



South
Derbyshire
District Council

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2014/15



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Explanatory Foreword

INTRODUCTION

The Council's financial performance for the year ended 31 March 2015 is set out in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and its financial position is set out in the Balance Sheet and Cash Flow Statement.

These financial statements have been prepared in line with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code). The purpose of this foreword is to highlight and summarise the key facts and figures which make up the Council's financial standing, which is detailed in the various statements and disclosure notes. The foreword also explains reasons for the major changes in the Council's financial position from that reported in the previous year, 2013/14.

The Statement follows approved accounting standards and is necessarily technical in parts. A glossary is provided at the end of this document to explain the main terms and technicalities associated with the Council's Accounts.

In accordance with accounting practice, the Council has reported its financial position in a series of accounting statements as detailed below.

THE ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

The Movement in Reserves Statement

This Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into "**usable reserves**" (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other "**unusable**" reserves. The Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Authority's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES).

These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance and the Housing Revenue Account for Council Tax setting and Council House rent setting purposes. The Net Increase/Decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the statutory General Fund Balance and the Housing Revenue Account balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Councils raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the Council's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council.

Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of

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reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt).

The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve) where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

The Cash Flow Statement

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

The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery.

Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

Changes to the Financial Statements

There have been no significant changes to the Financial Statements for year ended 31 March 2015. Some disclosures have been updated to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with best practice.

Accounting Policies

The Council's Accounting Policies are set out in Note 1 to the Financial Statements. There have been no significant changes in the Accounting Policies during the year.

Financial Report

This foreword now goes on to explain the broad facts and figures regarding the Council's financial performance and position for 2014/15.

OVERVIEW OF SERVICE SPENDING

The statutory financial statements are intended to fulfil external reporting requirements and provide a comprehensive assessment of the Council's financial position. Management accounts, which show individual service expenditure, were reported to the Council on 25th June 2015.

These reported the financial performance of Council services against the Budget for the year at a more detailed service level, the effect on reserves, together with explanations for budget variances and where income and expenditure changed during the year. The report is available at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1879/Committee/391/Default.aspx>

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INCOME and EXPENDITURE

A summary of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure of the Council for 2014/15 is shown in the following table:

Income and Expenditure 2014/15 £000's	2013/14	2014/15	Change
Cost of Services	7,034	4,172	2,862
Other Operating Income (-) / Expenditure	719	(773)	1,492
Net Interest and Investment Income	2,196	2,333	(137)
Taxation and Grant Income	(12,113)	(12,146)	33
Net Surplus on Services	(2,164)	(6,414)	4,250
Accounting Surplus on Revaluation of Assets	(3,930)	(1,531)	(2,399)
Accounting change in Pensions Liability	(5,575)	6,241	(11,816)
Net Surplus on Provision of Services	(11,669)	(1,704)	(9,965)

The income and expenditure shows the accounting cost, or in the Council's case, the accounting surplus of providing services. This is before adjustments are made for capital transactions, for example, the cost of financing major repairs in Council Housing. This expenditure is not directly shown in this Statement as it is capitalised and increases the value of Council Housing assets in the Balance Sheet. The financing of actual cash expenditure is adjusted through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Net Surplus on Services – Accounting Basis

The increase in the "Net Surplus on Services" between 2013/14 and 2014/15 is mainly due to additional income received. Firstly, in the "Cost of Services" line in the above table, approximately £3m of Section 106 Developer Contributions, associated with new residential development, was received. These funds are earmarked and set aside in a ring-fenced reserve until drawn down or passed onto other agencies to meet costs associated with new infrastructure – health and leisure facilities, etc.

Secondly, within "Other Operating Income and Expenditure," a capital receipt of approximately £1.4m (net of disposal costs) was received from the sale of development land which is part of a major regeneration project in the area (as detailed later in this Foreword Statement). The sale proceeds have been transferred to an earmarked reserve as they are committed to financing the cost of a new Council Depot facility.

Overall Surplus – Accounting Basis

However, the overall surplus on the provision of services decreased in 2014/15, compared to 2013/14, on an accounting basis. This was due to the increase in the Pension Fund Deficit as valued by the Fund's actuary, with a change in the accounting value of approximately £11.8m. The reason for this is detailed later in this Explanatory Foreword.

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COUNCIL RESERVES

After accounting adjustments and transfers between reserves, the balance of Council funds as at 31st March 2015 is shown in the following table:

Movement in Reserves 2014/15	Usable Revenue Reserves	Usable Capital Reserves	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
£000's					
Balance as at 31st March 2014	11,956	6,849	18,805	16,971	35,775
Add: Net Surplus on Services	6,414	-	6,414	(4,710)	1,704
Adjustments between accounting and funding basis	(3,677)	2,189	(1,488)	1,488	-
Balance as at 31st March 2015	14,690	9,040	23,730	13,749	37,479

The above table shows that the Council's Usable Reserves have increased in the year by approximately £4.9m, mainly due to the additional income received from the Section 106 contributions and the capital receipt as detailed above.

An analysis of Usable Reserves is shown in the following table:

Change in Usable Reserves	As at 31st March 2014	As at 31st March 2015	Change
£000's			
Revenue Reserves			
General Fund	5,912	6,135	223
Housing Revenue Account	2,810	2,381	(429)
Earmarked Reserves	3,234	6,174	2,940
Total - Revenue Reserves	11,956	14,690	2,734
Capital Reserves			
Capital Receipts Reserve	3,500	5,179	1,679
Capital Grants Unapplied	1,701	2,158	457
Major Repairs Reserve	1,648	1,703	55
Total - Capital Reserves	6,849	9,040	2,191

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HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA)

Although included in the overall Income and Expenditure Statement, the Council is required to account separately for the costs of providing Council Housing. This is undertaken in a supplementary financial statement called the Housing Revenue Account, or HRA.

The costs within the HRA must be met by the income it receives from tenants, mainly in the form of housing rents. Any surplus or deficit is adjusted through the Housing Revenue Account Reserve which has to remain “ring-fenced” from other Council reserves. Performance on the HRA account for 2014/15, with a comparison to 2013/14, is shown in the following table.

HRA Income and Expenditure 2014/15 £000's	2013/14	2014/15	Change
Supervision and Management	5,780	5,885	105
Repairs and Maintenance	2,668	3,305	637
Total Expenditure	8,448	9,190	742
Less: Rent and other Income	(12,274)	(12,887)	(613)
Net Cost of HRA Services	(3,826)	(3,697)	129
HRA share of central costs	187	144	(43)
Interest and capital charges	1,591	1,793	202
Accounting change in Pensions Liability	227	195	(32)
Net Surplus on HRA Services (before adjustments)	(1,821)	(1,565)	256

The table shows that additional expenditure was incurred on Repairs and Maintenance during 2014/15, compared to 2013/14, due to new planned maintenance contracts commencing in the year; this was financed from additional rent income as rents were increased by an average of 5.5% in 2014/15.

The additional interest charges were due to the early termination of loan debt as explained later in the Explanatory Foreword (Page 9).

Effect on the HRA Reserve

After adjustments between an accounting and funding basis, a deficit for the year of £429k was charged to the HRA Reserve. This is shown in the following table.

HRA- Funding Deficit 2014/15 £000's	2014/15
Net Surplus on Services before Accounting Adjustments	(1,565)
Reverse Depreciation and Accounting Charges	(3,793)
Contribution to Capital Works	5,500
Contribution to New Build Reserve	287
HRA Deficit on a Funding Basis	429

The contributions to capital works and the New Build Reserve are annual contributions to meet major improvements to the existing housing stock and to provide new council houses.

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THE COLLECTION FUND

The Collection Fund is the statutory account that records the collection of Council Tax and Business Rates and shows how that income has been distributed to the Government and other Preceptors on the Fund, including this Council. Similar to the HRA, the financial transactions are recorded in a supplementary accounting statement.

Performance on the Collection Fund for 2014/15, with a comparison to 2013/14, is shown in the following table.

Collection Fund Account 2014/15 £000's	2013/14	2014/15	Change
Council Tax Income	44,151	45,729	1,578
Business Rates Income	22,015	22,823	808
Total Income	66,166	68,552	2,386
Council Tax Precepts	43,514	44,822	1,308
Business Rates Precepts	20,730	21,080	350
Previous Year's Surplus Paid to Preceptors	0	173	173
Cost of Collection	91	91	0
Provision for Write-offs	1,800	460	(1,340)
Provision for Appeals	628	54	(574)
Surplus / Deficit (-) on the Fund	(597)	1,872	2,555
Fund Balance Brought Forward 1/4/14	69	(528)	(597)
Surplus (-) / Deficit on the Fund (as above)	(597)	1,872	2,469
Fund Balance as at 31st March 2015	(528)	1,344	1,872
Council Tax Element	358	696	338
Business Rates Element	(886)	648	1,534

The increase in income during 2014/15 was due to growth in the number of both residential and commercial properties, i.e. the Council's Tax Base. The provision for both write-offs and appeals was much lower in 2014/15 compared to 2013/14. This was due to provisions being set up in 2013/14 for Business Rates following the change in the national system for financing local authorities.

Together with the increase in income, this generated a surplus of £1.872m on the overall Fund and brought the Business Rates element back into surplus as at 31st March 2015.

The total balance on the Fund is due to all preceptors in proportion to their individual precepts compared to all others. The amount due to South Derbyshire is £79k for Council Tax and £265k for Business Rates.

The decision on whether to allocate any surplus to preceptors is made as part of the annual budget round.

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CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCING

The Council incurs expenditure in acquiring new assets or through undertaking significant improvements to existing assets. Most of this expenditure is financed from external contributions, grants and from the Council's own reserves.

The Council spent approximately £7.5m on capital schemes during 2014/15, almost the same amount in round terms as in the previous year, 2013/14. A significant part of this spend was invested in improvements to council houses (£5.6m) with a further £1.4m being invested in upgrading leisure and recreational facilities. None of this expenditure was financed by borrowing in 2014/15.

BORROWING AND INVESTMENTS

The Council has debt outstanding of approximately £57.5m as at 31st March 2015 (£58.5m in 2013/14). This is all associated with its Housing Stock and is due to be repaid in instalments over the next 20 to 25 years. There are 6 individual loans outstanding all with the Government's Public Works Loan Board.

