CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework. The role and responsibilities of Board Members is set out in the 'Pension Board of the Royal Borough of Greenwich Terms of Reference', which is available on the Royal Borough of Greenwich website via the annual report.

## **Investment Principles**

Regulation 7(1) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 requires administering authorities to prepare an Investment Strategy Statement (ISS). The latest ISS was agreed by the Pension Fund Investment and Administration Panel on 07 December 2020 and is available on the Royal Borough of Greenwich website.

The Panel has delegated the day-to-day management of investments to external Investment Managers in line with their relevant mandates. The performance of the Investment Managers is reported on a quarterly basis by the Fund's Investment Advisors.

# **Note 2 - Basis of Preparation**

The Statement of Accounts (the "Accounts") summarise the Fund's transactions for the 2021/22 financial year and its position at year-end as at 31 March 2022. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the "Code") which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector.

The Accounts summarise the transactions of the Fund and report on the net assets available to pay pension benefits. The Accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits, which fall due after the end of the financial year. The Code gives administering authorities the option to disclose this information in the net asset statement, in the notes to the accounts or by appending an actuarial report prepared for this purpose. The pension fund has opted to disclose this information in Note 17 of these accounts. The most recent actuarial valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2022 and determines the contribution rates for the next three years from 1 April 2023 with an aim to maintain the solvency of the fund. Therefore, these accounts have been produced on a going concern basis.

Many values throughout these accounts are presented rounded to whole numbers. Totals in supporting tables and notes may not appear to cast, cross-cast, or exactly match to the core statements or other tables due to rounding differences. The Fund has renamed some of the assets held on the Net asset statement and subsequent notes, both in this financial year and the comparator year. This has been done to be more transparent to the users of the accounts, as fund

assets will now been broken down by their asset class rather than fund structure. The assets effected are Equities (which were previously Unitised Insurance Policies and Other Unit Trusts), Multi Asset (which was previously Unitised Insurance Policies) and Fixed Income (which was previously Fixed Interest OEIC).	

# **Note 3 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

# **Fund Account - Revenue Recognition**

#### **Contributions**

Both employer and member normal contributions are accounted for on an accruals basis. Member contributions rates are set in accordance with LGPS regulations using common percentage rate bandings, which rise in line with pensionable pay. Employer contributions are set at a percentage rate advised by the Fund's actuary as necessary to maintain the Funds solvency.

Additional employers' contributions in respect of ill-health and early retirements are accounted for in the year the event arose. Any amount due in the year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset.

#### Transfers to and from other schemes

Individual transfers to and from other schemes are accounted for on a cash basis at which point the related member liability transfers to the fund. Bulk transfers to/from the scheme are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the transfer agreement.

#### Investment Income

- a) Dividend income is recognised on the date the shares are quoted ex-dividend. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is reflected within the net assets statement as "Other Investment Balances" and disclosed within the note on Debtors and Creditors.
- b) Some pooled investment vehicles within the portfolio are accumulation funds and as such, the change in market value also includes income, which is reinvested in the Fund. The market price for those units reflects this re-invested income. Non-accumulating units give rise to dividends.
- c) Freehold property gives rise to rental income. These amounts are recognised on a straight-line basis over the life of the operating lease.
- d) Private Equity distributions are split between their constituent elements i.e. dividend, interest, gain/loss or return of capital, as advised by the Fund manager.
- e) The change in market value of investments during the year comprises all increases and decreases in the market value of investments held at any time during the year, including profits and losses realised on sales of investments.
- f) Diversified Alternative Fund have return income, which have been recognised as dividend income in line with the structure of the mandate.

# **Fund Account - Expense Items**

# Benefits payable

Pensions and lump sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the net asset statement as current liabilities.

#### **Taxation**

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. Any recoverable amounts outstanding at the reporting period end will be classified as a debtor.

The fund is a registered public service scheme under Section I(I) of Schedule 36 of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a fund expense as it arises.

#### Lifetime Allowance

The Fund may be asked by members to pay tax liabilities in relation to annual allowance and lifetime allowance direct to HMRC in exchange for a reduction in pension. These payments are treated as an in-year expense.

# Management Expenses

The Fund discloses its management expenses in accordance with the CIPFA guidance 'Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Expenses (2016).' These expenses are charged to the Fund on an accruals basis under the headings below:

Administrative Expenses – Staff costs pertaining to the pensions administration team are charged direct to the Fund. Associated management, IT, rents and rates and other overheads are apportioned to financial administration and charged as expenses to the Fund on an annual basis.

Oversight and Governance – These costs include the selection, appointment, performance management and monitoring of external fund managers, investment advisory service costs, operation and support of the Pensions Panel and Board and other governance related costs.

Investment Management Expenses – Expenses incurred in relation to the management of pension fund assets and includes transaction costs, management fees, performance fees and custody fees. Investment management fees, including those paid to the pool operator (London CIV) are calculated by reference to the

market value of portfolio assets under management at the end of each quarter. The exceptions to this are Fidelity, where market value based fees are charged on a daily basis and Private Equity, Infrastructure and Private Debt fees, which are based upon amounts committed to each manager.

Where an investment manager's fee invoice has not been received by the balance sheet date, an estimate based upon the market value of the mandate as at the end of the year is used for inclusion in the fund account.

#### **Net Asset Statement**

#### **Financial Assets**

All investment assets are included in the financial statements on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. Any amounts due or payable in respect of trades entered into but not yet complete at 31 March each year are accounted for as financial instruments held at amortised cost and reflected in the reconciliation of movements in investments and derivatives in Note 14. Any gains or losses on investment sales arising from changes in the fair value of the asset are recognised in the fund account. The values of investments as shown in the net assets statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS 13 (see Note 14). For the purposes of disclosing levels of fair value hierarchy, the fund has adopted the classification guidelines recommended in Practical Guidance on Investment Disclosures (PRAG/Investment Association, 2016).

# **Property**

The Fund owns the freehold of one investment property – New Lydenburg Industrial Estate. The property was revalued as at 31 March 2022 at a value of £4.1m. Further details regarding the basis of valuation can be found in Note 14. Any surplus / deficit on valuation is reflected in the Fund Account and is shown as a change in market value of investments. The Fund receives £0.115m rental income per year in respect of this property.

### Foreign Currency

Where appropriate, investments held in foreign currencies have been valued on the relevant basis and translated into Sterling at the rate ruling on 31 March 2022.

# 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 investments that mature in no more than a three-month period from the date of acquisition and that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value.

#### Financial Liabilities

The Fund recognises financial liabilities at fair value as at the reporting date. A financial liability is recognised in the net assets statement on the date the Fund becomes party to the liability. From this date any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability are recognised by the Fund.

#### Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under the Code, the fund has opted to disclose the actuarial value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the net asset statement (note 17).

## **Additional Voluntary Contributions**

There are currently two additional voluntary contribution (AVC) schemes for the members of the Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund, with only one open to new members. These schemes are separate to the fund with assets, which are invested separately. AVCs are not included in the accounts in accordance with Section 4(1) (b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of funds) Regulations 2016. Note 20 provides details of the Funds AVC schemes.

## **Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Fund 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 Authority. 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 Net Asset Statement but are disclosed in a note to the Accounts. The limit for contingent liabilities is reflective of the Funds perception of materiality and is currently set at £250,000.

# **Other Accounting Policies**

Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies, 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 Fund'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 figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

# **Events after the Reporting Period**

Events after the reporting period are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Accounts are authorised for issue. Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Accounts. Two types of events can be identified:

- Those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period the Accounts are adjusted to reflect such events.
- Those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period the Accounts 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.

# **Note 4 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies**

The Accounts contain critical judgements in applying accounting policies and estimated figures based on assumptions made by the Authority about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. The following items have a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year:

#### Pension Fund Liability

It is a statutory requirement that the funding level is calculated every three years by the appointed actuary in order to determine employer contribution rates for the forthcoming three years. However, the methodology used within the accounts is in line with accepted guidelines and in accordance with IAS19. Assumptions underpinning the valuations are agreed with the actuary and are summarised in Note 16. These estimates are subject to significant variances based upon changes to the underlying assumptions.

There are a number of uncertainties regarding the scheme benefits and hence liabilities. Information is provided below on the 2 most prominent; the guaranteed minimum pension (GMP) equalisation and the impact of the McCloud & Sargeant judgements.

# **GMP** Equalisation

On 22 January 2018, the outcome to the 'Indexation and equalisation of GMP in public service pension scheme' consultation was published by the Government. This confirmed that public service pension schemes would need to extend the requirement to fully price protect the GMP element of the individuals public service pension to those individuals reaching State Pension Age before 06 April 2021.

Our actuaries' valuation assumption for GMP is that the Fund will pay limited increases for members that have reached state pension age by 06 April 2016, with the Government providing the remainder of the inflationary increase. For members that reach SPA after this date, they have assumed that the Fund will be required to pay the entire inflationary increase.

# McCloud & Sargeant Judgements

There are currently uncertainties in relation to LGPS benefits due to the McCloud and Sargeant judgements. In December 2018, the Court of Appeal ruled that the transitional protection offered to some members in both the Judges Pension Scheme (McCloud) and the Firefighters Pension Scheme (Sargeant) amounted to unlawful discrimination. As a result, the Government announced that the judgements would apply to all public-sector pension schemes, including the LGPS. The Government Actuaries Department (GAD) was then asked to carry out an analysis on the possible impact of the judgement on LGPS labilities.

Remedial regulations are expected in 2022 and uncertainty over the benefit changes proposed for the LGPS will remain until these have been finalised. An allowance was already made for McCloud at a previous accounting period, so no explicit adjustment will be made in our results this year.

# Note 5 - Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for the revenues and expenses during the year. Estimates and assumptions are made, taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, the nature of estimation means that the actual outcomes could differ from the assumptions and estimates.

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if actual results differ from assumptions
Actual present value of promised retirement benefits	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, salary and pension increase estimates and life expectancy. The Fund's actuaries are engaged to provide the Fund with expert advice about the assumptions used.	A 0.1% increase in the discount rate would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £48.4m. A 0.1% decrease in assumed earnings would decrease the pension liability by £3.7m and a 1-year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase the Fund liability by £115.7m.
Diversified alternative	Diversified Alternative investment are valued using variety of methods and makes assumptions that are not always supported by observable market prices or rates. These investments are not publicly listed and as such, there is a degree of estimate involved in the valuation.	The total value of Level 3 investment in Diversified Alternative is £107m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 13.8% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of +/-£14.8m
Pooled Property (CBRE)	The Fund valued at the fair values provided by the administrators of the underlying funds. These investments are not publicly listed and as such, there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.	The total value of Level 3 investment in CBRE is £63.9m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 4.4% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of +/- £2.8m

# LCIV Renewable Infrastructure

Infrastructure investments are valued using best practices prevailing within the investment management industry to determine each underlying investment's fair market value.

These valuations are validated by third party independent apprasisal firms.

The total value of Level 3 investment in LCIV renewable infrastructure is £12.4m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 3.8% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of  $\pm 1.5$  + $\pm 1$ 

#### LCIV Private Debt

Private debt investments are valued at fair valued in accordance with industry guidelines, based on the fund manager valuations as at the end of the reporting period.

These investments are not publicly listed and as such there a degree of estimation involved in the valuation.

