## Assumptions to the General Fund Medium-Term Financial Plan

Item	2024/25 Assumption	Future Years Assumptions
Pay costs	3.5%	2% per annum.
Employer pension costs		£174,000 for 2025/26 as per triennial valuation. 2026/27 and beyond assumes the same level.
Members allowances	3.5%	3.5% per annum
Supplies and services	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	2%
Insurance	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	3%
Capital financing/MRP	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	This is now aligned with the Capital Programme 2024/25 – 2028/29 and includes MRP on fleet.
Fuel	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	2%
Utilities	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	2%
Recharge income from the HRA	As per cost pressures outlined in the 2024/25 draft budget	Movement is in line with overall movement in the General Fund
Council Tax	2.99% increase and council tax base as approved by FMC 11 January 2024	2.99% council tax increase and growth rate of 2.6%
Retained Business Rates	2024/25. Also includes a pruden	As per separate detailed technical computations in line with the national rates system, as advised by the council's funding advisor and their strategic financial modelling tool.
New Homes Bonus	As per the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2024/25.	Scheme is abolished from 2025.
Services Grant	As per the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement 2024/25.	Nil

Revenue Support Grant	Nil	Nil
Lower Tier Services Grant	Nil	Nil
Funding Guarantee	Scheme remains in place for 2024/25 at the 2023/24 reward level.	tNil
Contribution from reserves	As required to balance the budget	As required to balance the budget
Locally generated income		3% for cemeteries. No other assumed increases. This is an area subject to further review and links with the emerging MTFS.
Damping (transitionary funding)		Transitionary funding to ease in the effect of the Fair Funding review and business rates baseline reset, assumed to be implemented in 2026/27. The payments are triggered when there is a change in core spending power (funding) of more than 5% between any year.
Interest Receivable	4% Interest rate assumed based or treasury advisors Arlingclose's strategy review.	2% in line with Office for Budget Responsibility forecasts for inflation and interest post April 2025.