Besides £10m, all of this debt is at fixed interest rates, with the average being 3.17%. The interest rate on the variable rate debt in 2014/15 was 0.75% (0.57% in 2013/14). The debt outstanding is below the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (or Debt Cap) of £68m. The Council services the debt outstanding and makes provision to repay this debt within its accounts each year.

As at 31st March 2015, the Council had £12m (£2m in 2013/14) on short-term deposit. This money was placed with other local authorities earning an average interest rate of 0.48% (0.31% in 2013/14). The Council has no long term investment portfolio with all fixed term deposits being for less than 364 days.

Full details of the Council's borrowing and investments for 2014/15 are detailed in its Annual Treasury Management Report which is available at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1879/Committee/391/Default.aspx>

Repayment of Debt

In October 2014, the Council prematurely repaid an outstanding money market loan of £1m. This loan was at a fixed rate 4.875%, maturing in 2032 with interest payments of £48,750 per year.

This repayment followed the lender approaching the Council to see what price it was willing to pay to repay the loan early. Following recent bank restructurings, the Bank was effectively being directed, under regulation, to clear loan instruments such as these.

Therefore, the Council's treasury advisors negotiated a deal for the Council to buy-out of the loan early. The price negotiated had to be at such a level that savings in interest in later years were greater than the early termination fee. Agreement was reached and the loan was repaid on 2nd October 2014. The termination fee was £242,959.

The saving in interest over the remaining life of the loan is approximately £828,000 (17 years at £48,750) with "pay-back" within 5 years. The principal repaid was financed within the HRA's Capital Financing Requirement.

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THE COUNCIL'S BALANCE SHEET

The Balance Sheet shows the value, at 31 March 2015, of the Council's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. A summary of the Balance Sheet is shown in the following table.

Summary Balance Sheet 2014/15 £000's	2013/14	2014/15	Change
Value of Fixed Assets (Property, Plant, etc.)	108,386	112,176	3,790
Current Assets (Cash on Deposit, etc.)	12,719	18,758	6,039
Total Assets	121,105	130,934	9,829
Less Liabilities (Debt, Provisions and Pensions)	(85,330)	(93,455)	(8,125)
Net Assets	35,775	37,479	1,704

The overall value of the Council's Net Assets increased slightly in 2014/15 by approximately £1.7m. However, within this, the asset value increased by approximately £9.8m, largely offset by an increase in liabilities of approximately £8.1m.

Total Assets

The increase was due to an overall increase in the value of the Council's land and property holdings as valued by the District Valuer.

In addition, current assets also increased due to the amount of cash on short-term deposit, increasing as at 31st March 2015 by £10m, compared to that on deposit as at March 2014. This is highlighted earlier in the Foreword Statement and reflects that the Council's cash position was stronger over the year.

Liabilities

The increase in liabilities is largely due to the value of the Pension Fund Deficit increasing in 2014/15, based on an interim actuarial valuation. This recognises that overall there is still an underlying liability in the long-term regarding retirement benefits.

The net increase in the deficit in 2014/15 is approximately £7m. This is mainly due to the falling value of bonds and to a lesser extent, the cost of defined benefits in the short-term. This has been offset to some extent by stronger performance on other assets, in particular from investment funds and unit trusts. This deterioration in short term performance of the Fund's assets has been reflected in the longer term financial assumptions made by the Actuary.

Statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council is not affected in any one year.

Effectively, the deficit on the Pension Fund is being met over the long-term by increased contributions from employees and reducing benefits for future pensioners. These are part of on-going changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme to ensure that pension deficits are funded with minimal impact on the Council Tax Payer.

Explanatory Foreword

MATERIAL FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

Besides the repayment of debt of £1m, as detailed on Page 9, there were 2 other material transactions in the 2014/15, due to their exceptional nature and value involved. These related to the receipt of a capital sum and the commitment to pay an Efficiency Dividend to local Council Tax payers.

Capital Receipt from Assets held for Sale

In 2013/14, the Council entered into an agreement to sell land, on the outskirts of the Town Centre in Swadlincote, for development. This development is part of a major regeneration project which will comprise new housing and leisure facilities, together with the relocation of the Council's main works Depot to a new purpose built facility.

The Council owned land was valued for sale at approximately £3.5m. The land will be sold in 3 phases. The first phase was sold during the year and the Council received a net sum (after cost) of approximately £1.4m. This sum is earmarked as contribution to the wider regeneration project and the relocation of the Depot.

As highlighted earlier, the transaction is shown on the face of the Income and Expenditure Statement and has been transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve, earmarked for the purposes explained above. Further receipts are expected in 2015/16 and 2016/17.

Efficiency Dividend

In March 2015, the Council committed to paying an Efficiency Dividend to local Council Tax payers. This will be repaid at a rate of £6.20 per qualifying household in July 2015 by crediting individual Council Tax bills for 2015/16.

The total cost to the Council is estimated at £270,000, including administrative costs of £40,000. This amount has been charged to the accounts in 2014/15 to realise the commitment against the Council's General Fund Reserve.

Details regarding the proposal to pay an Efficiency Dividend can be found within the report considered by the Council in making this decision at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1711/Committee/364/Default.aspx>

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COUNCIL SPENDING & THE FUTURE FINANCIAL POSITION

The Council's detailed budget and spending plans for 2015/16 and the projected medium-term financial position to 2020 is available at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1768/Committee/367/Default.aspx>

The Council was able to set a balanced budget for 2015/16 and is estimated to have a small surplus in 2016/17. Following several years of budget reductions, the Council's financial position has steadily improved over the last 2 years and has stabilised. However, the current Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) highlights budget deficits from 2017/18 onwards. Current base costs are forecast to increase year after year due to inflation and growth.

The Council does have a good track record of spending within its Budget and in recent years has absorbed inflation and growth. This has enabled it to build up a good level of general reserves as highlighted in these accounts.

The Council continues to benefit through increased income, mainly through planning fees, the New Homes Bonus and more recently, business rates growth. These income streams can be volatile and not guaranteed, being subject to external factors. Some of this income has also been reinvested back into services to meet increased demand

Future Deficits

The Council is forecasted to slip back into deficit over the remaining 3 years of the current MTFP to 2019/20. This forecasts that current net service expenditure will grow by approximately £1.1m over the 5 year planning period (just over 10%).

In contrast, core funding is only estimated to increase by £100k over the same period due to further reductions anticipated in Government funding. This will be a major factor in the Council's forward plan. Therefore, current financial planning is based on this scenario and the risk is being managed accordingly.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Besides the financial facts and figures contained in these accounts, the Council sets out (in its Annual Governance Statement – "AGS") how it approaches and aims to continually develop "Governance." This shows how the Council ensures that it does the right things, in the right way, for the right people in a timely, inclusive, open and accountable manner. As such, it comprises the systems, processes, culture and values by which it is directed and controlled and through which it accounts to, engages and leads its local community.

The Council's main focus in 2015/16 will be to develop a new Council Plan following the formulation of a new Council in May 2015.

AND FINALLY

The following sections set out the Council's Accounts and Financial Statements for 2014/15. As highlighted earlier, to meet accounting standards, they are necessarily detailed and technical in nature.

Further information is available from the Council at www.south-derbys.gov.uk or by e-mail to customer.services@south-derbys.gov.uk and reference any queries as ***Statement of Accounts***.

Statement of Responsibilities for the Statement of Accounts

The Council's Responsibilities

The Council is required:

- ➔ To make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs; and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In the Council that officer is the Director of Finance & Corporate Services;
- ➔ To manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets; and
- ➔ To approve the Statement of Accounts.

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services' Responsibilities

The Director of Finance and Corporate Services is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in Great Britain ('the Code of Practice').

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services has:

- ➔ Selected suitable accounting policies and then applied them consistently;
- ➔ Made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- ➔ Complied with the Code of Practice.


The Director of Finance and Corporate Services has also:

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

Certification by the Director of Finance and Corporate Services

I certify that this Statement of Accounts has been prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices and presents a true and fair view of the financial position of the Council at 31 March 2015, and its income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.

SIGNED



Governance Statement

A SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

South Derbyshire District Council is responsible for ensuring that its business is conducted in accordance with the law and proper standards, and that public money is safeguarded and properly accounted for and used economically, efficiently and effectively. The Council also has a duty under the Local Government Act of 1999, to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

In discharging this overall responsibility, the Council is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for the governance of its affairs, facilitating the effective exercise of its functions, which includes arrangements for the management of risk.

Consequently, the Council has formulated a 'Local Code of Corporate Governance', which is consistent with the principles of the CIPFA/SOLACE Framework 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government'. This Code is subject to a half-yearly review and is monitored by the Council's Audit Sub Committee. The Sub-Committee approved the Code for 2014/15 in June 2015 and this is at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1838/Committee/387/Default.aspx>

This Annual Governance Statement explains how South Derbyshire District Council has complied with the Local Code of Corporate Governance and also meets the requirements of Regulation 4(2) of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2003, as amended by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2006, in relation to the publication of a statement on internal control.

B THE PURPOSE OF THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The Governance Framework comprises:

- The systems and processes, culture and values, by which the Council is directed and controlled.
- The activities through which it accounts to, engages with and leads the community.

It enables the Council to monitor the achievement of its strategic objectives and to consider whether those objectives have led to the delivery of appropriate economical, efficient and effective services.

The system of internal control is a significant part of that framework and is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level. It cannot eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives and can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The system of internal control is based on an on-going process, designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Council's policies, aims and strategic objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, in order to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The Governance Framework detailed in this Statement has been in place at South Derbyshire District Council for the year ended 31st March 2015, up to the date that the Annual Report and Statement of Accounts were approved.

C THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK AT SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

The key elements of the systems and processes that comprise South Derbyshire District Council's Governance Framework are set out in the following sections.

Governance Statement

Decision Making

The Council operates under a Constitution. This sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that these are efficient, transparent and accountable to local people. It sets out the individual roles and responsibilities of Members and the three statutory officers (i.e. the Head of Paid Service, the Chief Finance Officer and the Monitoring Officer).

The Full Council makes decisions on key policies and sets the budget and levels of local taxation for the Council's services. The Constitution includes the delegation from Full Council down to the Policy Committees and provides a Scheme of Delegation to Officers.

Policy Making

This is facilitated through 3 policy committees which are responsible for the main service areas of the Council and are:

- Environmental and Development Services
- Housing and Community Services
- Finance and Management

Each Committee is governed by its own Terms of Reference, as laid down in the Constitution. Meetings of these committees are open to the public, except where issues of an exempt nature are being disclosed.