The total value of Level 3 investment in LCIV Private Debt is £36.3m. There a risk that the investment may be under or overstated in the accounts. The Funds's performance management advisors report a tolerance of 4.9% in respect of the net asset values the fund valuations is based upon. This equates to a tolerance of +/-£1.8m

# **Note 6 - Contributions Receivable**

Contributions represent the total amounts receivable from employers within the scheme in respect of their own contributions and any of their employees who are members of the scheme. The employer's contributions are made at a rate determined by the Fund's Actuary as necessary to maintain the Fund in a state of solvency, having regard to existing and future liabilities. The average employer contribution rate used during 2021/22 was 18.5%. Member contribution rates are determined by a banding mechanism linked to pensionable pay. Contributions shown in the revenue statement can be broken down as follows:

2020/21 £000	By Category	2021/22 £000
(14,217)	Employee's Contributions	(14,435)
(14,217)	Total Employees' Contributions	(14,435)
	Employer's Contributions:	
(34,900)	Normal Contributions	(35,275)
(3,795)	Deficit Recovery Contributions	(3,826)
(291)	Augmentation Contributions	(568)
(38,986)	Total Employers' Contributions	(39,669)
(53,203)		(54,104)
2020/2 I	By Authority	2021/22
£000		£000
(42,095)	Administering Authority	(42,372)
(8,065)	Scheduled Bodies	(8,899)
(3,043)	Admitted Bodies	(2,833)
(53,203)		(54,104)

# **Note 7 - Transfers in from Other Pension Funds**

2020/21	Transfers in from other Pension	2021/22
£000	Funds	£000
0	Group Transfers	(2,667)
(3,863)	Individual Transfers	(7,980)
3,863)		(10,647)

# Note 8 - Benefits

Benefits payable are made up of pension payments and lump sums payable upon retirement and death. These have been brought into the accounts on the basis of all valid claims approved during the year.

47,466	Total Pensions Payable	49,018
1,204	Scheduled Bodies	1,410
1,219	Admitted Bodies	1,346
45,043	Administering Authority	46,262
	<u>Pensions</u>	
£000		£000
2020/21	Benefits	2021/22

	Lump Sums	
7,634	Administering Authority	8,928
454	Admitted Bodies	638
1,242	Scheduled Bodies	1,142
9,330	Total Lump Sums and Commutation	10,708
	Death Benefits:	
895	Administering Authority	1,789
40	Admitted Bodies	314
170	Scheduled Bodies	427
1,105	Total Death Benefits	2,530
57,900	Total Benefits Payable	62,256

Note 9 - Payments to and on Account of Leavers

2020/21	Payments to and on Account	2021/22
£000	Of Leavers	£000
160	Refunds to Members leaving Service	257
(2)	Payments for Members joining State Scheme	(1)
1,451	Individual Transfers	8,489
1,609	Total Payments to and on Account of Leavers	8,745

# **Note 10a - Management Expenses**

2020/21	Management Expenses	2021/22
£000		£000
1,133	Administration Expenses	1,121
95	Oversight and Governance	145
6,688	Investment management Expenses	7,225
7,916	Total Management Expenses	8,491

# **Note 10b Investment Management Expenses**

2020/21	Management Expenses	2021/22
£000		£000
4,667	Management Expenses	5,038
1,941	Performance Fees	2,141
80	Custody Fees	46
0	Transaction Costs	0
6,688	Total Management Expenses	7,225

# Note II - Investment Income

2020/21 £000	Investment Income	2021/22 £000
(1)	Income from Equities	(7,715)
(4)	Income from Private Equity	(10)
0	Income from Diversified Alternative	(49,500)
(115)	Rental Income from Freehold Property	(115)
0	Income from Pooled Investment Vehicles	(2,653)
(4,278)	Income from Property Unit Trusts	(5,335)
(19)	Interest	(7)
(3)	Other Investment Income	(18)
(4,420)	Total Investment Income	(65,353)

# Note I la - Taxes on Income

#### **UK Income Tax**

The Fund is exempt and approved under the Finance Act 1970. It is therefore not liable to UK income tax on interest, dividends and property income, or to capital gains tax.

#### Value Added Tax

By virtue of the Royal Borough of Greenwich being the Administrating Authority, VAT input tax is recoverable on Fund activities.

## Overseas Tax

Taxation agreements exist between the UK and certain EU and other countries whereby a proportion of the tax deducted locally from investment earnings may be reclaimed. The proportion reclaimable and the timescale involved vary from country to country.

2020/21	Withholding Tax	2021/22
£000		£000
0	Withholding Tax Non Reclaimable – Private Equities	44
0	Total taxes on income	44

# **Note 12 - External Audit Costs**

2020/21 £000		2021/22 £000	
33	Payable in respect of external audit*	38	
0	PSAA Refund	(3)	
33	Total External Audit Costs	35	

<sup>\*£38</sup>k was paid to the external auditors of the Pension Fund, Grant Thornton UK LLP (33k in 2020/21).

# Note 13 - Investments

The investment managers and their mandates are as follows:

Manager	Mandate(s)
Blackrock	Passive Global Equity
CBRE Global Investors	Property
Fidelity International	Bond/GMAC/GEME
Wilshire	Private Equity
Partners Group	Diversified Alternative
London CIV (LCIV)	Absolute Return, Real Return, Renewable Infrastructure, Private Debt
Invesco	Multi Asset Strategy

The market value and proportion of investments managed by each fund manager at 31 March 2022 was as follows:

	2020/21 Market Value £000	2020/21	2021/22 Market Value	2021/22 Market Value
		Market		
		Value		
		%	£000	%
Blackrock	688,628	45	682,193	42
CBRE Global Investors	142,449	9	172,880	П
Fidelity BOND	139,356	9	132,766	8
Fidelity GMAC	116,997	8	115,049	7
Royal Borough of Greenwich	13,950	1	31,761	2
Wilshire	2,975	0	1,938	0
London CIV	150	0	150	0
Partners Group	137,389	9	106,455	6
Fidelity GEME	168,621	П	142,858	9
LCIV Real Return Fund	0	0	97,481	6

Invesco	122,463	8	0	0
LCIV Private Debt Invesco	0 122,463	0 8	36,319 0	0
Infrastructure	0	0	12,414	1
LCIV Absolute Return Fund LCIV Renewable	0	0	103,051	6

The change in market value of the Fund during the year is represented as follows:

				Change in	hange in Change in	
Manager	Market Value 31-	Purchases	Sales	Market Value	Working	31-Mar
	Mar 2021			Of	Capital	2022
				Investments		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Blackrock	688,628	0	(90,463)	80,813	3,215	682,193
CBRE Global Investors	142,449	9,335	(6,943)	25,663	2,376	172,880
Fidelity BOND	139,356	(191)	0	(6,400)	1	132,766
Royal Borough of Greenwich	13,950	0	0	1,000	16,811	31,761
Wilshire <sup>b</sup>	2,975	(427)	(1,160)	550	0	1,938
Fidelity GMAC	116,997	(323)	0	(1,625)	0	115,049
London CIV	150	0	0	0	0	150
Partners Group	137,389	0	(5,170)	(26,615)	851	106,455
Fidelity GEME	168,621	(946)	0	(24,849)	32	142,858
LCIV Real Return Fund	0	99,145	0	(1,664)	0	97,481
LCIV Absolute Return Fund	0	100,000	0	3,051	0	103,051
LCIV Renewable Infrastructure	0	11,758	0	668	(12)	12,414
LCIV Private Debt	0	34,586	0	1,738	(5)	36,319

Invesco	122,463	0	(122,046)	(562)	145	0
Total	1,532,978	252,937	(225,782)	51,768	23,414	1,635,315

# The prior year comparator is as follows:

				Change in	Change in	Market Value
Manager	Market Value 31-Mar 2020	Purchases	Sales	Market Value	Working	31-Mar
	01 1 III			Of	Capital	2021
				Investments		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Blackrock	501,003	I	(170)	187,794	0	688,628
CBRE Global Investors	143,601	6,118	(3,342)	(5,323)	1,395	142,449
Fidelity AGG	135,566	(190) <sup>a</sup>	0	3,980	0	139,356
LGT <sup>bc</sup>	36	6793	(6,829)	0	0	0
Royal Borough of Greenwich	16,203	0	(6)	610	(2,857)	13,950
Wilshire <sup>b</sup>	4,863	0	(1,382)	(506)	0	2,975
Fidelity GMAC	99,403	(307) <sup>a</sup>	0	17,904	(3)	116,997
London CIV	150	0	0	0	0	150
Partners Group	107,893	0	(3,066)	33,566	(1,004)	137,389
Fidelity GEME	105,746	(773) <sup>a</sup>	0	63,724	(76)	168,621
Invesco	123,947	0	(288)	(1,243)	47	122,463
Total	1,238,411	11,642	(15,083)	300,506	(2,498)	1,532,978

a. The negative Fidelity purchase relates to management fees which are charged by reducing the market value of the holdings by the amount of the fee.

b. Distributions have been split into income (dividends, interest and gains) and distributions of capital reducing the book cost.

c. Shares in LGT were fully redeemed in the year to 31 March 2021

The change in market value of investments during the year is comprised of new money invested and the realised and unrealised profits or losses for the year:

2020/21	Change Market Value	2021/22
£000		£000
1,238,411	Opening Market Value	1,532,978
(5,940)	Net Revenue Cash in / (out) flow	50,568
4,673	Realised profit / (loss)	44,165
295,834	Unrealised profit / (loss)	7,604
1,532,978	Closing Market Value	1,635,315

Individual investment assets with a market value of greater than 5% of the total fund value are as follows:

Investment Assets	Manager	2021/22	2021/22
		£000	%
Aquila Life World Ex UK	Blackrock	261,274	16%
ISHARES UK Equity	Blackrock	232,388	14%
Aquila Life GLB 3000	Blackrock	185,460	11%
Fidelity Institutional Funds Emerging Markets	Fidelity	143,059	9%
Fidelity UK Aggregate Bond	Fidelity	132,813	8%
Fidelity Global Multi Asset Credit	Fidelity	115,127	7%
Partners IC RBG LTD	Partners Group	107,137	7%
LCIV Absolute Return Fund	London CIV	103,051	6%
LCIV Real Return Fund	London CIV	97,481	6%

The prior year comparator is as follows:

Investment Assets	Manager	2020/21	2020/21
		£000	%
Aquila Life MGM World EX UK Equity	Blackrock	300,240	20%
Blackrock ISHARES UK Equity	Blackrock	212,432	14%
Aquila Life	Blackrock	175,956	11%
Fidelity Institutional Funds Emerging Markets ACC	Fidelity	168,854	11%
Fidelity UK Aggregate Bond	Fidelity	139,403	<b>9</b> %
Partners IC RBG LTD	Partners	138,922	9%
Invesco Perpetual Mutual Fund	Invesco	122,608	8%
Fidelity Global Multi Asset Credit	Fidelity	117,076	8%

# Stock Lending / Derivatives

The Fund has a policy of not entering into stock lending arrangements - there were no stock lending arrangements in place during 2021/22 or 2020/21. The following investment products are classed as derivatives and may be used by the Fund managers (none held directly by the Fund on 31 March 2022):

- Stock index futures used for the purposes of efficient portfolio management.
- Short currency forwards used for defensively hedging non-UK exposure back to sterling.
- Local access products used to gain exposure to stocks where the manager is unable to purchase them directly.

# **Property Holdings**

The Fund has a directly owned property, which is leased commercially to various tenants. Details of this are as follows:

2020/21		2021/22
£000		£000
2,490	Opening balance	3,100
610	Net increase in market value	1,000
3,100	Closing balance	4,100
2020/21		2021/22
£000		£000
115	Within one year	115
460	Between one and five years	460
575	Total future lease payments due under existing contracts	575

# **Note 14 - Financial Instruments**

Accounting policies describe how different asset classes of financial instruments are measured and how income and expenses, including fair value gains and losses, are recognised. The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities by category and net assets statement heading. No financial assets were reclassified during the accounting period.