An Overview and Scrutiny Committee has 'call-in' powers to consider the appropriateness of Policy Committee decisions. It also shadows the policy committees, supports policy development and review, together with carrying out external reviews on issues that affect South Derbyshire.

Six Area Forums, a Parish Liaison Meeting and a Flood Liaison Meeting are well established and these meet throughout the year. These forums are designed to improve community involvement in decision-making and provide a continuous link with local residents, parish councils, the voluntary sector and other public bodies.

Governance and Accountability

The Council designated the Legal and Democratic Services Officer as its Monitoring Officer during 2014/15.

It is the function of the Monitoring Officer to ensure compliance with established policies, procedures, laws and regulations. After consulting with the Head of the Council's Paid Service (the Chief Executive) and Chief Finance Officer, the Monitoring Officer will report to Full Council if they consider that any proposal, decision or omission would give rise to unlawfulness or maladministration.

Such a report will have the effect of stopping the proposal or decision being implemented until the report has been considered.

In addition, the Council operates 2 regulatory committees focusing on Development Control (planning applications and enforcement) and a Licensing and Appeals Committee.

Furthermore, a Standards Committee, which contains independent (of the Council) members, oversees the conduct of elected councillors.

Accountability for the use of public funds and service provision is largely undertaken through the annual publication of a Statement of Accounts and an Annual Report.

Governance Statement

The Local Code of Corporate Governance

The Council has adopted a National Code developed by CIPFA/SOLACE. The Code is subject to regular six monthly reviews by a Senior Officer Group reporting to the Audit Sub-Committee. This helps to inform this Governance Statement.

Standards of Financial Conduct

Financial management is conducted in accordance with financial management and procedural rules, as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution. The Council has designated the Director of Finance and Corporate Services in accordance with Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972.

This Officer is responsible for making arrangements for the proper administration of financial affairs in accordance with best professional practice.

The Council's financial management arrangements conform to the governance requirements of the CIPFA Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government (2010).

In addition, under the CIPFA Code of Audit Practice, the Council has a responsibility to ensure that its affairs are managed in accordance with proper standards and to prevent and detect fraud and corruption. The Council has adopted a Fraud and Corruption Strategy.

The financial management system includes:

- A Medium Term Financial Plan.
- An annual budget cycle incorporating Council approval for revenue and capital budgets, together with a Treasury Management Strategy
- Financial Procedure Rules that are reviewed as required
- Process and procedure guidance manuals
- Annual Accounts supporting stewardship responsibilities, which are subjected to external audit and which follow Proper Accounting Practice and International Financial Reporting Standards
- Regular budget monitoring by budget holders through monthly financial monitoring reports
- Identification of financial risks that are regularly reviewed and updated

Standards of Overall Conduct

Members and Officers of the Council operate under codes of conduct. These codes provide a set of standards of conduct expected of employees at work and for councillors in performing their public duties. In addition, both Members and Officers are required to declare interests and register gifts and hospitality which are valued at over £100.

The codes take into account the requirements of the law and the provisions of official conduct in the appropriate National Conditions of Service (for employees).

The Council Leader and the Chief Executive are the Corporate Governance Champions for Members and Officers respectively, designed to create a climate of openness, support and respect, promoting a strong ethical culture and upholding the values of good governance.

The Standards Committee is responsible for considering written complaints against elected or co-opted Members of both the District Council and the Parishes of South Derbyshire.

Governance Statement

Development of Members and Officers

Members and officers receive a thorough induction tailored to their role in the Council, including when they take on new roles. The Council has adopted an e-induction system for Officers and induction training is undertaken by Members at the beginning of each four year term of office.

Members also have access to regional training courses and seminars organised through the forum of East Midlands Regional Councils.

In addition, on an annual basis, existing and new Members of the Development Control, Standards and Licensing & Appeals Committees must attend training sessions to enable them to continue to sit on these Committees, to ensure that they are fully briefed on all new developments in these areas.

The Council provides a full range of development opportunities for Members with ad-hoc training and briefing sessions.

Establishing Council Objectives

These are set out in the Council's Corporate Plan. This is effectively the Council's business/forward plan, set for five years and reviewed on an annual basis. This plan sets out the Council's vision for South Derbyshire, its values and the priorities for delivering services for local communities.

The Sustainable Community Strategy for South Derbyshire (2009-2029) is co-ordinated by The South Derbyshire Partnership. This sets out the District wide priorities across a range of public service providers that include the District Council, County Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, Health Authority and the Voluntary Sector. This plan aims to improve the overall economic, social and environmental wellbeing of South Derbyshire by addressing issues that are important to the local community, business and service providers.

Compliments and Complaints

The Council has a Corporate Compliments and Complaints Policy. This is used to help identify service improvements from compliments, complaints and other comments received. Information is collated centrally and reported half yearly to the Finance and Management Committee, where performance can be challenged and areas for improvement identified.

Arrangements are also in place for dealing with and monitoring Ombudsman's complaints and reporting annually to Full Council.

The Council also has arrangements in place for whistleblowing to which staff and all those contacting the Council have access. The confidential reporting code is reviewed regularly and publicised.

Organisational Assessment and Performance Review

The Council has in place a range of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which it uses to measure performance. Indicators are developed for each of the Council's main priorities in the Corporate Plan, alongside specific indicators in service plans.

In addition to the Annual External Audit placed upon the Council, the main organisational assessment is around Value for Money. This assessment is undertaken by the Council's External Auditors who judge and report on the Council's arrangements for:

Governance Statement

- Securing financial resilience
- Challenging and improving value for money

From time-to-time, External Audit also undertakes specific detailed studies on a certain activity or aspect of the Council and makes recommendations for improvement where necessary.

Data Quality

A key element of reporting performance is the information that underpins it, i.e. data quality. This is to ensure that the Council arrangements for recording and collecting information are robust so that the evidence and management information can be trusted. The Council has adopted a Strategy to govern data quality and its arrangements are subject to regular review, including an annual audit.

Data Management

The Council has a Data Retention Policy which set out its requirements to ensure compliance with Data Protection and Freedom of Information Requirements.

Business Improvement

To support service delivery, the Council has, through its Strategic Corporate Services Partnership with Northgate Public Services, a dedicated Business Improvement Team (BIT). This is intended to co-ordinate greater efficiency and effectiveness in the use of Council resources and works to an improvement programme which is overseen by a Business Improvement Board.

Procurement

The BIT also provides a dedicated central procurement unit to ensure that purchasing is legal, ethical and accountable and is carried out in accordance with regulatory and legislative requirements.

Continuous Service Review

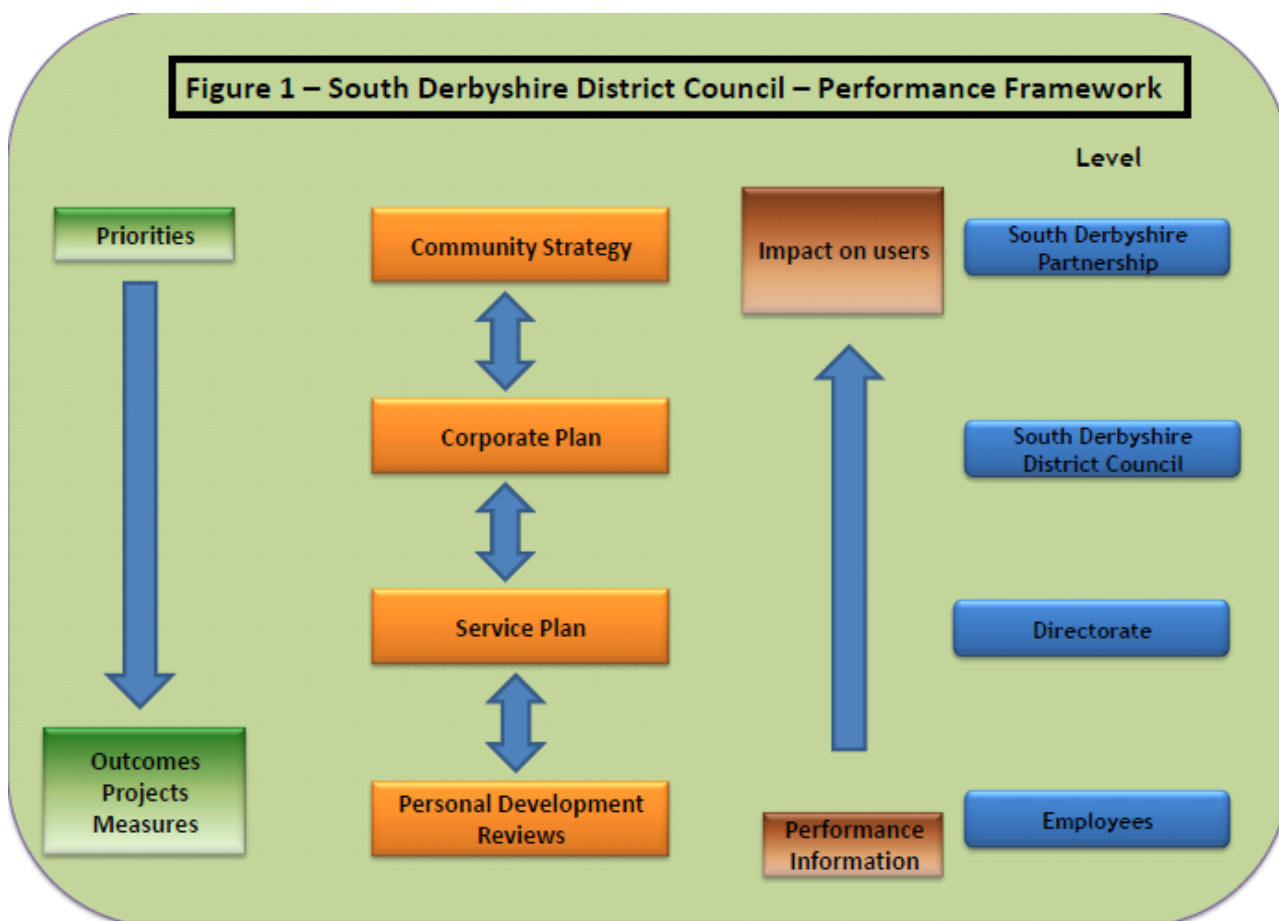
As part of the Strategic Partnership with Northgate, the Council reviews all service areas in the Council on a rolling programme basis. This is designed to identify transformation and efficiency opportunities to ensure that services remain efficient and effective as possible.