	31 March 202	:1			31 March 20	22
Fair Value through Profit and Loss	Assets at Amortised Cost	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost		Fair Value through Profit and Loss	Assets at Amortised Cost	Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost
£000	£000	£000		£000	£000	£000
			Financial Assets			
			Pooled Investment Vehicles:			
0			Equities	822,196		
256,479			Fixed Interest	0		
0			Fixed Income	247,940		
134,010			Property Unit Trusts	162,065		
598,805			Unitised Insurance Policies	0		
381,444			Other Unit Trusts	0		
0			Multi Asset	200,532		
0			Infrastructure	12,425		
0			Private Debt	36,324		
2,975			Private Equity	1,938		
138,922			Diversified Alternative	107,137		
	58		Cash Deposits		73	
	9,631		Cash Equivalents		12,165	
	254		Other investment balances		2,915	
	571		Contributions Due		677	
	474		Other Current Assets		670	
	10,709		Cash Balances		27,251	
1,512,635	21,697	0	Total Financial Assets	1,590,557	43,751	0
			Financial Liabilities			
		(3,355)	Other Investment Balances			(1,781)
		(384)	Unpaid Benefits			(504)
		(212)	Other Current Liabilities			(254)
0	0	(3,951)	Total Financial Liabilities			(2,539)
1,512,635	21,697	(3,951)	Net Financial Assets	1,590,557	43,751	(2,539)

The net gains and losses on financial instruments are as follows:

2020/21 £000	Gains and Losses	2021/22 £000
	Financial Assets	
299,896	Fair Value Through Profit and Loss	50,769
	Financial Liabilities	
0	Fair Value Through Profit and Loss	0
299,896	Total	50,769

The interest revenue and expense for financial assets measured at amortised cost is as follows:

2020/21 £000	Interest Revenue and Expense	2021/22 £000	
	Assets at amortised cost		
19	Interest Revenue	7	
0	Interest Expense	0	
19	Total	7	

# Valuation of Financial Instruments carried at Fair Value

The valuation of financial instruments has been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values:

Level I – Where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Products classified as Level I comprise quoted equities, quoted fixed securities and unit trusts.

Level 2 – Where quoted market prices are not available; for example, where an instrument is traded in a market that is not considered to be active, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value and where these techniques use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data.

Level 3 – Where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data.

#### Reconciliation of Fair Value Measurement within Level 3

Asset	Market Value at 31/03/2021	Transfer into Level 3	Transfer out of Level 3	Purchases at cost	Sales	Unrealised Gain/(Loss)	Realised Gains/(Loss)	Market Value At 31/03/2022
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
UT - Property UK*	53,358	0	0	3,911	(6,938)	14,110	(503)	63,938
Freehold Property	3,100	0	0	0	Ó	1,000	Ò	4,100
Diversified Alternative	138,922	0	0	0	(5,170)	(26,615)	0	107,137
Private Equity	2,975	0	0	(427)	(1,160)	(610)	1,160	1,938
Infrastructure	0	0	0	l Ì,75Ŕ	Ó	`667	0	12,425
Private Debt	0	0	0	34,586	0	1,738	0	36,324
Total	198,355	0	0	49,828	(13,268)	(9,710)	657	225,862

The prior year comparator is as follows:

Asset	Market Value at 31/03/2020	Transfer into Level 3	Transfer out of Level 3	Purchases at cost	Sales	Unrealised Gain/(Loss)	Realised Gains/(Loss)	Market Value At 31/03/2021
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
UT - Property UK*	56,828	1,478	0	2,780	(3,539)	(3,310)	(879)	53,358
Freehold Property	2,490	0	0	0	Ò	610	Ò	3,100
Diversified Alternative	108,422	0	0	0	(3,066)	33,566	0	138,922
Private Equity	4,899	0	0	6,793	(8,211)	(8,405)	7,899	2,975
Total	172,639	1,478	0	9,573	(14,816)	22,461	7,020	198,355

<sup>\*</sup> UT – Property UK 20/21 figures have been restated due to a prior period misstatement. These restatements occurred due to updating levelling data for 20/21 being received from the investment manager. The restatements result in a reduction in market value at 31/03/2020 of £33,450k, increase in transfer in level 3 of £1,478k, decrease in purchases at cost of £1,214, decrease in sales of £344k, increase in unrealised loss of £283k and a decrease in market value at 31/03/2021 of £33,813k. The transfer into level 3 is due to an underlying fund changing from open ended to close ended in 20/21

## Sensitivity of assets value at level 3

Having analysed historical data and current market trends, and consulted with the Funds' performance management advisors, the Fund has determined that valuation methods described above are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges and set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investment as at 31 March 2022.

Asset	Value as at 31 March 2022	Percentage Change	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
UT - Property UK	63,938	4.4	66,739	61,138
Freehold Property	4,100	4.4	4,280	3,920
Private Equity	1,938	14.3	2,215	1,662
Diversified Alternative	107,137	13.8	121,933	92,341
Infrastructure	12,425	3.8	12,897	11,953
Private Debt	36,324	4.9	38,104	34,544
Total Level 3 Assets available to Pay Benefits	225,862		246,168	205,558

## The prior year comparator is as follows:

Asset	Value as at 31 March 2021 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on Increase £000	Value on Decrease £000
UT - Property UK*	53,358	2.8	54,844	51,873
Freehold Property	3,100	2.8	3,186	3,014
Private Equity	2,975	6.7	3,175	2,775
Diversified Alternative	138,922	6.7	148,270	129,574
Total Level 3 Assets available to Pay Benefits	198,355		209,475	187,236

<sup>\*</sup> UT – Property UK 20/21 figures have been restated due to a prior period misstatement. These restatements occurred due to updating levelling data for 20/21 being received from the investment manager. The restatements result in a decrease in value at 31/03/2021 of £33,813k, decrease in value on increase of £34,753k and a decrease in the value on decrease of £32,871k.

The following table provides an analysis of the Financial Assets and Liabilities of the Fund and are grouped based upon the level at which the fair value is observable.

Values as at 31 March 2022	Level I £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
Financial Assets				_
Financial Assets at Fair Value through profit and loss	0	1,368,794	221,763	1,590,557
Non-Financial assets at Fair Value through profit and loss	0	0	4,100	4,100
	0	1,368,794	225,863	1,594,657

## The prior year comparator is as follows:

Values as at 31 March 2021	Level I £000	Level 2 £000	Level 3 £000	Total £000
Financial Assets				
Financial Assets at Fair Value through profit and loss	0	1,317,379*	195,256*	1,512,635
Non-Financial assets at Fair Value through profit and loss	0		3,100	3,100
	0	1,317,379	198,356	1,515,735

<sup>\*</sup>Figures have been restated due to a prior period misstatement

#### Fair Value - Basis of Valuation

Description of asset	Valuation Hierarchy	Basis of Valuation	Observable and Unobservable Input	Key Sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Pooled Investments - Bonds	Level 2	NAV basis. Where the markets of financial instruments are	Evaluated price feeds	Not Required

		actively traded exchange markets, valuations are based on quoted market prices, which is the price within the bid-ask spread. For non-traded financial instruments, the programme uses a variety of market and income methods.		
Pooled Investments - Equities	Level 2	Bid price	Evaluated price feeds	Not Required
Pooled Investments - Multi Asset	Level 2	Swung price/mid price	Evaluated price feeds	Not Required
Property Unit Trusts	Level 2	Based upon the underlying investments within each portfolio, which are based upon the latest available valuations (March 2022)	Latest available trading NAV (Bid Price)	Not Required
Property Unit Trusts	Level 3	Based upon the underlying investments within each portfolio, which are based upon the latest available valuations (ranging from December 2021 to March 2022)	INREV NAV	Return of capital, investment contributions, capital calls and accruals of liquidation expenses.
Private Equity	Level 3	Based upon the underlying investments within each portfolio.	Valuations of underlying limited partnerships	Valuations could be affected by changes to expected cashflows or by differences between audited and unaudited accounts
Diversified Alternative	Level 3	Private Equity - A market approach is applied (mainly	-EV/EBITDA multiples	Valuations could be affected by

		EV/EBITDA multiples) where appropriate. In some cases, an alternative method can be applied (e.g. DCF approach).  Private Debt - Where market quotations are readily available, the valuation is based on these. Where no market quotations are available, valuations are based on a discounted cash flow approach or recovery method.  Private Real Estate - Valued considering third party	-Discounted cash flows -Third party appraisals	material events occurring between the date of the financial statements provided and the Fund's own reporting date, and by any differences between audited and unaudited accounts.
		appraisals which are updated at least on an annual basis. Intrayear valuations from these third party appraisals are adjusted for recent developments  Private Infrastructure - Early stage investments are valued using the replacement cost method. Once construction reaches a certain stage, where cash flows are more visible, the valuation method is normally switched to a discounted cash flow analysis. For stable and operating infrastructure assets, a market approach (i.e. multiple method) is used.		
Freehold Property	Level 3	Valued by a valuer and RICS member, employed by the Royal Borough of Greenwich. The property was valued utilising the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors-current edition of the RICS Valuation -	Income from tenants	Significant changes in rental growth, vacancy levels or the discount rates could affect valuations as could more general

		Global standards and the RICS UK national supplement. The valuation was based on the open market value of the freehold interest, having regard to the actual lease terms and evidence of current levels of rent and yields for the class of property, adjusted to reflect age, condition and characteristics of the particular locality		changes to market prices
Shares in London CIV Asset Pool	Level 3	Based on the capital invested within the London CIV	N/A	N/A
Pooled Investments - Infrastructure	Level 3	Based upon the underlying investments in each portfolio.  Valued at fair value on a quarterly basis.	NAV based pricing	Foreign exchange fluctuations
Pooled Investments - Private Debt	Level 3	Based upon the underlying investments in each portfolio.  Valued at fair value on a quarterly basis.	NAV based pricing	Foreign exchange fluctuations

## Note 15 - Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments

## Risk and Risk Management

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e. promised benefits payable to members). Therefore, the aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole Fund portfolio. The Fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the Fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows. The Fund manages these investment risks as part of its overall risk management programme. Responsibility for the Fund's risk management strategy rests with the Pension Fund Investment and Administration Panel. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Fund. Policies are reviewed regularly to reflect changes in activity and market conditions.

#### Market Risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from fluctuations in equity and commodity prices, interest and foreign exchange rates and credit spreads. The Fund is exposed to market risk from its investment activities, particularly through its equity holdings. The level of risk exposure depends on market conditions, expectations of future price and yield movements and the asset risk. The objective of the Fund's risk management strategy is to identify, manage and control market risk exposure within acceptable parameters, whilst optimising the return on risk. In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through the diversification of the portfolio in terms of geographical and industry sectors and individual securities. To mitigate market risk, the Fund and its investment advisors undertake appropriate monitoring of market conditions and benchmark analysis. The Fund manages these risks in two ways:

- The exposure of the Fund to market risk is monitored through risk analysis, to ensure that risk remains within tolerable levels
- Specific risk exposure is limited by applying risk-weighted maximum exposures to individual investments.

Equity futures contacts and exchange traded option contracts on individual securities may also be used to manage market risk on equity investments. It is possible for over-the-counter equity derivative contracts to be used in exceptional circumstances to manage specific aspects of market risk.

#### Other Price Risk

Other price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer or factors affecting all such instruments in the market. The Fund is exposed to share price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which the future price is uncertain. All securities investments present a risk of loss of capital. The Fund's investment managers mitigate this price risk through diversification and the selection of securities and other financial instruments is monitored by the Fund to ensure it is within limits specified in the Fund investment strategy.

#### Other Price Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

Having analysed historical data and expected investment return movement during the financial year, and consultation with the Fund's performance management advisors, the Fund has determined that the following movements in market price risk are reasonably possible for the reporting period.

Asset	Potential Market Movements
	(+/-)
UK Equities	14.61%
Overseas Equities	14.61%
Bonds	6.22%
Property	4.38%
Cash Equivalents	1.80%

Private Equity	14.27%
Multi Asset	5.09%
Diversified Alternative	13.81%
Private Debt	4.90%
Infrastructure	3.8%

This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates, remain the same. Had the market price of the Fund investments moved in line with the above, the change in the net assets available to pay benefits in the market price would have been as follows:

Asset	Value as at	Percentage	Value on	Value on
	31 March 2022	Change	Increase	Decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Cash Equivalents	12,165	1.80	12,384	11,946
UK Equities	232,396	14.61	266,349	198,443
Overseas Equities	589,649	14.61	675,797	503,502
Bonds	247,940	6.22	263,362	232,518
Diversified Alternative	107,137	13.81	121,933	92,341
Property	166,165	4.38	173,443	158,887
Private Equity	1,938	14.27	2,215	1,662
Multi Asset	200,532	5.09	210,739	190,325
Infrastructure	12,425	3.80	12,897	11,953
Private Debt	36,324	4.90	38,104	34,544
Other Investment Balances	28,608	0	28,608	28,608
Total Assets available to Pay Benefits	1,635,279		1,805,831	1,464,729

The prior year comparator is as follows:

Asset	Value as at 31 March 2021 £000	Percentage Change %	Value on Increase £000	Value on Decrease £000
Cash Equivalents	20,406	1.90	20,785	20,027
UK Equities	212,432	15.40	245,064	179,800
Overseas Equities	645,050	15.40	744,137	545,963
Bonds	256,479	6.00	271,836	241,122
Property	137,110	2.80	140,927	133,293
Private Equity	2,975	6.70	3,175	2,775
Diversified Alternative	138,922	6.70	148,270	129,574
Multi Asset	122,608	4.50	128,069	117,147

Other Investment Balances*	(2,951)	0	(2,951)	(2,951)
Total Assets available to Pay Benefits	1,533,031		1,699,112	1,366,750

#### Interest Rate Risk

The Fund invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on investments. These investments are subject to interest rate risks, which represent the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Fund's direct exposure to interest rate movements is through its cash and fixed income holdings.