The transformation programme aims to identify efficiency savings and in particular cashable/budget savings without adversely affecting service delivery. This has seen significant changes made in “back office” services, with other services areas being reviewed over a 3-year cycle.

Managing Performance

The Council’s performance framework is largely developed from national requirements and regulatory frameworks, together with local issues that are emerging from the Sustainable Community Strategy. An outline of the framework and its components is shown in Figure 1, over the page.

Governance Statement



The **Community Strategy** sets the long-term vision and community goals for all agencies in South Derbyshire. This was reviewed in 2009 and a new Strategy implemented for the period 2009-2029.

The Council's **Corporate Plan** describes how the Council provides services to support the Community Strategy and focuses resources on key priorities, together with actions for improvement. This is an integral part of the Council's Performance Management Framework and the actions set out how key priorities are delivered together with measures of success. The development of the Corporate Plan takes place alongside the development of the Medium Term Financial Plan to ensure that the corporate priorities are fully resourced.

Service Plans are the cornerstone of the performance framework and demonstrate how each section of the Council will deliver improvements in line with priorities detailed in the Corporate Plan.

Performance Development Reviews provide employees with a clear understanding of how their work is enabling the Council to deliver the priorities detailed in the Corporate Plan, together with identifying their own individual training needs.

Partnership Working

The Council works in partnership with many other public agencies, including the voluntary sector and private organisations to deliver its services. The extent of these partnerships varies across the Authority.

Governance Statement

The Council's most significant partnerships are the South Derbyshire Partnership and the Safer South Derbyshire Partnership for Derbyshire. These partnerships are properly constituted and Committees are established (comprising representatives of the Council) who monitor and review progress.

The governance arrangements include a constitution and terms of reference. They have annual action plans which are monitored and reported quarterly to the relevant Strategic Boards. The Council receives annual reports on their performance which identifies the outcomes of partnership work and the financial implications of their work undertaken.

Risk Management

The Council has adopted a Risk Management Policy Statement, which sets out the principles, responsibilities and commitment to dealing with risk. Backed-up by a detailed strategy, it is effectively the framework for the management of risk throughout the Council.

The Council, through its service planning process, has a system for identifying and evaluating significant risks. Each service plan contains a risk register and this is developed and maintained by Officers involved in planning and delivering services.

In addition, the Council's Corporate and Financial Plans identify and evaluate risk at a more strategic level. Furthermore, evaluation of proposals for new spending and capital investment includes a risk assessment analysis.

The Council's risk management strategy provides a framework to embed risk within services. It also includes guidance for managers in assessing and treating risk. The Strategy is overseen by a Corporate Risk Management Group.

Internal Audit

Under the Account and Audit Regulations 2003 (as amended) the Council maintains an Internal Audit function, through the Central Midlands Audit Partnership, which operates to the standards set out in the Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the UK.

This function provides an independent evaluation on the adequacy of the control environment as a contribution to the proper, economic, efficient and effective use of resources. Internal Audit undertakes annual work plans, agreed with and monitored by Members and Senior Officers. It provides opinions on internal controls in place to manage risks across the Council's diverse activities. Its plans and outputs are monitored and challenged by the Council's Audit Sub-Committee.

Internal audit is the main means by which the Council obtains assurances that systems are operating effectively. Internal Audit is required to issue an Assurance Statement (Annual Report) each year that provides an assessment of the Council's internal control system.

Health and Safety

The Council has a Health and Safety Policy and an Annual Action Plan that sets out the Council's commitment to health and safety and identifies those positions with responsibility under the policy. There is also a quarterly Employee Health and Safety Committee, where representatives from the trade unions meet with service managers and Members. The Committee monitors policies, work practices and reviews accident statistics.

Governance Statement

The Council's Audit Sub-Committee

Under its terms of reference, the Committee provides independent assurance of the adequacy of the risk management framework and the associated control environment.

It also provides independent scrutiny of the Authority's financial and non-financial performance to the extent that it affects the Authority's exposure to risk and weakens the control environment. The Sub-Committee also oversees the Authority's corporate governance arrangements in relation to financial matters.

External Scrutiny

Grant Thornton UK is the Council's appointed external auditor. Besides auditing the accounts and financial statements of the Council, they also focus on more strategic performance and financial management arrangements. This includes reviewing arrangements in place for securing value for money.

The Audit Sub-Committee and Officers of the Council meet regularly with the external auditors to discuss planned and on-going external audit activity through the Annual Audit Plan.

The Auditors undertake specific reviews each year and issue reports with action plans to aid improvement in specific areas. The Annual Audit Letter summarises the conclusions and significant issues arising out of their audit. The outcome of all audits is used to plan and improve Council services.

ICT (Information Communication Technology)

The Council would not be able to operate without an effective ICT infrastructure in place. The Council's ICT Strategy is designed to ensure that the appropriate infrastructure is in place to enable the Council to deliver its services effectively and implement the Council's Corporate Plan.

Therefore, the ICT Strategy is aligned to the strategic objectives of the Council, with technology being used as an enabler of business change to support the Council's priorities. The ICT infrastructure in place enables the Council's service areas to concentrate on delivering their customer and business requirements.

Appropriate safeguards are in place to ensure the integrity of the Council's ICT infrastructure and this is subject to an annual audit and independent health check. In addition, the Council complies with national best practice for security as contained within the Public Services Network (PSN) Code. Under this Code, the Council's ICT security arrangements are tested and reviewed each year by an independent organisation, approved for such work.

Transparency in the Publication of Information

The Council is required to publish a wide range of information on its services. The Council accounts for the use of resources and publishes this in an Annual Statement of Accounts.

http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_budgets_spending/statement_of_accounts/default.asp

The Council also publishes an Annual Pay Policy Statement which details the pay and remuneration of senior officers, together with the relationship between the pay of the highest paid officer and other officers.

The latest Policy Statement which was published on 1st April 2015 can be viewed at:

Governance Statement

http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/our_website/open_data/pay_policy/default.asp

In addition, the Council also publishes on its web site, details of all payments (excluding those to employees) in excess of £250, details of procurement card transactions, together with remuneration and expenses paid to Members. This information is available at:

http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/our_website/open_data/default.asp

D REVIEWING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK

The Council has responsibility for conducting, at least annually, a review of the effectiveness of its Governance Framework, including the system of internal control. The review of effectiveness is informed by the work of the Senior Management Team, who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the governance environment.

This is backed up by Internal Audit reports on the audits conducted through the year, and also by recommendations made by the External Auditors and other review agencies and inspectorates.

As part of an on-going review, the overall framework was strengthened in 2014/15 following a work programme arising out of the Governance Statement for the previous year 2013/14. These are detailed in **Section E**.

The overall processes and indicators that have been applied in maintaining and reviewing the effectiveness of internal control during the year 2014/15 are set out in the following sections.

Overall Corporate Governance

The Council continued to apply its Local Code of Corporate Governance based on recommended best practice, as developed by CIPFA/SOLACE. This Code sets out the systems by which the Council directs and controls its functions. It was reviewed twice during the year with a work programme, monitored by the Audit Sub Committee, being progressed to maintain and improve overall Governance.

ICT Security

During 2014/15, the Council was required to meet government requirements regarding the sharing of data between other public sector agencies and to safeguard personal and confidential information.

To comply with the Public Services Network, the Council was required to review its server estate to eliminate any unsupported applications. The Council also enhanced its remote access solution for home workers and remote log on.

There were no major security incidents reported during 2014/15. The Council's internal auditors reviewed and tested the Council's IT infrastructure. Although they identified several areas to strengthen security, there were no implications highlighted that would have a negative effect on the Council's ICT governance arrangements.

The Government's Cabinet Office certified the Council as being PSN compliant in April 2015.

Governance Statement

The System of Internal Audit

Internal Audit is responsible for monitoring the quality and effectiveness of internal control. They review all fundamental financial systems each year and other systems over a five yearly cyclical period. This is based on a risk assessment of each service area.

Internal Audit reports to the Council's Audit Sub-Committee on a quarterly basis. The reporting process requires a report of each audit to be submitted to the relevant service manager.

The report includes recommendations for improvements that are included within an action plan and require agreement or rejection by managers. The process includes reviews of recommendations by the auditors through a tracking system, to ensure that they are acted upon.

Under its terms of reference, the Audit Sub-Committee considers in detail any recommendations that are found to have a potentially "high-risk" impact on the Council's control environment. These are subject to on-going monitoring until all recommended actions have been implemented.

During 2014/15, the Committee monitored a series of recommendations relating to Health and Safety procedures at the Council's Depot. This followed concerns raised over the implementation dates for certain procedures to be updated.

Reports to the Audit Sub-Committee provide an overall assurance rating of each system or service area subject to audit. This includes a statement as to whether there are any possible implications for the Annual Governance Statement. All audits completed during 2014/15 found no material weaknesses which could affect the Governance framework.

External audit express an opinion on the adequacy of internal audit work each year and, where appropriate, rely on their work for assurance.

Furthermore, the Council is required to conduct an annual review of the effectiveness of its system of internal audit. The review is required to ensure that the opinion in the Annual Report of the Audit Manager may be relied upon as a key source of evidence for this Statement.

The Council's Chief Finance Officer, in conjunction with the Head of the Central Midlands Audit Partnership, conducted a review of its effectiveness and the impact upon South Derbyshire. The review was based on a test against several key principles for effective internal audit identified in professional guidance.

The review concluded that during 2014/15, the system of internal audit was effective and this was noted by the Audit Sub-Committee on 17th June 2015.

Public Sector Internal Auditing Standards

New Standards were introduced and adopted by the Council back in April 2013. Following this, an updated Internal Audit Charter, together with a Quality Improvement and Assessment Programme was approved by the Council in 2013. These are now established.

During 2014/15, the Audit Sub-Committee updated its terms of reference to reflect its current role. In addition, it undertook a self-assessment of its effectiveness and whilst being satisfied in most respects that it met best practice, it also identified some areas for improvement. These were approved by the Audit Sub-Committee in April 2015.

Governance Statement

Annual Internal Audit Report

Under the Code of Practice for Internal Audit in Local Government in the United Kingdom 2006, the Head of Internal Audit (HIA) provided a written report to those charged with governance. This was considered and noted by the Council's Audit Committee on 17th June 2015. The Head of Internal Audit gave an opinion on the overall adequacy and effectiveness of the Council's internal control environment for 2014/15. The opinion is detailed below:

*"Based on the work undertaken during the year, I have reached the overall opinion that **there is an acceptable level of internal control within the Council's systems and procedures**. I have arrived at this opinion having regard to the following:*

- *The level of coverage provided by Internal Audit was considered substantial.*
- *Only 1 report provided a 'Limited' control assurance rating, all others were either 'Comprehensive' or 'Reasonable'.*
- *There were no 'critical risk' recommendations made and only 1 recommendation attracted a 'significant risk' rating within any audit reports issued in 2014/15.*
- *There were no adverse implications for the Authority's Annual Governance Statement arising from any of the work that Internal Audit has undertaken in 2014/15.*
- *All of the issues raised within the internal audit reports have been accepted.*
- *Internal Audit's recommendations, or alternative proposed actions made by Management in response to the risk issue, have been agreed to be implemented in all cases but one, where management has chosen to accept the risk.*
- *The Council's system of risk management was examined during 2014/15 and the overall level of assurance was considered Comprehensive*
- *Our overview of the Council's Data Quality through a combination of control self-assessment and specific audit testing deemed that the overall control environment was Reasonable.*
- *Internal Audit's coverage during 2014/15 included an appropriate range of governance areas.*
- *Internal Audit has not been involved in any anti-fraud and corruption work or investigations for the Council during 2014/15.*

This opinion is provided with the following caveats:

- *No system of control can provide absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, nor can Internal Audit give absolute assurance.*
- *Full implementation of all agreed actions is essential if the benefits of the control improvements detailed in each individual audit report are to be realised.*

Communication

Corporate communication covers the full range of media management, publications, external and internal communications. This is provided by a central team within the Council.

By targeting communication activities, the Council can enhance its reputation and profile at a local and national level. Good corporate communications can encourage people to feel positively about the Council because they are better informed, have higher levels of satisfaction and know they are getting value for money.

The Council's Communications Strategy and Action Plan is reviewed and updated on an annual basis. It is reported to, and considered by, the Council's Finance and Management Committee in June each year.

A series of media campaigns are also undertaken by the Council each year. During 2014/15, these included:

- Raising the profile of the Council's tourism area within the National Forest
- The refurbishment of a major urban park following significant capital investment
- Sustained output of information to inspire and motivate residents to stay fit and healthy

Governance Statement

- Encouraging residents to play a role in reducing anti-social actions
- Promoting a local “Friday Night Project” for younger members of the community
- Features in local newspapers celebrating “40 years of South Derbyshire.”
- In doing this, the Council continued to make greater use of social media in the year through a Twitter feed which has 5,000 followers, together with the publication of environmental, housing and leisure activities on Facebook.
- In addition, the Council developed a free “Mobile App” in 2014/15. This will enable local residents to report missed bin collections, fly tipping and dog fouling. It will be rolled out during 2015/16.

Consultation

The Corporate Plan is informed by consultation and is based on the views of stakeholders including local people, voluntary and community groups, together with local businesses.

Substantial consultation was undertaken during 2014/15 on the Council’s Local Plan. This sets out proposals for delivering substantial growth in residential development over the next decade.

The Plan was independently inspected during January 2015 and further consultation will be undertaken in the year.

The Council’s Consultation Strategy aims to coordinate consultation activities between the services within the Council and with key partners, to ensure that residents’ views are used effectively to inform council decision-making. This Strategy is reviewed and updated on an annual basis.

During 2014/15, the following were the main pieces of consultation that were undertaken with local residents on:

- The pre submission of the Local Plan for inspection
- Accessing dental services in the area to feed into a county wide health review
- Cycling activities in the area to inform service development
- Ideas for a town centre heritage scheme
- Cemetery provision in the area to inform a development strategy for future provision

The Constitution

The Monitoring Officer has a duty to monitor and review the operation of the Constitution to ensure that its aims and principles are given full effect. Major changes to the Constitution have to be approved by Full Council and reflect any changes to the Council’s structure and responsibilities.

The Constitution is being reviewed and updated following the Election of a new Council in May 2015.

Work of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Under the Constitution, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has the power to “call in” a decision, which has been made by a policy committee but not yet implemented, to enable them to consider whether the decision is appropriate. No decisions were called in during 2014/15.

The Overview and Scrutiny Committee also scrutinises key service issues and priorities in the Corporate Plan, recommending and reporting back actions to the main policy committees. Their annual report to Full Council set out details of their work and outcomes during the year. The Annual Report for 2014/15 is available at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1830/Committee/388/Default.aspx>

Governance Statement

In particular, the Committee scrutinised and supported the following areas:

- New requirements for Individual Electoral Registration.
- NHS Dentist provision in South Derbyshire, which involved undertaking local consultation to feed into a wider review being conducted by the local Public Health body.
- Customer services and the implementation of payment machines, including research and site visits at other councils.
- A strategic review of leisure centre provision in the area.
- Provision of cemetery space in the District, including consultation with parish councils to identify space still remaining.
- Scrutinising the Council's budget proposals for 2015/16 and MTFP to 2020.

Propriety in the Conduct of Business

During 2014/15, the following matters were raised and dealt with by the Council.

Complaints

The Council was subject to one finding of maladministration by the Local Government Ombudsman. This related to how a particular homelessness case was dealt with. The outcome was that the Council sent a formal apology to the person concerned but no further action or sanctions were applied.

This was the first case of maladministration found against the Council for many years.

Code of Conduct

One employee was found to be in breach of the Council's Employee Code of Conduct in the year and this was dealt with under the Council's Disciplinary Procedure.

One elected member of the Council was found to be in breach of the Members Code of Conduct during 2014/15. This breach was upheld by the Standards Committee on 25th March 2015; the independent report and findings can be accessed at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1828/Committee/386/Default.aspx>

This was the first ever case brought to the Council's Standards Committee against an Elected Member of the Council under the Revised Code of Conduct.

Register Of interests

There were no known issues raised in the year regarding the register of interests and declarations of gifts/hospitality.

Governance Statement

Whistleblowing

Two internal whistleblowing complaints were received and investigated by the Monitoring Officer in 2014/15. One complaint was upheld and the issue resolved. The other complaint was dealt with under a separate Council procedure.

Data Protection

For the first time, the Council received a complaint from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) regarding the potential breach of the Data Protection Act. Following the Council's response, the ICO was satisfied that no breach had occurred and was satisfied of a further safeguard put in place to protect personal data.

Health and Safety

There were 5 reportable accidents under Health & Safety Regulations during 2014/15. This compares with 5 in 2013/14, 3 in 2012/13 and 10 in 2011/12.

Following investigation of each accident, risk assessments were reviewed and updated as appropriate. No enforcement or other action was taken by the Health & Safety Executive.

Monitoring Performance

The Performance Management framework specifies the performance monitoring regime. A “traffic light” monitoring system is used to highlight areas at risk of not being achieved. During the year, policy committees received quarterly performance monitoring reports and agreed remedial measures where these were necessary. In addition, the Finance and Management Committee received quarterly financial monitoring reports.

Service Recognition

Several areas of the Council's work is regularly checked independently and recognised as being of an excellent standard. Current recognition continued in the following areas in 2014/15.

Health and Safety - the Council continued to attain the Gold Award in the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) Occupational Health and Safety Programme. This is in recognition of an excellent safety record. The Award is only given to those organisations that have demonstrated their commitment to continuous improvement in accident and ill health prevention.

Development of Staff - the Council continues to qualify for Investors in People (IIP) accreditation following an independent review. This is a national quality standard for the training and development of employees.

Environmental Management – the Council attained an international standard in 2014 for its approach to reducing the carbon footprint in its own services and for supporting work across the District.

Leisure Facilities – the Council has attained a Green Flag Award for its urban parks acknowledging how well they are maintained and managed and for providing good facilities.

Town Centre – the Council is nationally recognised as providing the best small market and was recognised regionally as providing the best Farmer's market.

Governance Statement

Business Continuity

During 2014/15, the Council's arrangements for business continuity in the event of major disruption to its services, was subject to an internal audit review. The review gave only a limited assurance rating highlighting several areas of weakness to be addressed. None of the Audit recommendations arising from their report were considered to be high or significant.

Consequently, a work plan was been drawn up and this will be actioned during 2015/16. A Resilience Liaison Forum has since been established which brings together key people from across the Council, supported by the County Council's Emergency Planning Team. This Forum is tasked with co-ordinating planning, reviewing events and overseeing the work plan.

Value for Money (VFM) Assessment

The External Auditor is required to make a judgement on the Council's arrangements for securing value for money. During 2014/15, their opinion was as follows:

"On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, South Derbyshire District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ending 31 March 2014."

In addition, the Annual Audit Letter of the External Auditor reports any significant weaknesses in the overall control framework. None were reported in 2014/15. The Audit Letter for 2013/14 is available at:

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1709/Committee/364/Default.aspx>

E KEY GOVERNANCE ISSUES FOR SOUTH DERBYSHIRE

The Council operates within a changing environment with constant development in electronic communications and increasing public expectations. The Council has also in recent years dealt with fairly large reductions in its overall core funding from Central Government.

Consequently, Governance needs to be subject to constant review to take account of changing circumstances. Indeed, issues identified in the corresponding statement for 2013/14 have been addressed in 2014/15, together with other developments to strengthen Governance at the Council. Besides issues identified earlier in this Statement, during 2014/15, the Council also:

- *Introduced a new Leadership and Development Programme for Managers*
- *Supported the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for a large Parish Council*
- *Expanded the publication of "open data" in accordance with the Government's Transparency Code of Practice*
- *Reviewed and updated its Data Management procedures*

Governance Statement

These actions were noted by the Audit Sub-Committee on 17th June 2015 following consideration of a detailed report.

<http://south-derbys.cmis.uk.com/south-derbys/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1838/Committee/387/Default.aspx>

Work Plan 2015/16

The areas identified for development during 2015/16 are:

- Development of a new Council Plan following the election of a new Council in May 2015
- Updating the Constitution following the formulation of the new Council
- Implementing the recommendations of the internal audit review into the Council's Business Continuity arrangements
- Reviewing the Declaration of Interests Procedure at the Council in accordance with nationally recognised ethical standards

The most significant action will be the development of a new Council Plan following the election of a new Council in May 2015. This will set out the Council's priorities and actions to 2019. Any changes to consultation arrangements, service planning and the performance management framework will be made accordingly as part of this process.