## Interest Rate Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

The Fund recognises that interest rates can vary and can affect both income to the Fund and the value of the net assets available to pay benefits. It is currently felt that interest rates are unlikely to move up or down by more than 100 basis points (bps) over the course of the next year. The analysis that follows assumes that all other variables, in particular exchange rates, remain constant and shows the effect in the year on the net assets available to pay benefits of a +/- 100 bps change in interest rates.

Asset	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2022	in the N	e in Year let Assets Pay Benefits
		+ 100 bps	-100 bps
	£000	£000	£000
Cash Balances	27,251	27,523	26,978
Cash on Deposit	74	74	73
Cash Equivalents	12,165	12,287	12,043
Blackrock Institutional Series	8	8	8
Total Interest Rate Risk Assets	39,498	39,892	39,102

Asset	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2022	in the N	e in Year let Assets Pay Benefits
		+ 100 bps	-100 bps
	£000	£000	£000
Fidelity GMAC	115,127	111,558	118,696
Fidelity UK Aggregate Bond Fund	132,813	119,531	146,094
Total Interest Rate Risk Assets	247,940	231,089	264,790

The prior year comparator is as follows:

Asset	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2021	in the N available to	e in Year let Assets Pay Benefits
		+ 25 bps	-25 bps
	£000	£000	£000
Cash Balances	10,709	10,736	10,682
Cash on Deposit	58	58	58
Cash Equivalents	9,631	9,655	9,607
Blackrock Institutional Series	8	8	8
Total Interest Rate Risk Assets	20,406	20,457	20,355
Asset	Carrying Amount as at 31 March 2021	in the N	e in Year let Assets Pay Benefits
		+ 25 bps	-25 bps
	£000	£000	£000

Fidelity GMAC	117,076	116,380	117,773
Fidelity UK Aggregate Bond Fund	139,403	136,057	142,748
Total Interest Rate Risk Assets	256,479	252,437	260,521

## **Currency Risk**

Currency risk represents the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on financial instruments that are denominated in any currency other than Sterling. The Fund holds both monetary and non-monetary assets denominated in currencies other than Sterling.

#### Currency Risk - Sensitivity Analysis

Following consultation with the Fund's performance management advisors, the following table shows the potential impact of foreign exchange rate movements on the overseas holdings within the Fund (the analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant):

Asset	Asset Value as at 31 March 2022	Potential Change in Foreign Exchange Rate	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
	£000	%	£000	£000
Private Equity	1,938	7.47	2,083	1,794
Equity	589,649	5.81	623,896	555,403
Multi Asset	55,845	5.54	58,938	52,753
Cash held in Foreign Currencies	2	6.21	2	2
Total Currency Risk Assets	647,434		684,919	609,952

The prior year comparator is as follows:

Asset	Asset Value	<b>P</b> otential	Value on	Value on
	as at	Change in	Increase	Decrease
	31 March 2021	Foreign		
		Exchange		
		Rate		
	£000	%	£000	£000

Private Equity	2,975	7.5	3,199	2,751
Equity (Unitised Insurance policies)	476,196	7.1	510,274	442,119
Equity (Unit Trust Other)	168,854	6.2	179,369	158,338
Multi Asset	76,457	7.1	81,885	71,029
Cash held in Foreign Currencies	2	6.5	2	2
Total Currency Risk Assets	724,484		774,729	674,239

#### Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction or a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities. In essence the Fund's entire investment portfolio is exposed to some form of credit risk, with the exception of the derivatives positions held in year where the risk equates to the net market value of a positive derivative position. However, the selection of high quality counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle a transaction in a timely manner. Contractual credit risk is represented by the net payment or receipt that remains outstanding and the cost of replacing the derivative position in the event of a counterparty default. The residual risk is minimal due to the various insurance policies held by the exchanges to cover defaulting counterparties. Credit risk on over-the-counter derivative contracts is minimised as counterparties are recognised financial intermediaries with acceptable credit ratings determined by a recognised rating agency. The Fund has a private equity portfolio where there is a higher credit risk. At the reporting date 0.12% of the Fund was in private equity thereby capping exposure to this asset class. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they are rated independently and have a high credit rating. The Fund's cash holding under its treasury management arrangements as at 31 March 2022 was £27.3m (£10.7m at 31 March 2021). This was held as follows:

Counterparty	31 March	31 March
Туре	2021	2022
	£000	£000
UK Banks	10,709	27,251

## Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The cash position of the Fund is monitored to ensure that the Fund has adequate cash resources to meet its commitments. The Fund has immediate access to monies held in its current account. Monies on deposit are also highly liquid and are available to the Fund if needed. If the Fund found itself in a position where it did not have the monies to meet its immediate commitments, then liquid assets could be sold to provide additional cash. The fund defines liquid assets as assets that can be converted to cash within three

months. As at 31 March 2022, the value of liquid assets represented 80% of the Fund (82% at 31 March 2021). Financial liabilities of £3.093m are all due to be settled within 12 months of the net asset statement date.

#### Refinancing risk

The key risk is that the Fund will be bound to replenish a significant proportion of its financial instruments at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Fund does not have any financial instruments that have a refinancing risk as part of its treasury management and investment strategies.

## **Note 16 - Funding Arrangements**

In accordance with The Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the adequacy of the Fund's investments and contributions in relation to its overall and future obligations is reviewed every three years by an Actuary appointed by the Fund. This actuarial valuation also assesses the contribution rate required to meet the future liabilities of the Fund by considering the benefits that accrue over the course of the three years to the next full valuation.

In line with the regulations that funds should be re-valued every three years, the latest triennial valuation was carried out as at 31 March 2022 (effective from 1 April 2023) by the funds actuary, Barnett Waddingham. The results were published in the 31 March 2022 actuarial valuation which is available on the Royal Borough of Greenwich website.

The method of calculating the employer's contribution rate is derived from the cost of the benefits building up over the year following the valuation date. This method is known as the 'Projected Unit Method'. It is a method considered appropriate by the Actuary for a fund open to new members. As the Fund remains open to new members, its age profile is not currently rising significantly. If the age profile began to rise significantly, the projected unit method would calculate an increase in current service cost as scheme members approached retirement.

The market value of the Fund at the 2022 review date was £1,640m (£1,332m in 2019) and results showed that assets represented 103% of the liabilities (97% in 2019). The Fund surplus arising from the valuation was £44m as at 31 March 2022 (£45m deficit as at 31 March 2019). Deficits are spread and recovered over a maximum 20-year period from 01 April 2023. The reconciliation of the contribution rate is as shown below:

Contribution Rate Analysis	Mar-22
-	%
Future Service Total	18.2
Deficit Contribution	0.3
Total Employer Contribution Rate	18.5

The triennial valuation determines the contribution rate for each employer in the Fund using statistical information specific to each employer. The agreed contribution rates in accordance with the results of the actuarial valuation are as follows:

Year	Royal Borough of Greenwich	Other Bodies
2023/24	18.50%	12% - 19.1%
2024/25	18.50%	12% - 19.1%
2025/26	18.50%	12% - 19.1%

Details of each employer's individual rates are detailed in the Rates and Adjustment Certificate, which can be found in the triennial valuation report. New employers admitted after 31 March 2022 are actuarially assessed to determine their individual employer contribution rates.

The actuarial valuation using the 'Projected Unit Method' is based on economic assumptions. Assets have been valued at a 6 month smoothed market value straddling the valuation date. The assumptions used in the calculation and applied during the inter-valuation period are summarised as follows:

Future Assumed Returns as at March 2022	Assumed Returns
	% p.a.
Investment Return	
Gilts	2.0
Cash	0.7
Corporate Bonds	2.8
Equities	6.9
Private Equity	6.9
Property	6.4
Infrastructure	6.4
Private Debt	6
Cash Plus	4.6
Multi Asset Credit	5

Financial Assumptions	2022	2019	
	% p.a.	% p.a.	
Discount Rate	4.8		5.0
Salary Increases	3.9		3.6
Consumer Price Inflation (CPI)	2.9		2.6
Pension Increases	2.9		2.6

The assumed life expectations from age 65 are as follows:

Demographic assumptions – Life expectancy from age 65*	31-Mar 2021	31- <b>M</b> ar 2022
Retiring Today		
Males	20.5	19.5
Females	23.3	22.9
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.9	20.9
Females	24.9	24.4

<sup>\*</sup>Note this data reflects the assumptions from IAS 26 report

The actuary has also assumed that:

- Members will exchange half of their commutable pension for cash at retirement
- Members will retire at one retirement age for all tranches of benefit, which will be the pension weighted average tranche retirement age
- The proportion of the membership that had taken up the 50:50 option at the previous valuation date will remain the same.

## **Note 17 - Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits (IAS 19 basis)**

Data from the 2022 triennial valuation has been used to assess the Fund's liabilities at 31 March 2022. The net liability of the Fund in relation to the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits and the net assets available to fund these benefits is:

Net Present Value	31-Mar 2021 £000	31-Mar 2022 £000
Present Value of Funded		
<u>Obligation</u>		
Vested Obligation	(2,502,770)	(2,416,262)
Non-Vested Obligation	(38,151)	(31,836)
Total Present Value of Funded Obligation	(2,540,921)	(2,448,098)
Fair Value of Scheme Assets	1,533,439	1,635,315
Net Liability	(1,007,482)	(812,783)

The financial assumptions used to assess the total net liability as at 31 March 2022 are:

Financial Assumptions	Mar-21	Mar-22
	% p.a.	% p.a.
Discount Rate	2.0	2.6
Pay Increases	3.8	4.2
Pension Increases	2.8	3.2

## **Note 18 - Debtors and Creditors**

The following material amounts were due to, or payable from, the Fund as at 31 March 2022:

Dobtors	2021/22
Debtors	
	£000
	23
	2,892
Sale of Investments	0
Total Investment Debtors	2,915
Member Debtors	
Contributions	677
Other	670
Total Member Debtors	1,347
Total Debtors	4,262
Analysed By	
Other Entities and Individuals	4,262
Central Government Bodies	0
Total Debtors	4,262
Creditors	2021/22
	£000
Investment Creditors	
Management Fees	(1,186)
Purchase of Investments	(504)
Custody Fees	(52)
Other	(39)
<b>Total Investment Creditors</b>	(1,781)
Member Creditors	
Benefits Unpaid	(504)
Other	(808)
	Member Debtors Contributions Other Total Member Debtors Total Debtors Analysed By Other Entities and Individuals Central Government Bodies Total Debtors  Creditors  Investment Creditors Management Fees Purchase of Investments Custody Fees Other Total Investment Creditors Member Creditors Benefits Unpaid

(1,101)	Total Member Creditors	(1,312)
(4,456)	Total Creditors	(3,093)
	Analysed By	
(505)	Central Government Bodies	(55 <del>4</del> )
(109)	Local Authorities	0
(3,842)	Other entities and individuals	(2,539)
(4,456)	Total Creditors	(3,093)

# **Note 19 - Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The cash balance can be further analysed as follows:

Cash	2020/21	2021/22
	£000	£000
Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund (UK Banks)	10,709	27,251
Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund (Held at Custodian)	2	2
CBRE Cash at Hand	55	70
Blackrock	1	<u> </u>
Total Cash	10,767	27,324
Cash Equivalents	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000
Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund	206	440
Blackrock	3	340
CBRE	9,422	11,385
Total Cash Equivalents	9,631	12,165

## **Note 20 - Additional Voluntary Contributions**

Contributing members have the right to make Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs) to enhance their pension. The Authority made such a scheme available to staff through Equitable Life. During 2000/01, Equitable Life announced itself closed to new business. On 23 December 2010, the Government passed an Equitable Life Bill to enable it to compensate Equitable Life policyholders who lost money due to the near collapse of the insurer in 2000. Since then, employees have had the option to pay current contributions into a Clerical Medical Fund. During 2019/20 policies held with Equitable Life where transferred to Utmost Life and Pensions. In accordance with section 4 (1) (b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016, AVCs are prohibited from being credited to the Local Government Pension Scheme and are thus not consolidated within the Fund accounts. However, a summary of the contributions made by members during the year and the total value of the AVC funds, as at 31 March 2022, are shown below:

2020/21	AVC Contributions	2021/22
£000		£000
55	AVC Contributions to Clerical Medical	112
55	Total Contributions	112

31 March 2021	AVC Market Values	31 March 2022
£000		£000
953	Clerical Medical Market Value	1,049
402	Utmost Life and Pensions Market Value	354
1,355	Total Market Value	1,403

## **Note 21A - Related Party Transactions**

The UK Government exerts a significant influence over the Fund through enacting the various Regulations (mentioned herein). It is a major source of funding for the Royal Borough of Greenwich (the Administering Authority and largest employer within the Fund). During the year, no trustees or Key Management Personnel of the Authority with direct responsibility for pension fund issues have undertaken any material transactions with the Pension Fund, other than the following:

- a) Administrative services were undertaken by the Authority on behalf of the Fund, under the SLA, valued at £1.111m (2020/21: £1.121m).
- b) The Royal Borough of Greenwich is the single largest employer of members of the pension fund and contributed £30.923m to the Fund in 2021/22 (2020/21: £30.750m).
  - c) With respect to other Scheduled Bodies, an amount of £0.343m was owed to the Fund by Academies at year-end for contributions due.
- d) The Royal Borough of Greenwich Pension Fund is a Member of the London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV). As at the reporting date, Councillor Peter Brooks was the Fund's representative on the Board. In 2021/22, administration and management fees of £0.478m were paid to this organisation.

## **Note 21b - Key Management Personnel**

Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The Key Management personnel of the Fund are the Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer), the Chair of the Pension Fund Investment and Administration Panel and the Pension Investment Manager. The total remuneration payable to key management personnel is set out below:

2020/2I		2021/22
£000		£000
65	Short-term benefits	72
28	Post-employment benefits	39
93		111

#### **Note 22 - Commitments**

The Fund has commitments in relation to its private market funds. These commitments are drawn down in tranches over time, as and when the managers request them. As at 31 March 2022, the Fund had £81.668m of commitments outstanding (31 March 2021: £0.549m). These are not required to be included in the Accounts.

## Note 23 - Events after reporting period

There were no significant events between the balance sheet date and the approval of these financial statements which would require disclosure or adjustment of the statements.

## **Accounting Policies**

#### **General**

The Authority is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which states that the Accounts are 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 2021/22 (the "Code") based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The Statement of Accounts has been prepared on a going concern basis. The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments. Many values throughout the accounts are rounded to the nearest £000, as such tables and notes may not appear to cross-cast or exactly match the sum of the individual items.

#### **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 the sale of goods is recognised when the Authority transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Authority.
- Revenue from the provision of contracts and services is recognised in-line with the consumption of performance obligations.
- 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 carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received 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 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.
- Revenue for the provision of contracts and services is recognised in line with IFRS15.

#### **Acquired Operations**

Acquired operations are those that the Authority has acquired during the reporting period as a result of the reorganisation of local government, or the transfer of services acquired as a consequence of legislation. The Authority will account for these in accordance with IAS I if material, and disclose any comparative amounts, if applicable.

### **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 investments that mature in no more than a three month period 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 Authority's cash management.

### Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

#### Change in Accounting Policy

Policies are the principles used to prepare the financial statements. A change in policy generally originates from the accounting standards although it could come from being able to provide more relevant and reliable information. These are normally processed retrospectively, although in some cases can be prospective, where stated.

#### Change in Accounting Estimate

This is an adjustment of the carrying amount of an asset or liability resulting from new information. These are processed prospectively in the current and future reporting periods.

#### Prior Period Adjustment

This is a material omission or misstatement that could reasonably have been accounted for in the preparation of the accounts for the previous reporting period. This is processed through retrospective restatement of the accounts by amending the opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period. A note to the accounts will be included for prior period adjustments where necessary.

#### **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 Authority 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 (the Minimum Revenue Provision) towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated

on a prudent basis determined by the Authority in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are, therefore, replaced by the contribution from 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.

#### **Employee Benefits**

### Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled 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 Authority. 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 benefits 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 Authority to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the appropriate service in the Statements at the earlier of the following dates:

- when the Authority can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits
- when the Authority recognises costs of a restructuring and involves the payment of termination benefits.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority 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 Authority are members of three separate pension schemes:

- The NHS Pension Scheme
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE)
- The Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by the Royal Borough of Greenwich or the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA).

These schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Authority. However, the arrangements for the NHS and Teachers Schemes' means that liabilities for these benefits cannot ordinarily be identified specifically to the Authority. The schemes are therefore accounted for as if they were defined contribution schemes and no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet. The relevant cost of services line in the Statements is charged with the employer's contributions payable to the NHS and Teachers' Pensions schemes in the year.

#### The Local Government Pension Scheme

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

- The liabilities of the Royal Borough of Greenwich and LPFA pension funds attributable to the Authority 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 based on the Single equivalent discount rate (SEDR). Under this approach, rather than discount future cashflows with a single discount rate equal to the spot rate on the yield curve, this approach estimates the single equivalent rate that would produce the same liability as discounting each individual projected cashflow using a yield curve for AA rated bonds.
- The assets of the Royal Borough of Greenwich and LPFA pension funds attributable to the Authority are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:
  - o for quoted securities current bid price
  - o for unquoted securities professional estimate
  - o for unitised securities current bid price, except where only a single price is available in which case, net asset value
  - o for property market value.
- The Authority have opted to restrict the LPFA funded surplus to its total future service cost and take account of the asset ceiling, over the remaining lifetime of the active membership of the LPFA fund (on the accounting basis at the accounting date).

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Authority 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 appropriations 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 Authority 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 (including teachers) 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.

### **Events after the Reporting Period**

These are events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

#### **Adjusting**

Those events that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period. Where material, the financial statements and notes are amended to reflect the impact of the events.

### Non-Adjusting

Those events that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period. The financial statements are not amended to reflect the events, but additional explanatory notes are provided.

#### **Income from Taxation and Social Housing Rents**

Revenue relating to social Housing Rents, Council Tax and Business Rates is measured at the full amount receivable (net of any impairment losses). Council Tax and Business Rates are accounted for in accordance with IPSAS 23 (i.e. non-contractual, non-exchange transactions). Housing rental income is shown within the Statements but local taxes collected as part of an agency arrangement (Council Tax and Business Rates) are not.

#### **Material Items of Income and Expenditure**

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

#### Fair Value Measurement

The Authority measures some of its non-financial assets such as surplus assets, investment properties and assets held for sale 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:

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

The authority 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 authority 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 authority's financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

- Level I 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

#### **Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised in the Balance Sheet when the Authority becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument. They are classified based on the business model for holding the instruments and their expected cashflow characteristics.

#### Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities 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 Statements for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised. For most of the borrowings that the Authority has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged within the Statements is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

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Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are credited and debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Statements in the year of repurchase/settlement. However, where repurchase has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is respectively deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write-down in the Statements are spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate. Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Statements, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. The Authority has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Statements to the net charge required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

#### Financial Assets

In accordance with IFRS 9, financial assets are classified into three categories:

- Financial assets held at amortised cost. These are loans and loan arrangements where repayments of interest and principal occur on set dates and at specified amounts. The amount presented in the Balance Sheet represents the outstanding principal received plus accrued interest and the interest credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) is the amount receivable as per the loan agreement.
- Fair value through profit or loss (FVPL). These assets are measured and carried at fair value. All gains and losses due to changes in fair value (both realised and unrealised) are recognised in the CIES as they occur.
- Fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI). These assets are measured and carried at fair value. All gains and losses due to changes in fair value (both realised and unrealised) are accounted for through a reserve account, with the balance debited or credited to the CIES on asset disposal.

The authority'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).

## **Expected Credit Loss Model**

Allowances for impairment losses have been calculated for amortised cost assets, using the expected credit loss model. Changes in loss allowances (including balances outstanding at the date of derecognition of an asset) are debited/credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

Changes in the value of assets carried at fair value are debited/credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES as they occur.

The Council will recognise expected credit losses on all of its financial assets held at amortised cost either on a 12-month or lifetime basis, where material. The expected credit loss model also applies to lease receivables and contract assets.

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.

#### **Foreign Currency Translation**

Where the Authority 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. Where amounts in foreign currency are outstanding at the year-end, they are reconverted at the spot exchange rate at 31 March. Realised gains or losses are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line.

#### **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 Authority when there is reasonable assurance that:

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

Amounts recognised as due to the Authority are not credited 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 acquired using 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 are shown as liabilities on the Balance Sheet until outstanding conditions are satisfied. 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 (non-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants). Where capital grants are credited, 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.

### Community Infrastructure Levy

The authority has elected to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), which is applied to chargeable developments with appropriate planning consent. The council charges for and collects the levy, which is a planning charge. The income from the levy is used to fund infrastructure projects in accordance with the amended Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations.

CIL is received without outstanding conditions; it is therefore recognised at the commencement date of the chargeable development in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and subsequently transferred to a useable reserve until required to fund the capital projects in accordance with the accounting policy for government grants and contributions set out above.

### **Heritage Assets**

Where an asset is primarily retained for its contribution to knowledge and culture, it is designated as a heritage asset. However, where an asset is in operational use then it is classified accordingly, rather than as a heritage asset. Heritage Assets are recognised and measured in accordance with the Authority'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 collection, as a whole, is relatively static and acquisitions and donations are infrequent. Where they do occur, acquisitions are initially recognised at cost and donations are recognised at valuation, ascertained by the museum's staff, utilising professional valuation organisations where appropriate. Where material, these items are reported in the Balance Sheet, with items in excess of £10,000 being individually disclosed. In relation to the Authority's overall asset base, values are relatively low and, as such, revaluations are not undertaken frequently due to the high cost of the process involved in valuing a diverse set of assets and the lack of comparative values. The items themselves are enduring in nature and, therefore, are not depreciated. The carrying amounts of heritage assets are reviewed when there is evidence of impairment. Any impairment is recognised and measured in accordance with the Authority's general policy on impairment. The proceeds of any disposals are disclosed separately in the notes to the financial statements and are accounted for in accordance with the Authority's general provisions relating to the disposal of property, plant and equipment.

#### **Highways Infrastructure Assets**

Infrastructure assets include carriageways, footway and cycle lanes, tracks and structures (e.g. bridges), street lighting, street furniture (e.g. illuminated traffic signals and bollards), traffic management system and land which together form a single integrated network.

## Recognition

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

#### **Measurement**

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

#### **Depreciation**

Depreciation is provided on the parts of the network infrastructure assets that are subject to deterioration and the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives on a straight line basis. Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year.

#### Disposal and derecognition

When a component of the network is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the component in the Balance Sheet is written off to the 'Other operating expenditure' line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Any receipts from disposals are credited to the same line in the CSIE, also as part of the gain or loss on disposal. The written-off amounts of disposal are not charged against council tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are transferred to the CAA from the General Fund Balance in the MIRS.

### **Intangible Assets**

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Authority 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 Authority. Intangible assets are measured initially at cost and are carried thereafter at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s). An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s). Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line. Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted 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.

#### Interests in Companies & Collaborative / Joint Arrangements

In accordance with IFRS 10, 11 and 12 the Authority has assessed the level of control it exerts with those organisations deemed to be within the group boundaries and categorised them accordingly and where appropriate, interests shown at book cost. This process has led to the conclusion that entries in relation to the preparation of Group Accounts are not material and therefore not required. Details of the categorisation of entities, with further description relating to their composition and activities, are provided in note 28. Those activities in relation to joint committee activities are deemed to be outside of joint arrangement accounting.