These developments are set out and included in the Governance Work Plan for 2015/16 in **Appendix 1**.

Council Sign Off

We propose over the coming year to take steps to address the issues identified in the Work Plan to further enhance our governance arrangements. We are satisfied that these steps will address the need for improvements that were identified in our review of effectiveness and will monitor their implementation and operation as part of our next annual review. This Annual Governance Statement is signed by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive on behalf of South Derbyshire District Council.

Signed:
(Leader of the Council)

Dated:

Signed:
(Chief Executive)

Dated:

The Statement was approved by the Council's Audit Sub Committee on 24th June 2015 and will be formally signed following Audit.

Governance Statement

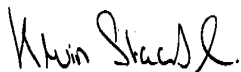
APPENDIX 1: GOVERNANCE WORK PLAN 2015/16

Work Area	Timescale	Responsible Officer(s)	Action/Comment
Continue to review the Local Code of Corporate Governance and to monitor the Governance Work Plan for the year	½ yearly review	Legal and Democratic Services Manager	Reviews to be held in December 2015 and June 2016
Development and implementation of a new Council Plan to 2019	September 2015 to December 2015	Corporate Management Team	Consultation, service planning and performance monitoring will be reviewed by December 2015 where required
Review of the Council's Constitution	July 2015	Legal and Democratic Services Manager	In particular, the terms of reference for each Policy Committee to be updated
Strengthening the Council's Business Continuity arrangements	September 2015	<i>Director of Finance and Corporate Services</i>	Work plan agreed by the Resilience Liaison Forum in April 2015
Reviewing the Declarations of Interest Procedure	August 2015	<i>Legal and Democratic Services Manager / Director of Finance and Corporate Services</i>	<i>Any additional work will be subject to an internal audit review; they are due to report in the summer.</i>

Certificate of the Chief Financial Officer

I certify that:

- (a) The Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015 on pages 36 to 41 has been prepared in the form directed by the Code and under the accounting policies set out on pages 42 to 51.
- (b) In my opinion the Statement of Accounts presents fairly the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year and the financial position as at the end of the financial year.



Signed:

(Chief Financial Officer)

24th September 2015

Dated:

Independent Auditor's Report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOUTH DERBYSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Opinion on the Authority financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of South Derbyshire District Council for the year ended 31 March 2015 under the Audit Commission Act 1998. The financial statements comprise the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, the Collection Fund and the related notes. 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 2014/15.

This report is made solely to the members of South Derbyshire District Council, as a body, in accordance with Part II of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and as set out in paragraph 48 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by the Audit Commission in March 2010. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the 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.

Respective responsibilities of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Director of Finance and Corporate Services Responsibilities, the Director of Finance and Corporate Services 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 2014/15, and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards also require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Authority's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Director of Finance and Corporate Services; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and nonfinancial information in the explanatory foreword to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Independent Auditor's Report

Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of South Derbyshire District Council as at 31 March 2015 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 and applicable law.

Opinion on other matters

In our opinion, the information given in the explanatory foreword for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we report by exception

We are required to report to you if:

- in our opinion the annual governance statement does not reflect compliance with 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: a Framework' published by CIPFA/SOLACE in June 2007; or
- we issue a report in the public interest under section 8 of the Audit Commission Act 1998; or
- we designate under section 11 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 a recommendation as one that requires the Authority to consider it at a public meeting and to decide what action to take in response; or
- we exercise any other special powers of the auditor under the Audit Commission Act 1998.

We have nothing to report in these respects.

Conclusion on the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

Respective responsibilities of the Authority and the auditor

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

We are required under Section 5 of the Audit Commission Act 1998 to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. The Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission requires us to report to you our conclusion relating to proper arrangements, having regard to relevant criteria specified by the Audit Commission in October 2014.

We report if significant matters have come to our attention which prevent us from concluding that the Authority has put in place 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.

Independent Auditor's Report

Scope of the review of arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources

We have undertaken our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria, published by the Audit Commission in October 2014, as to whether the Authority has proper arrangements for:

- securing financial resilience; and
- challenging how it secures economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

The Audit Commission has determined these two criteria as those necessary for us to consider under the Code of Audit Practice in satisfying ourselves whether the Authority put in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

We planned our work in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice. Based on our risk assessment, we undertook such work as we considered necessary to form a view on whether, in all significant respects, the Authority had put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

Conclusion

On the basis of our work, having regard to the guidance on the specified criteria published by the Audit Commission in October 2014, we are satisfied that, in all significant respects, South Derbyshire District Council put in place proper arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2015.

Certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of the financial statements of South Derbyshire District Council in accordance with the requirements of the Audit Commission Act 1998 and the Code of Audit Practice issued by the Audit Commission.

Phil Jones
for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Appointed Auditor

Colmore Plaza
20 Colmore Circus
Birmingham
B4 6AT

Date: 24th September 2015

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2015

These accounts were approved by resolution of the Finance and Management Committee on 24th September 2015

Signed:
(Chairman)

24th September 2015
Dated:

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2015

This statement, as set out below, shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Councils raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

£000's	2014/15			2013/14		
	Expenditure	Income	Net	Expenditure	Income	Net
Central Services	2,162	(1,127)	1,035	2,011	(990)	1,022
Cultural & Related Services	3,250	(1,112)	2,137	2,967	(1,050)	1,917
Environmental & Regulatory Services	6,750	(2,024)	4,726	6,659	(1,967)	4,691
Planning Services	2,500	(1,389)	1,111	2,317	(1,029)	1,288
Highways & Transport services	120	(106)	14	160	(24)	137
Local Authority Housing (HRA)	9,318	(12,871)	(3,553)	8,636	(12,276)	(3,639)
Other Housing Services	19,044	(18,139)	905	18,544	(18,185)	359
Corporate & Democratic Core	317	(29)	288	764	(27)	736
Non Distributed Costs	744	(3,235)	(2,491)	1,248	(726)	523
Cost of Services	44,204	(40,033)	4,172	43,306	(36,273)	7,034
Other Operating Income & Expenditure (Note 6)						
Normal		(773)				719
		(773)				719
Financing & Investment Income & Expenditure (Note 7)		2,333				2,197
Taxation & Non-Specific Grant Income (Note 8)		(12,146)				(12,113)
(Surplus)/Deficit on Provision of Services		(6,414)				(2,164)
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure						
(Surplus)/Deficit on revaluation of Assets		(1,531)				(3,930)
Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability (Note 29)		6,241				(5,575)
		4,710				(9,505)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure		(1,704)				(11,669)

Movement in Reserves Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2015

This Statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure or reduce local taxation) and other reserves. The surplus or deficit on the provision of services represents the true economic cost of providing services, but is not the same as the statutory amounts that must be charged to the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account for the purpose of setting Council Tax and dwelling rents. These are shown by the net increase / (decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves and are calculated after entering all the adjustments that are required to move from the economic (accounting) basis to the funding basis.

£000's	2014/15			2013/14		
	Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total	Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total
At beginning of the year	18,805	16,971	35,776	15,991	8,117	24,107
Surplus/(Deficit) on provision of services	6,414	-	6,414	2,164	-	2,164
Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation of Property, Plant & Equipment	-	1,531	1,531	-	3,930	3,930
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension scheme	-	(6,241)	(6,241)	-	5,575	5,575
Other Comprehensive Income & (Expenditure)	-	(4,710)	(4,710)	-	9,505	9,505
Total Comprehensive Income & (Expenditure)	6,414	(4,710)	1,704	2,164	9,505	11,669
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis (Note 20)	(1,488)	1,488	-	913	(913)	-
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	4,926	(3,222)	1,704	3,076	8,593	11,669
Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	-	-	-	(262)	262	(0)
Increase/(decrease) for the year	4,926	(3,222)	1,704	2,814	8,854	11,669
At end of the year	23,730	13,749	37,480	18,805	16,971	35,776

Movement in Reserves Statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Usable Reserves 2014/15	General Fund	Earmarked Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied Account	Major Repairs Reserve	Total Usable Reserves
£000's							
At 1 April 2013	4,372	2,864	2,686	3,669	1,746	653	15,991
Surplus/(deficit) on provision of services	343	-	1,821	-	-	-	2,164
Deficit on revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Actuarial (gains) on defined benefit pension scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2014	343	-	1,821	-	-	-	2,164
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis (Note 20)	1,188	-	(1,696)	586	-	835	913
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves'	1,531	-	124	586	-	835	3,076
Transfers between Reserves	7	371	-	(755)	(45)	160	(262)
Increase/(decrease) for the year ended 31 March 2014	1,538	371	124	(169)	(45)	995	2,814
At 31 March 2014	5,910	3,234	2,810	3,500	1,701	1,648	18,805
Surplus/(deficit) on provision of services	4,849	-	1,565	-	-	-	6,414
Deficit on revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2015	4,849	-	1,565	-	-	-	6,414
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis (Note 20)	(1,683)	-	(1,994)	1,679	456	54	(1,488)
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves'	3,166	-	(429)	1,679	456	54	4,926
Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves	(2,940)	2,940	-	-	-	-	-
Increase/(decrease) for the year ended 31 March 2015	226	2,940	(429)	1,679	456	54	4,926
At 31 March 2015	6,135	6,174	2,381	5,179	2,158	1,703	23,730

Movement in Reserves Statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Unusable Reserves 2014/15	Capital Adjustment Account	Revaluation Reserve	Pensions Reserve	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	Accumulating Absences Adjustment Account	Total Unusable Reserves
£000's							
At 1 April 2013	30,031	5,301	(27,211)	-	9	(13)	8,117
Surplus/(deficit) on provision of services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deficit on revaluation	-	3,930	-	-	-	-	3,930
Actuarial (gains) on defined benefit pension scheme	-	-	5,575	-	-	-	5,575
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-	3,930	5,575	-	-	-	9,505
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2014	-	3,930	5,575	-	-	-	9,505
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis (Note 20)	432	-	(1,022)	-	(321)	(1)	(913)
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves'	432	3,930	4,553	-	(321)	(1)	8,593
Transfers between Reserves	541	(282)	-	-	-	-	260
Increase/(decrease) for the year ended 31 March 2014	973	3,649	4,553	-	(321)	(1)	8,852
At 31 March 2014	31,004	8,949	(22,658)	-	(312)	(14)	16,969
Surplus/(deficit) on provision of services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deficit on revaluation	-	1,531	-	-	-	-	1,531
Remeasurement of the Net Defined Benefit Liability	-	-	(6,241)	-	-	-	(6,241)
Other Comprehensive Income & Expenditure	-	1,531	(6,241)	-	-	-	(4,710)
Total Comprehensive Income & Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2015	-	1,531	(6,241)	-	-	-	(4,710)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis (Note 20)	1,794	-	(938)	-	630	1	1,486
Net increase/(decrease) before transfers to Earmarked Reserves'	1,794	1,531	(7,179)	-	630	1	(3,224)
Transfers between Reserves	400	(400)	-	-	-	-	-
Increase/(decrease) for the year ended 31 March 2015	2,194	1,131	(7,179)	-	630	1	(3,224)
At 31 March 2015	33,197	10,080	(29,837)	-	318	(10)	13,749

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2015

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the Council's assets and liabilities. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use. The second category of reserves is those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses from asset revaluations, together with reserves that account for timing differences.