#### **Inventories**

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at cost.

#### **Investment Properties**

Investment Properties are held solely for rental income and capital appreciation and are initially measured at cost. Investment Properties are not depreciated but subsequently revalued at the reporting date and held at the highest fair value achievable via an arm's length transaction. Gains and losses arising from revaluations or disposals are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure Line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement along with rental incomes.

Gains and losses arising from the revaluations and disposals are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance, and are therefore reversed out in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and Capital Receipts Reserve (where proceeds are greater than £10,000).

Property classifications are reviewed annually to ensure the definition of an Investment Property is met.

#### 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 will be accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

### The Authority as Lessee

#### Finance Leases

Property, plant and equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred. Lease payments are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment applied to write down the lease liability
- a finance charge (debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line).

Property, Plant and Equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets. The Authority is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses are

therefore substituted by a revenue 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.

#### **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, unless another systematic basis is more representative of the benefits received by the Authority.

### The Authority as Lessor

#### Finance Leases

Where the Authority grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, 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 as part of the gain or loss on disposal. The sale proceeds, representing the Authority's net investment in the lease, are credited to the same line in the 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), matched by a lease (long-term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet. Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received), and
- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line).

The gain or loss presented on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase or decrease the General Fund Balance. The net investment in the lease is required to be treated as a capital receipt and the carrying value of the asset is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When the future rentals are received, the element for the capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point, the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve or the General Fund where the lease was entered into on or before 31 March 2010. 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 therefore appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

## **Operating Leases**

Where the Authority 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 Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, unless another systematic basis is more representative of the time pattern in which the benefit derived from the leased asset is diminished.

## **Overheads and Support Services**

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those that benefit from the supply or service. The total absorption costing principle is used – the full cost of overheads and support services are shared between users in proportion to the benefits received.

#### **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 Authority 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 (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred. A de minimis level of £10,000 has been adopted for the inclusion of Property, Plant and Equipment.

#### **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.
- an estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located

The Authority 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. Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income line, unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited, they

are reversed out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Valuations are undertaken by a Chartered Valuation Surveyor and are made in accordance with the guidance from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and the RICS Valuation-Professional Standards published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations for use within the Accounts are sought by the Director of Finance from the Director of Regeneration, Enterprise and Skills. The relevant staff work in separate directorates, are professionally qualified and abide by their respective institute's ethical and other requirements. Non-dwelling assets are revalued at 1 April 2021 and dwelling at 31 March 2022. If the Valuer advises that there has been significant movement in the value of assets during the year, or there has been a material investment in the asset, then a further revaluation may take place to ensure that their carrying amounts are not materially different from their values. Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement bases:

- infrastructure and community assets and assets under construction depreciated historical cost
- dwellings current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH).
- The council offices current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value EUV), except for a few offices that are situated close to the council's housing properties, where there is no market for office accommodation, and that are measured at depreciated replacement cost (instant build) as an estimate of current value
- school buildings current value, but because of their specialist nature, are measured at depreciated replacement cost which is used as an estimate of current value
- surplus assets and assets held for sale fair value, determined by the measurement of the highest and best use value of the asset.
- all other operational 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 that 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 to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains (exceptionally, gains might be credited 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(s).

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

### **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 finite 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 useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- vehicles, plant, furniture and equipment straight line allocation over the useful life as estimated by a suitably qualified officer
- Depreciation is charged in the year of disposal, but not in the year of acquisition

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.

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 as follows:

- 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).

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

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale

Assets held for sale are assets:

- immediately available for sale;
- where the sale is highly probable;
- actively marketed;
- expected to be sold within 12 months.

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. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously recognised losses in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale. Schools held on the balance sheet are disposed for nil consideration when they transfer to Academy status. 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, amortisation 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 as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line 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. Receipts related to disposal of dwellings are subject to the pooling requirements and the RTB Retention Agreement. Receipts from non dwelling HRA disposals are retained by the Council for the purposes of affordable housing. 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 non-current 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.

#### Asset Classifications

The Authority has made judgements on whether assets are classified as Investment Property or Property, Plant and Equipment. These judgements are based on the main reason that the Authority is holding the asset. If the asset is used in the delivery of services or is occupied by third parties that are subsidised by the Authority it is deemed to be a Property, Plant and Equipment asset. If there were no subsidy and/or a full market rent being charged this would indicate that the asset is an Investment Property. The classification determines the valuation method used.

#### **Schools**

There are several types of school within the borough. The Code in relation to their recognition on the balance sheet is an area that has been supplemented by Technical Guidance and the authority has undertaken a review of schools on a case by case basis. The Authority recognises schools' assets on the balance sheet where future economic benefits or service potential associated with the school will flow to the authority. Control over service potential is based on control over use of assets over their useful life. The table outlines the types of school within the borough and whether they appear on the authority's balance sheet. Furthermore, schools held on the balance sheet are disposed for nil consideration when they transfer to Academy status.

School Type	On Balance Sheet
Community	✓
Voluntary Controlled (VC)	✓
Voluntary Aided (VA)	×
Trust	×
Foundation	×
Academies	×
Independent	×
Free schools	×

#### **Private Finance Initiative and Similar Contracts**

PFI and similar contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor. As the Authority is deemed to control the services that are provided under its PFI schemes and as ownership of the property, plant and equipment will pass to the Authority at the end of the contracts for no additional charge, the Authority carries the assets used under the contracts on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment. The Authority has two PFI schemes (the provision of three Neighbourhood Resource Centres and two schools) where the assets are carried in its Balance Sheet (excluding one school which converted to academy status 2014/15). The original recognition of these assets at fair value (based on the cost to purchase the property, plant and equipment) was balanced by the recognition of a liability for amounts due to the scheme operator to pay for the capital investment. Non-current assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as property, plant and equipment owned by the Authority. The amounts payable to the PFI operators each year are analysed into five elements:

- fair value of the services received during the year debited to the relevant service
- finance cost an interest charge on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, and debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line
- contingent rent increases in the amount to be paid for the property arising during the contract, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line
- payment towards liability applied to write down the Balance Sheet liability towards the PFI operator (the profile of write-downs is calculated using the same principles as for a finance lease)
- lifecycle replacement costs proportion of the amounts payable is posted to the Balance Sheet as a prepayment and then recognised as additions to property, plant and equipment when the relevant works are eventually carried out.

## **Provisions, Contingent Assets and Liabilities**

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Authority 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 year that the Authority becomes aware of the 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 (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Authority settles the obligation.

# **Contingent Assets**

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority 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 Authority. 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.

# **Contingent Liabilities**

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place that gives the Authority 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 Authority. 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.

#### **Reserves**

The Authority's reserves are reflected in the Movement in Reserves Statement. They include reserves the Authority sets aside for earmarked purposes. An analysis of earmarked reserves is contained within Note 7.

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

## **Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute**

Legislation allows for some expenditure incurred during the year, which does not result in the creation or enhancement of a non-current asset, to be funded from capital resources that under normal accounting practice would be charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. Where it has been determined to meet the cost of this expenditure, usually grants and expenditure on property not owned by the Authority, from capital resources or by borrowing this is accounted for by debiting the Capital Adjustment Account and crediting the General Fund Balance and showing as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement; such that there is no impact on the level of council tax. During 2021/22 the Council utilised the temporary Flexible Use of Capital Receipts directive, which permits the funding of one-off service transformation costs, that will result in on-going savings, from capital receipts.

#### **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.

#### **Annual Governance Statement**

## I. Executive Summary

The Royal Borough of Greenwich acknowledges its responsibility for governance and is committed to the principles of good governance as identified in *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)*.

The Royal Borough is committed to addressing the governance issues raised in this statement and to keep under review the arrangements to address these issues. It will report progress to the Audit and Risk Management Panel.

The Royal Borough remains of the opinion that it has arrangements in place to manage the governance issues and these are fit for purpose. As an organisation it continues to progress key strategies and developments while managing the pressures and the adverse impact of the governance issues identified and those pressures due to the recent pandemic.

We considered the governance issues raised in the 2020/21 Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and we agreed that these issues should continue to be monitored during 2021/22. A review has determined that, while the risks have been controlled, they should continue to be monitored. They should remain in the AGS, and they will continue to be subject to regular review during 2022/23.

#### **Data Breaches**

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the Royal Borough is exposed to the risk of a significant fine from a data breach. Data breaches in recent years have been minor. Further measures are being taken to mitigate the risks that the Royal Borough faces:

- Mandatory Cyber Security training for all staff has been completed;
- Training is planned for staff who routinely work with personal information but do not work with a computer;
- Proposals for the handling of individual rights requests are being prepared; and
- Training is planned for the handling of data breaches which will include lessons learned to help minimise future claims for compensation.

## **ICT - Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity**

This risk, which has been on the AGS for a number of years and had been mitigated to a degree, but as more systems move to the cloud the risks associated with loss of access and hacking were identified as a new strategic risk.

The associated risks increased with the substantial increase in remote working in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Those risks have been mitigated with

- increased cyber security for office and remote working,
- greater internet resilience for cloud services, and
- hosted / cloud solutions spreading the risks.

There are projects in place to address outstanding risks during 2022.

## No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

This remains as a significant governance control issue going forward and the position is under regular review. Expenditure in this area is steadily increasing but the Royal Borough receives no funding to support this work. Further responsibilities were added for rough sleepers and asylum seekers during the pandemic. The Royal Borough also committed to settling some families from Afghanistan. It represents a significant budget pressure as families and individuals may have a right to financial support and there are increasing legal costs incurred by the Royal Borough that are associated with some cases.

## The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The planning process is an essential part of the Royal Borough's strategic planning framework. This governance issue was included and highlights the continued pressure and significant uncertainty around the Local Government Finance Settlement with a further one year only settlement for 2022-23. The Royal Borough's strategic planning and the MTFS have been revised to reflect this uncertainty into future years to 2025-26.

No new key governance issues have been identified to include in the AGS in the current year.

Signed	Signed		
Dated:	Dated:		

## 2.. Key Governance Arrangements

## Scope of responsibility

The Royal Borough has approved and adopted a code of corporate governance based on the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (2016)*. A copy of the code can be obtained from the Director of Finance. In accordance with this framework the Royal Borough has to undertake a review of its systems of internal control at least annually. This statement explains how the Royal Borough has complied with the code and also meets the requirements of regulation 6(1)(a) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 in relation to the effectiveness of its system of internal control.

CIPFA and SOLACE reviewed the Framework in 2015 to ensure it remains 'fit for purpose' and published a revised edition in April 2016.

CIPFA issued a guidance bulletin in February 2021 setting out how the organisation should take account of the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on the governance arrangements as part of its annual review. The guidance and the Royal Borough's approach to 'business as usual' is reflected as part of this review.

#### What is Governance?

Governance is about how the Royal Borough ensures that it is doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. Good governance leads to effective:

- leadership and management;
- performance and risk management;
- stewardship of public money; and
- public engagement and outcomes for our citizens and service users.

#### The governance framework

The core principles of good governance are set out in the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework and the first two are expected to permeate the other core principles:

- Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law;
- Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement;
- Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits;
- Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes;
- Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it:
- Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management; and
- Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability.

The Royal Borough's governance framework is summarised in its Local Code of Corporate Governance. The following paragraphs outline the key elements of the systems and processes that comprise the Royal Borough's governance framework and arrangements, in place in 2021/22 and they summarise how the principles of good governance have been met.

## What is the purpose of a Governance Framework?

The governance framework is summarised in the Code of Corporate Governance, which is reviewed annually. The Code is underpinned by an assurance framework. The governance framework comprises the culture, values, systems and processes by which an organisation is directed and controlled. It enables the Royal Borough 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. The system of internal control is a significant part of the framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It assures that in conducting its business, the Royal Borough:

- operates in a lawful, open, inclusive and honest manner;
- makes sure that public money and assets are safeguarded from inappropriate use, or from loss and fraud, properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively;
- has effective arrangements for the management of risk;
- secures continuous improvement in the way that it operates;
- enables human, financial, environmental and other resources to be managed efficiently and effectively;
- properly maintains records and information; and
- ensures its values and ethical standards are met.

The governance framework has been in place during the year ended 31 March 2022.

#### **Annual Governance Statement**

The AGS is an annual assessment of the governance assurance processes in place to meet the governance framework. This includes Cabinet Member overview and oversight, and robust challenge by the Royal Borough's Statutory Officers i.e. the Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Chief Financial Officer.

In addition, 'an assurance model' is in place which helps Members and Senior Management to understand what the assurance is obtained, what level of reliance they are able to place on that assurance and what potential gaps are identified in that assurance.

Effective risk management and control assurance can come from many sources within the Royal Borough:-

- functions that own and manage risks e.g. management and supervisory controls;
- functions that oversee risks e.g. Governance structures and processes such as Audit and Risk Management (ARM) Panel, Overview and Scrutiny, and Boards; and
- functions that provide independent assurance on the management of risks e.g. OFSTED and Internal/External Audit.

These help the Royal Borough understand how each part contributes to the overall level of assurance and how best they can be integrated and supported. This summarises the Royal Borough's governance assurance framework.

# How does the Royal Borough monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of its governance arrangements?

The Royal Borough annually reviews the effectiveness of its governance arrangements that have been in place during the preceding financial year. The key sources of assurance that inform this review are outlined below:

- The continued development and implementation of a Member / Management governance assurance framework, which enables the Royal Borough to gain assurance that good governance actions and behaviours are operating within the Royal Borough;
- Internal Audit's independent review of the effectiveness of the Local Government Pension Scheme's governance arrangements, which includes the administration of the pension fund;
- The Head of Internal Audit's annual report 2021/22, which provides the independent assurance that key risks (financial and non-financial) are being adequately controlled and provides an opinion on the effectiveness of these arrangements;
- The outcome of risk management activity during 2021/22 and any critical risks identified; and
- Any comments made by the Royal Borough's External Auditors and any other review agencies and inspectorates.

A Corporate Assurance Checklist is prepared which sets out in detail the arrangements in place and how the Royal Borough believes that its arrangements have meet the CIPFA Principles of Good Governance.

## 3. Application of the Financial Management Code

The CIPFA Financial Management Code 2019 (FM Code) was introduced from 2020/21 as a shadow year, ahead of full implementation from 01 April 2021. A key goal of the FM Code is 'to improve financial resilience by embedding enhanced standards of financial management.'

The Director of Finance is able to demonstrate that the key principles of the FM Code are in place; these are set out within the Royal Borough's Local Code of Governance and they are embedded in the Governance Framework:

- Leadership The leadership of the Royal Borough receive reports on alternative applications of available resources, assesses the relative benefits of proposals and develop its Medium Term Financial Strategy to support the Corporate Plan.
- Accountability The Royal Borough applies the Delivering Good Governance in Local
  Governance Framework 2016; the AGS is produced annually with the statement of accounts by
  the Royal Borough, while the budgetary process is used to produce a budget annually and budget
  monitoring is presented to enable the Council's leadership team to make the necessary strategic
  financial decisions and keep those decisions under review during the financial year.
- Transparency The Royal Borough engages with stakeholders and partners to help to develop the long-term financial strategy of the Royal Borough, its MTFS and its annual budget.

- Standards The authority complies with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities, and fulfils its statutory obligation to set a budget annually with a statement by the Director of Finance on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves.
- Assurance Cabinet, Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the ARM Panel provide the key member led review bodies that oversee governance and internal control, receiving reports from the Director of Finance to enable members and chief officers to identify emerging risks and take corrective action.
- Sustainability The Royal Borough has a Medium Term Financial plan for 2021/22, agreed by
  Cabinet is based on the best information available. The Plan assesses the pressures the Royal
  Borough is facing, and the proposals to address those pressures. It will remain subject to review,
  if the Government plans and timescales are not met and a further pandemic wave occurs.

The Director of Finance and the Royal Borough believes that arrangements are in place to comply with the FM Code, but will keep arrangements under review as part of its overall Governance Framework.

#### 4. Review of effectiveness

The Royal Borough has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its governance framework including the system of internal control. The review is informed by the work of the executive managers within the authority who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment, i.e. the Head of Internal Audit's annual report, and by comments made by external auditors.

The Local Code of Governance is the Royal Borough's governance framework; there are various levels of assurance, in particular the level of internal control exerted by the management of the Royal Borough summarised in the Corporate Assurance Checklist for 2021/22.

In reviewing the Royal Borough's governance arrangements in this year, it has considered the arrangements in place and operating for the financial year ended 31 March 2022 and it has also considered the arrangements in response to the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic.

#### Governance arrangements during the Pandemic

The review has considered the evidence of how the governance arrangements operated during the year when there were continued restriction in place in response to the pandemic. The review has considered the effectiveness in the response to ongoing pandemic and how the operations of the Royal Borough have adapted to the rapidly changing situation.

The normal governance process included reviewing-;

- The Royal Borough's constitution which has been updated to reflect the roles and responsibilities of members in the current municipal year;
- Royal Borough meetings were held remotely when restrictions applied and were streamed to give remote access to the public;
- Arrangements for communicating with the citizens of Royal Greenwich and other stakeholders which include providing information, online consultations and meetings;
- Performance management arrangements to ensure the delivery of objectives within the corporate plan within the planned resources;
- Roles, responsibilities and training of members and officers responsible for governance;

- The process for making financially and legally prudent risk assessed decisions and reviewing decisions through the Overview and Scrutiny process;
- Overall risk management arrangements and the process for reporting concerns and complaints;
- Activities of the relevant member committees and panels;
- Activities of the departmental management teams in the delivery of their services plans and the respective contributions to the corporate plan;
- The Head of Internal Audit report on the Royal Borough's internal control arrangements based on internal audit's work programme during the year to ensure compliance with policies and procedures;
- Arrangements for following up actions identified from the previous Annual Governance Review process; and
- The findings of the Royal Borough's external auditors on the work undertaken on the governance of the Royal Borough which previously gave an unqualified opinion on the accounts.

The Royal Borough used the corporate plan 2018-2022 which makes explicit statements about the Royal Boroughs objectives and how it intends to achieve these.

https://www.royalgreenwich.gov.uk/downloads/file/3851/corporate\_plan 2018 to 2022

The operating arrangements have evolved as the restrictions have eased and the business environment has returned to normal. The Royal Borough has consulted with staff on the models for hybrid working in the future which will retain some flexibility between office and home working.

## Climate Change

Climate change represents a potential and significant future risk to the Royal Borough. While there is much uncertainty about the Government agenda and its priorities, especially around any funding in support of initiatives, the Royal Borough continues to evolve its own strategy and approach to climate change, in those areas that it can influence.

Work is already underway preparing for the impact of climate change and the Royal Borough's ambition to be Carbon Neutral by 2030. The Greener Greenwich Strategy 2016 was put in place and the Carbon Neutral Plan 2021-2030 is the current revision / community consultation which includes the following overarching aims:-

- Identify what changes and what actions are necessary to make becoming a carbon neutral borough by 2030;
- Set out planned actions to reduce emissions and to build local capacity to do more in the future;
- Acknowledge need to identify new opportunities locally;
- Continue development in line with the national and international response to climate change;
- Include policy changes and funding opportunities; and
- Monitor advances in technology, social and economic changes.

A Cabinet Member will chair a corporate Task Force to take this forward and the Royal Borough stated intention is to monitor and report on the actions in the Action Plan annually.

As Government arrangements become clearer the Royal Borough will adapt its proposals to takes these on board.

## 5.. Significant governance issues

The Royal Borough is required to keep under review its governance arrangements, and to report any significant issues identified in the AGS. The review considers the management of those issues, actions to be taken and progress in addressing them and any concerns or issues that arise.

In the 2020/21 AGS there were four governance issues to be subject to monitoring and review in 2021/22:

- GDPR and the risk of data Breaches
- IT Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity;
- No Recourse to Public Funds; and
- The Medium Term Financial Strategy

These are summarised below:

#### GDPR and the risk of Data Breaches

Under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) the Royal Borough is exposed to the risk of a significant fine from any breach. Data breaches in recent years have mostly been minor.

Further measures are being taken to mitigate the risks:

- Mandatory Cyber Security training for all staff has been completed;
- Training is planned for staff who routinely work with personal information but do not work with a computer;
- Proposals for the handling of individual rights requests are being prepared; and
- Training is planned for the handling of data breaches and lessons learned to help minimise future claims.

## **ICT - Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity**

This risk, which has been on the AGS for a number of years and had been mitigated to a degree, but as more systems move to the cloud the risks associated with loss of access and hacking were identified as the new strategic risk.

The associated risks increased with the substantial increase in remote working in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Those risks have been mitigated with

- increased cyber security for office and remote working,
- greater internet resilience for cloud services, and
- hosted / cloud solutions spreading the risks.

There are projects in place to address outstanding risks during 2022.

# No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)

This remains as a significant governance control issue going forward and the position is under regular review. Expenditure in this area is steadily increasing but the Royal Borough receives no funding to support this work. Further responsibilities were added for rough sleepers and asylum seekers during the pandemic. The Royal Borough also committed to settling a number of families from Afghanistan. It represents a significant budget pressure as families and individuals may have a right to financial support and there are increasing legal costs incurred by the Royal Borough that are associated with some cases.

## The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)

The planning process is an essential part of the Royal Borough's strategic planning framework. This governance issue was included and highlights the continued pressure and significant uncertainty around the Local Government Finance Settlement with a further one year only settlement for 2022-23. The Royal Borough's strategic planning and the MTFS have been revised to reflect this uncertainty into future years to 2025-26.

## Review of Significant Governance Issues in the AGS

A review of these issues was undertaken with the lead officers and the outcome reported to the Director of Finance. While progress has been made the outcome concluded that these issues should remain on the AGS and monitoring should continue in 2022/23.

The annual review of the Royal Borough's governance arrangements is that it has arrangements in place and the governance issues are fit for purpose. As an organisation the Royal Borough continues to progress key strategies and developments while it is managing the pressures and the adverse impact of the issues identified and the recent pandemic.

While there remains some uncertainty, at this stage it is proposed that these key issues of governance are retained in the AGS and continue to be monitored during 2022-23.

The items identified as governance issues of concern are explained in full as follows:

Governance Area	Governance Control Issue	Action Required	Responsible Officer
GDPR and the risk of Data Breaches	Under the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UKGDPR) the fine associated with a major data breach is £17.5 million.  While the Royal Borough has experienced data breaches in recent years they have been minor, and have not resulted in enforcement action by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO).  There is a risk that a breach, if significant, could result in a material fine.	The Royal Borough has recently rolled out mandatory Cyber Security training to all staff. Completion rates for this training are being monitored to ensure staff complete this training. As part of the next phase of the training rollout, work is taking place to identify and provide suitable training to operational staff who may not routinely use a desktop computer as part of their role, but who may still work with personal and other sensitive data.  An individual rights improvement plan is being developed to improve directorates' handling of individual rights requests. The Royal Borough is in communication with the ICO, in order that they are proactively informed of the measures planned by the Royal Borough. The ICO have advised that they are satisfied with the measures that the Royal Borough is planning in respect of performance.	Director of Improvement, Communities & Environment

When the new Information	
Governance Manager begins in	
January 2022, the provision of	
training on data breaches to	
departmental leads will be	
considered with the Royal	
Borough's Insurance section to	
improve the Royal Borough's	
response to breaches, ensuring	
that the impact of breaches is	
minimised.	

Governance Area	Governance Control Issue	Action Required	Responsible Officer
IT - Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity	The Royal Borough's IT Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity system remains a strategic risk to the Royal Borough, due to the pivotal nature of the service to the Royal Borough's operations.  Having completed the move to our new Data Centre in Slough, the geographical risks have been replaced with contractor failure, network linkage and a new physical location.  The Royal Borough's user estate is now operated in a hybrid mode, with some users on the core environment, while other work with cloud services. Loss of access to the cloud services is now a new strategic risk, along with the hacking of our cloud tenancy.	enabling a distributed workforce.	Director of Finance
		Key remaining risks are: Staff reductions at the Slough data centre. Data backup solution does not meet today's standards. Telephony system is both old and based on-premise. There are active projects to address each of these risks over the course of 2022.	