£000's		2015	2014
	<i>Notes</i>		
Property, Plant & Equipment	9	107,568	104,028
Investment Property	10	4,535	4,285
Long Term Investments	11	40	40
Long Term Receivables	11	34	34
Non Current Assets		112,176	108,386
Inventories		104	98
Short Term Debtors	12	2,533	2,526
Assets Held for Sale	13	1,836	2,640
Cash & Cash Equivalents	14	14,285	7,456
Current Assets		18,758	12,719
TOTAL ASSETS		130,934	121,105
Short Term Creditors	15	(5,536)	(3,531)
Short Term Borrowing	11	(28)	(35)
Provisions	16	(600)	(614)
Current Liabilities		(6,164)	(4,180)
Long Term Liabilities	11	(77)	(69)
Long Term Borrowing	11	(57,423)	(58,423)
Pension Deficit	29	(29,791)	(22,659)
Non Current Liabilities		(87,291)	(81,151)
TOTAL LIABILITIES		(93,455)	(85,330)
NET ASSETS		37,479	35,775
Usable Reserves	18	(23,730)	(18,805)
Unusable Reserves	19	(13,749)	(16,971)
TOTAL RESERVES		(37,479)	(35,775)

Cash Flow Statement

For the year ended 31 March 2015

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

The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery.

Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council.

£000's		2015	2014
	<i>Notes</i>		
Cash generated from operations			
Net Surplus/(Deficit) on the provision of services		6,414	2,164
Adjustment for non-cash movements:			
Depreciation	9	3,877	3,458
Impairments/(Impairment reversals)	9	(1,255)	635
Pension scheme charge	29	2,443	2,453
(Profit) from the sale of Property, Plant & Equipment		(37)	72
Changes in working capital			
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventory		(6)	(42)
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	12	(170)	(1,935)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provision for Bad Debts	12	165	696
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	15	2,000	(366)
		1,989	(1,648)
Employer contributions to pension scheme	29	(1,505)	(1,431)
Net cash generated from operations		11,926	5,704
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of Property, Plant & Equipment	9	(6,242)	(6,075)
Purchase of Investment Properties	10	-	-
Proceeds from the sale of Property, Plant & Equipment	6	2,154	548
Net cash flows from investing activities		(4,088)	(5,527)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Proceeds from new Borrowings		-	-
Repayment of Borrowings		(1,007)	(305)
Net cash flows from financing activities		(1,007)	(305)
Net increase in cash & cash equivalents		6,831	(128)
Cash & cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	14	7,453	7,581
Cash & cash equivalents at the end of the period	14	14,285	7,453

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

1. Accounting Policies

(a) General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2014/15 financial year and its position as at 31 March 2015. It has been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15 and the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15, supported by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). The accounting convention adopted is historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments. The Council's financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis; that is, the accounts have been prepared on the assumption that the functions of the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared in Sterling rounded to the nearest thousand.

The accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the year ended 31 March 2014, as amended to reflect the adoption of any new accounting standards as required by the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2014/15.

(b) 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 sales of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that the economic benefits or services potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- 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 recognised as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Revenue from the provisions of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Interest payable on borrowings and receivable on investments is accounted for 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 the income 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 it is doubtful that debts will be settled, the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.
- Expenses relating to the services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when the payments are made.
- The Council Tax and income included in the Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of the Collection Fund's accrued income for the year. The NDR income included in the Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of the Collection Fund's accrued income for the year from the statutory return following the close of the financial year. The difference between this value and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund adjustment account through the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Accounting for Council Tax

While the Council Tax income for the year credited to the Collection fund is the accrued income for the year, regulations determine when it should be released from the Collection Fund and transferred to the General Fund or paid from the Collection Fund to the major preceptors. The amount credited to the General Fund under statute is the Council's precept for the year, plus or minus the Council's actual share of the surplus / deficit on the Collection Fund for the previous year.

The cash collected by the Council from Council Tax payers belongs predominantly to all the major preceptors. The difference between the amounts collected on behalf of the other major preceptors and payments made to them is reflected as a debtor or creditor balance as appropriate.

Accounting for Non-Domestic Rates (NDR)

The NDR income for the year credited to the Collection Fund is the accrued income for the year. Regulations determine when it should be released from the Collection Fund and paid out to major preceptors (excluding the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire) and the Government. The amount credited to the General Fund under statute is the Council's estimated share of NDR for the year from the statutory return made to the Government at the commencement of the financial year.

The cash collected by the Council from NDR Tax payers belongs predominantly to all the major preceptors (excluding the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire) and the Government. The difference between the amounts collected on behalf of the other major preceptors and payments made to them is reflected as a debtor or creditor balance as appropriate.

(c) 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 a specified period of no more than 3 months, or less from the date of acquisition. They are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value. In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

(d) Prior Period Adjustments, Changes in Accounting Policies and Estimates and Errors

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

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

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

(e) Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Service revenue accounts, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the real cost of holding fixed 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 they are no accumulated gains in the revaluations reserve against which the loss can be written off.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to cover depreciation, impairment losses or amortisations. However, it is required to make an annual provision from the revenue to contribute towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement (equal to either an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the council in accordance with statutory guidance). Depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are, therefore, replaced by the contribution in the General Fund Balance of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

(f) 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, annual leave, sick pay and car allowances. These are for current employees and are recognised as expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements, including annual leave, time off in lieu and flexi time 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 or salary rate applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to the 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 Council to terminate employment of employees before the normal retirement date, or an employee's decision to accept voluntary redundancy. These are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, when the Council is clearly committed to the termination of employment.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund in the year, not the amount calculated according to 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 any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are entitled to be members of the Local Government Pension Scheme, administered by Derbyshire County Council. This scheme provides defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions) earned as Council employees.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is accounted for as a funded defined benefit final salary scheme:

- ➔ The liabilities of the Derbyshire County Council Pension Scheme attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method. This means there is an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc. and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
- ➔ Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices using a discount rate based on the indicative rate on long-term redemption yields available on AA rated corporate bonds.
- ➔ The assets of the Derbyshire County Council Pension Fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

- Quoted securities - mid market value.
- Unquoted securities - professional estimate.
- Unitised securities - average of the bid and offer rates.
- Property - market value.

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

Service cost comprising

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

Remeasurement comprising

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

Contributions paid to the Derbyshire County Council Pensions Fund

- Cash paid as employer's contributions to the pensions fund in the settlement of liabilities; these contributions are not accounted as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account Balances, to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the Pension Fund, 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 any amounts payable to the fund 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 flow rather than as benefits earned by the employees.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Discretionary Benefits

The Council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any additional liabilities that arise as a result of a discretionary award to an employee 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.

(g) Events after the Balance Sheet Date

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

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

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

(h) Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial Liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate for the instrument. For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principle. Interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account is the amount payable for the year in the loan agreement.

Financial Assets

Financial Assets relevant to the Council relate to loans and receivables; assets fixed or determinable payments but are not quoted in an active market. Loans and receivables are initially measured at fair value and carried at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditures Statement for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the loans that the Council has made, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

(i) Government Grants and Contributions (Revenue)

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

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

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

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

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

(j) Investment Property

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

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset would be exchanged between knowledgeable parties at arm's-length. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposals.

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

(k) Overheads and Support Services

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to those that benefit from the supply or service in accordance with the costing principles of the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15. 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, with the exception of:

- ➔ Corporate and Democratic Core — costs relating to the Council's status as a multi-functional, democratic organisation.
- ➔ Non-Distributed Costs — the cost of discretionary benefits awarded to employees retiring early and impairment losses chargeable on Assets held for sale.

These two categories are defined in the Service Reporting Code and accounted for as separate headings in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure statement, as part of Net expenditure on continuing Services.

(l) 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 administration purposes and that are expected to be used in more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Recognition

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

Assets are valued into components where a component may be a significant proportion of the overall value of the asset. For example, asset values may be split between land, buildings and services. Where a component is replaced, the carrying amount of the old component is derecognised and the new component reflected in the carrying amount, subject to the recognition principles detailed above being met.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- ➔ The purchase price.
- ➔ Any cost attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

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

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Council). 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 Council.

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

- ➔ Infrastructure, community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost.
- ➔ Dwellings – fair value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH).
- ➔ All other assets – fair 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 fair value because of the specialist nature of an asset, depreciated replacement cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of fair value.

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at fair value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their fair value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. (Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from reversals 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) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

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

Impairment

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

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

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

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

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain community asset) 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 of the item, as advised by a suitably qualified officer.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item (as determined by the VOA), the components are depreciated separately.

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

Disposals and Non-current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for sale. The asset is revalued immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell.

Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the surplus or deficit on provisions of services. Depreciation is not charged on Asset Held for Sale.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

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 value of the asset in the Balance Sheet is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on the disposal. Receipts from disposals are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also 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. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals (75% for dwellings, 50% for land and other assets, net of statutory deductions and allowances) is payable to the Government. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve and then only can be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the Capital Financing Requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

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

(m) Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance the Council may be involved in a dispute that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate of 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 set-up in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year, where it becomes more likely than not that a transfer of economic benefits will not now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service revenue account.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be met by another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income in the relevant service revenue account if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the obligation is settled.