Governance Area	Governance Control Issue	Action Required	Responsible Officer
No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF)	No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) is an immigration condition restricting access to public funds, including many mainstream benefits such as Income Support and Housing Benefit. Families and individuals may have a right to financial support (accommodation and subsistence) from social services to avoid destitution or because of complex health needs.  In these cases, the Royal Borough has a duty to support the accommodation and subsistence costs of residents with NRPF.  These cases are often complex to assess and unpredictable as to how much they cost or how long they last. The Royal Borough receives no funding to support this work represents a significant budget pressure.  There are also increasing legal costs and legal challenges. As Case Law expands there is a significant risk that the Royal Borough's duties and responsibilities also expand.  The issue remains as a significant governance control issue going forward and the position is under regular review.  Additionally there have been recent changes to the responsibilities required of LAs relating to single rough sleepers and asylum seekers as a result of Covid 19 legislation, which have added to the costs and workload for the NRPFT.	The NRPF Team continues to manage the Royal Borough's response to people who present as requiring support, despite the fact that they have no access to public funds.  The numbers of families supported has increased slightly on the previous year, despite robust gatekeeping and supported families being processed by the Home Office and determined to now have access to public funds.  Applications to the Royal Borough remain high.  The outturn position for Nil Recourse was £2.8m net expenditure and a variance of £2.5m overspend, this is an increase of £700k from 2020/2021. The increase spending in costs is attributable to a higher level overall of assessed need, higher numbers of family members, and increases to rent and subsistence costs.  The team also manages the Sanctuary Project, which is the resettlement of 20 families under a Government scheme to resettle families from UNHCR camps in the Middle East. This project work is in partnership with a range of voluntary organisation, including the Greenwich Islamic Centre, (GIC). The contract and details with the GIC have been revised and agreed.  RBG have also committed to resettling a number of families from Afghanistan under a separate Government scheme. A procurement process is currently underway to commission a provider for this service.	Director of Health and Adult Services

Governance Area	Governance Control Issue	Action Required	Responsible Officer
Medium Term Financial Strategy	The medium-term financial planning process is an essential part of the Royal Borough's strategic planning framework. The Medium-Term Financial Strategy integrates strategic and financial planning over the current and subsequent four-year period. It translates the Royal Borough's priorities into a financial framework which enables the Cabinet and officers to ensure policy initiatives can be delivered within available resources and can be aligned to priority outcomes. The Royal Borough presented a refreshed Medium-Term Financial Strategy which was approved by Royal Borough on 24 February 2022. This highlighted a pressure over the medium term (up to and including 2025/26) of £21.5m. There continues to be significant uncertainty in the medium term for the future funding for local government. The local government finance settlement for 2022/23 is again a one year only settlement, with the deferral again of significant reform of	on the Royal Borough's Continuous Improvement model and updated Corporate Plan.	Director of Finance
	the local government funding.  Fair Funding and Business rates reform		
	Local Government has been awaiting funding reform since the original planned 2019/20 implementation and this was once again deferred for the 2022/23 financial year. Areas of possible reform that have been deferred are:		
	<ul> <li>Fair Funding Review (including the Area cost adjustment - ACA)</li> <li>Business Rate Baseline Reset</li> <li>A move from 50% to 75% Business Rate Retention</li> <li>The potential introduction of the Alternative Business Rate Retention System</li> </ul>		
	No exact timeline was discussed when the settlement was released in December 2021, for when these reforms are now likely to take place. The only Government announcement in respect of reforms was as follows, "Government is committed to ensuring		
	"Government is committed to ensuring that funding allocations for councils are based on an up-to-date assessment of their needs and resources. The data used to assess this has not been updated in a number of years, dating from 2013-14 to a large degree, and even as far back as 2000. Over the		

	coming months, we will work closely with the sector and other stakeholders to update this and to look at the challenges and opportunities facing the sector before consulting on any potential changes".  The demographics today are considerable difference from those 20 years ago which is likely to cause significant changes to the way local government resources are distributed around the country.		
	The lack of a set timetable for implementing the delayed Fair Funding Review and Business Rates Reset raises uncertainty as to whether any potential reforms would be in place for 2023/24.		
	There is a risk that these reforms will be significant, affecting the way local government resources are allocated at both the national and local level. There is a strong possibility that that these reforms mean local government resources are likely to be relocated from London to the districts and in particular to those areas in the north as part of the Government's 'Levelling Up' agenda.		
governance arrar	r the coming year to take steps to a ngements. We are satisfied that thes review of effectiveness and will mon ww.	se steps will address the need	for improvements that we
Signed.		Signed	
Dated:		Dated:	

# **Glossary**

## **Accounting Policies**

Rules and Practices are adopted by the Authority that dictate how transactions and events are shown.

#### Accruals

Income and expenditure are recognised as they are earned or incurred, rather than when money is received or paid.

### **Actuary**

An independent professional who advises on the position of the Pension Fund.

#### **Actuarial Valuation**

The Actuary reviews the assets & liabilities of the Pension Fund every three years.

#### **A**mortisation

A measure of the cost of economic benefits derived from intangible fixed assets that are consumed during the period.

#### **Appropriation**

The assignment of revenue for a specific purpose.

## **Balance Sheet**

A statement of recorded assets, liabilities and other balances at the end of an accounting period.

#### **Better Care Fund**

A pooled budget between the Authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

#### **Business Rates**

A tax on non-domestic properties.

#### **BSF**

Building Schools for the Future.

### **Capital Expenditure**

Expenditure on new assets such as land and buildings or on the enhancement of existing assets so as to significantly prolong their useful life or increase their market value.

## **Capital Receipts**

Income received from the disposal of land, buildings and other capital assets.

#### **Carrying Amount**

The amount at which an asset is recognised after deducting any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

#### **CIPFA**

Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting

#### **Collection Fund Account**

A fund operated by the billing authority into which all receipts of council tax and national non-domestic rates are paid.

## **Community Assets**

Assets that the Authority intends to hold in perpetuity, which have no determinable useful life and which may have restrictions on their disposal e.g. parks and historic buildings.

## **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CSIE)**

Statement of net cost for the year of all the Authority's services, and how this cost is financed from government grant and local taxpayers.

#### **Council Tax**

A tax on domestic properties introduced 1st April 1993 to replace the Community Charge.

#### CPI

Consumer Prices Index – a measure of inflation.

#### **Creditors**

Amounts owed by the Authority for goods and services received where payment has not been made at the date of the Balance Sheet.

#### **Debtors**

Amounts owed to the Authority for goods and services provided but not received at the Balance Sheet date.

#### **Defined Benefit Scheme**

A pension or other retirement benefit scheme other than a defined contribution scheme. Usually, the scheme rules define the benefits independently of the contributions payable, and the benefits are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

## **Defined Contribution Scheme**

A pension or other retirement benefit scheme into which an employer pays regular contributions as an amount or as a percentage of pay and will have no legal or constructive obligation to pay further contributions if the scheme does not have sufficient assets to pay all employee benefits relating to employee service in the current and prior periods.

## **Depreciation**

The loss in value of an asset due to age, wear and tear, deterioration or obsolescence.

#### **Earmarked Reserves**

Amounts set aside for a specific purpose or a particular service or type of expenditure.

#### Fair Value

Fair value is defined as the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, assuming that the transaction was negotiated between parties knowledgeable about the market in which they are dealing and willing to buy/sell at an appropriate price, with no other motive in their negotiations other than to secure a fair price.

#### **Finance Lease**

A lease that transfers substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership to the lessee. Assets under such leases are recognised as the lessee's property.

## Financial Instruments Adjustment Account (FIAA)

Provides a balancing mechanism between the different rates at which gains and losses are recognised under the Code and are required by statute to be met from the General Fund.

#### **General Fund**

The account that summarises the revenue costs of providing services that are met by the Authority's demand on the collection fund, specific government grants and other income.

## **Gross Expenditure**

Total expenditure before deducting income.

## **Heritage Asset**

An asset with, historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical, environmental or cultural significance.

# **Highways Network Asset**

A grouping of interconnected components, expenditure on which is only recoverable by continued use of the asset created, i.e. there is no prospect of sale or alternative use. Components include carriageways, footways and cycle tracks, structures, street lighting, street furniture, traffic management systems and land.

## Highways infrastructure asset

Highways infrastructure assets are the elements that make up the highway such as roads, pavements, drains, bridges and street lights and road signs.

## **HRA**

This is the Housing Revenue Account, which includes the expenditure and income for the provision of rented dwelling. Items to be included are prescribed by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

#### IASI9

IAS19 is a complex accounting standard, but is based upon a simple principle – that an organisation should account for retirement benefits when it is committed to give them, even if the actual giving will be many years into the future. Following the adoption of IAS19, the net pensions asset/liability to be recognised is made up of two main elements:

- Liabilities the retirement benefits that have been promised
- Assets the attributable share of investments held to cover the liabilities.

#### **IFRS**

International Financial Reporting Standards.

#### **Impairment**

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset, as shown in the balance sheet, to reflect its true value.

#### **Infrastructure Assets**

Non-current assets that cannot be easily disposed of, expenditure on which is only recovered by continued use of the asset e.g. highways and footpaths.

## **Investment Property**

A property which is held solely to earn rentals or for capital appreciation.

## **Liability Driven Investment (LDI)**

A form of investing in which the main goal is to gain sufficient assets to meet all liabilities, both current and future. This form of investing is most prominent with defined-benefit pension plans.

#### **MTFS**

Medium Term Financial Strategy.

#### **Minimum Revenue Provision**

Amount that the Authority has determined to set aside each year as a provision for the repayment of debt.

#### **Net Book Value**

The amount at which Property Plant and Equipment are included in the balance sheet, i.e. their historical cost or current value less the cumulative amounts provided for depreciation.

## **Net Expenditure**

Gross expenditure less income.

#### **Non-Current Assets**

(In)tangible assets that result in benefits to the Authority and the services it provides for more than one year.

## **Non-Operational Assets**

Non-current assets held by the Authority but not used or consumed in the delivery of services e.g. investment properties and assets that are surplus to requirements.

#### **NRC**

Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

# **Operating Lease**

A lease other than a finance lease. Allows the Council use of the leased asset, but not ownership.

#### Outturn

Actual income and expenditure for a financial year.

#### **Precept**

The charge made by one authority on another to finance its net expenditure.

## **Private Finance Initiative (PFI)**

Government initiative under which the Authority buys the services of a private sector supplier to design, build, finance and operate a public facility.

#### **Provision**

Amounts set aside for any liability or loss that is likely to be incurred, but where the exact amount and date is uncertain.

#### **PWLB**

Public Works Loans Board (advances loans to local authorities).

#### **Rateable Value**

The value of a property for rating purposes set by the Valuation Office Agency, an executive agency of HM Revenue and Customs. Business rates payable are calculated by multiplying the rateable value of the property by the rate in the pound set by the government.

#### Reserves

The net worth of the authority (the sum of its net assets).

## **Revenue Expenditure**

Regular day-to-day running costs incurred in providing services e.g. employee costs and purchase of materials.

## **Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute**

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions, but does not result in the creation or enhancement of Authority owned assets.

## **Revenue Support Grant**

The main grant paid by central government to the Authority towards the costs of all its services.

#### **RPI**

Retail Prices Index - a measure of inflation.

#### **Section 151 Officer**

The Chief Finance Officer as set out under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### **SoDoPS**

Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services.

#### **Soft Loans**

Funds advanced or taken on at less than market rates.

# **Support Services**

Activities of a professional, technical and administrative nature, which support front line services.

#### The Code

The Accounting Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

## **Teckal**

A company that carries out the essential part of its activities and in any case, more than 80% of its work, for the Authority, whereby the local authority exercises control over it similar to that which it exercises over its own departments.

#### **Unusable Reserves**

Element of the net worth of the authority that is not generally cash backed i.e. they are not available to be used (e.g. Revaluation Reserve).

#### **Usable Reserves**

Element of the net worth of the authority that is generally cash backed and set aside for specific purposes.