Contingent Liabilities

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Contingent Assets

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

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

(n) Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the surplus or deficit on the provision of services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserve Statement so that there is no net charge against Council Tax for the expenditure incurred.

Certain reserves are kept to manage the accounting processes for Non-current assets, financial instruments, retirements and employee benefits. These do not represent usable resources for the Council. These reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

(o) 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 of non-current assets has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund Balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts so there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

(p) Value Added Tax (VAT)

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

(q) Principal and Agent Transactions

In its capacity as a billing authority the Council acts as an agent when collecting Council Tax & Non Domestic Rate income. Council Tax income is collected and distributed by the Council both on its own behalf and as an agent for Precepting Authorities. Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) income is collected on behalf of the Council, the Government, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority & Derbyshire County Council.

Where the Council is acting as an agent, transactions are not reflected in the financial statements, except where cash is collected or expenditure is incurred on behalf of the other bodies. In this case a debtor or creditor will be raised. Council Tax & NNDR income is included in the Comprehensive Income & Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

2. Accounting standards that have been issued but have not yet been adopted

Local Authorities are required to disclose information relating to the impact of an accounting change that will be required by a new standard that has been issued but not yet adopted. The following standards have not yet been adopted:

- IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement
- Annual Improvements to IFRS 2011 to 2013 Cycle
- IFRIC 21 Levies

The impact of these standards will be considered for the 2015/16 Statement of Accounts. It is not considered that these standards will have a material impact on the Accounts although the exact impact is not currently known.

3. Critical Judgements

In applying the accounting policies as set out in Note 1, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in these Accounts are detailed below.

Assets held for Sale and Sale of Land

The Council owns 2 pieces of land that are part of regeneration projects in the District, whereby the Council's land is being used through sale or transfer, to generate a capital receipt and to deliver new facilities.

The Council has classed these assets as "held for sale" in accordance with IFRS 5. This is because in both cases, there is a contractual commitment in place and the land is currently in the process of being sold or transferred having been valued for such purposes. Contracts have been exchanged, are unconditional and binding.

In addition, due to progress being made on both regeneration schemes, it is now unlikely that the plans will be significantly changed or withdrawn.

The land held for sale at William Nadin Way, Swadlincote, is being sold at market value in 3 phases. The first phase was sold in 2014/15 and the proceeds are included in the 2014/15 Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The gross receipt was £1.88m with development and professional fees accrued against this amount of 0.42m. These costs are committed to be paid in the next 12 months (2015/16) and have been accrued as a liability in the Income and Expenditure Account in 2014/15. Therefore, a net receipt of £1.46m has been credited in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as "Other Operating Income" as shown in Note 6.

The second phase of this development will be sold in 2015/16 and the third in 2016/17. The buyer, a housing developer, is the same for all 3 phases. The first phase of housing development is due to commence shortly and planning permission has been granted for the entire site covering all three phases.

This asset was also classed as an asset for sale in 2013/14. The remaining two phases are included in the Council's Balance Sheet at a market value of £1.275m (Note 15).

Land at Chestnut Avenue in Midway, was transferred to a housing developer in return for the improvement to leisure and recreational in an adjacent area. The provision of the new facilities recognises the value of the Council's land transferred for housing.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

The market value of the land was approximately £3/4m. Again, the land is being transferred in phases, with a further phase due to be completed in 2015/16. The remaining land is included in the Council's Balance Sheet at a market value of just over £1/2m (Note 15).

Payment of an Efficiency Dividend

In March 2015, the Council committed to paying an Efficiency Dividend to local Council Tax payers. This will be repaid at a rate of £6.20 per qualifying household in July 2015 by crediting individual Council Tax bills for 2015/16.

The total cost to the Council is estimated at £270,000, including administrative costs of £40,000. Although this amount will not be paid until 2015/16, it has been charged to the accounts in 2014/15 as a liability to realise the commitment against the Council's General Fund Reserve.

This is in accordance with the Code as the declaration of the Dividend in 2014/15 has created present obligations on the Council arising from a past event, the settlement of which is expected to result in an outflow from the Council's resources embodying economic benefits.

4. Assumptions made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council 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 Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2015 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

Item	Uncertainties
Property, Plant and Equipment	Assets are depreciated over useful lives that are dependent on assumptions about the level of repairs and maintenance that will be incurred in relation to individual assets. The current economic climate makes it uncertain that the Council will be able to sustain its current spending on repairs and maintenance, bringing into doubt the useful lives assigned to assets.
Provisions	The Council has made provisions in 2014/15 totalling £600k, comprising Personal Search refunds (£156k) a Planning Appeal (£172k) and NDR appeals (£272k). The amounts are based on informed estimates of the final liability.
Pensions Liability	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets, etc. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Pensions Administrator with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Asset Valuation	Having regard to the prevailing market conditions there are no assets within the Surplus Properties category. Previously identified assets have either been sold or re-categorised. Where impairments have arisen explanatory notes have been included to explain the specific reasons for each asset.
Employee Benefits Payable During Employment	The Council has accrued for known holiday entitlement outstanding as at 31 March 2015, but not taken. This was based on the Council's on-line Annual Leave System (ALS) which sets and records leave as it is authorised and taken during the year. Accrued leave was calculated as £11k at 31 March 2015, compared to £14k at 31 March 2014. The Council has policies in place concerning the taking of accrued leave and other time in lieu. Only in special circumstances can this be converted into cash payments to the employees concerned. Therefore, in practice, much of the accrued sum is unlikely to be a true financial cost and in most circumstances the accrued time is managed within the confines of service delivery. Therefore, the accrued sum is not a charge to the Council's Reserves and with any cash payments being accounted for in the year that they are made.
Bad and Doubtful Debts	<p>The Council has a number of debts outstanding at 31 March 2015. It is likely that a proportion of this debt will not be collectable in the future. Therefore, judgements are made to determine the amount that will remain uncollected and this is converted into a sum which is paid into a provision, in order that uncollectable debts can be written off.</p> <p>Debts are categorised into type and profile of the debtor. Judgements are then made, in some instances at an individual level, regarding the size of debt, period outstanding and any payments in place, etc. A percentage is then applied to debts that may not be collected. Generally, the older the debt, the greater the percentage applied. The percentage is also informed by past experience and the current economic climate. Within the overall resources of the Council, a prudent view is taken in calculating a bad debts provision.</p>

5. Material Items of Income and Expense

The material items in 2014/15 were:

- ➔ A net capital receipt from the sale of land (£1.46m) as detailed in Note 3.
- ➔ Accrual for the payment of an Efficiency Dividend as detailed in Note 3.
- ➔ The repayment of a loan valued at £1m as detailed in Note 7.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

6. Other Operating Income and Expenditure

Total £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Parish Council Precepts	606	603
Parish Council Tax Support Grant	44	44
Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool *	269	294
Total - Other Operating Expenditure	919	941
Profit on disposal of non-current assets		
Normal (see below)	(233)	(222)
Exceptional (Note 3) *	(1,460)	-
Total - profit on disposal of non-current assets	(1,693)	(222)
Total - Other Operating (Income) / Expenditure	(773)	719

(Profits)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Net Proceeds from Sale of General Assets *	(21)	-
Net Proceeds from Sale of HRA Assets *	(942)	(880)
Disposal Costs	-	108
Book Value of non-current assets sold	730	550
Total	(233)	(222)

*The proceeds from the sale of Property, Plant & Equipment in the Cash Flow Statement total £2,154k

7. Financing and Investment - Income and Expenditure

Total £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Interest Payable and Similar Charges	1,830	1,632
Interest Receivable and Similar Income	(54)	(39)
Net Interest Payable on Defined Pension Scheme Liability (Note 32)	971	1,138
Income and Expenditure in Relation to Investment Properties	(414)	(534)
Total	2,333	2,197

Interest Payable

Interest payable in 2014/15 includes an early termination penalty (Premium) of £242k incurred through the premature repayment of an outstanding money market loan of £1m. This loan was at a fixed rate 4.875%, maturing in 2032 with interest payments of £48,750 per year.

This repayment followed the lender approaching the Council to see what price it was willing to pay to repay the loan early. Following recent bank restructurings, the Bank was effectively being directed, under regulation, to clear loan instruments such as these.

Therefore, the Council's Treasury Advisors negotiated a deal for the Council to buy-out of the loan early. The price negotiated had to be at such a level that savings in interest in later years were greater than the early termination fee. Agreement was reached and the loan was repaid on 2nd October 2014.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

The saving in interest over the remaining life of the loan is approximately £828,000 (17 years at £48,750); “pay-back” (of the Premium) is within 5 years. The principal repaid was financed within the HRA’s Capital Financing Requirement.

8. Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income

Total £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Council Tax Income	(5,132)	(5,047)
NNDR Income	(2,848)	(2,191)
Efficiency Dividend (see Note 3)	270	-
Non Ring Fenced Government Grants	(4,436)	(4,875)
Total	(12,146)	(12,113)

Council Tax Income £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Current Year	(5,132)	(5,047)
Total	(5,132)	(5,047)

National Non Domestic Rates (NNDR) £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Current Year	(8,903)	(7,910)
Tariff Payments to DCLG	6,084	5,968
Business Rate Reliefs	(553)	(261)
Business Rate Levy	523	13
Total	(2,848)	(2,191)

Non Ring Fenced Government Grants £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Revenue Support Grant	(2,563)	(3,332)
Council Tax Freeze Grant	(50)	(49)
Council Tax Transition Grant	-	(14)
Transparency Grant	(8)	-
New Homes Bonus	(1,787)	(1,347)
New Homes Adjustment Grant	-	(19)
New Burdens Grant	(10)	(98)
Community Right to Challenge	(9)	(9)
Community Right to Bid	(8)	(8)
Total	(4,436)	(4,875)

The reduction in overall non-ring fenced government grants (above) is due to the national reduction in grant funding for local authorities.

Further details of Council Tax and NNDR income can be found in the Collection Fund statement and accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

9. Property, Plant and Equipment

Year ended 31 March 2015	Council Dwellings	Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Total
£000's					
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2014	87,713	13,296	4,258	1,345	106,612
Additions	5,412	771	59	-	6,242
Disposals	(645)	(62)	(30)	(27)	(764)
Transfers	-	(1)	-	-	(1)
Revaluations recognised in the revaluation reserve	(2,889)	347	-	765	(1,777)
At 31 March 2015	89,591	14,352	4,287	2,083	110,312
Depreciation & Impairment					
At 1 April 2014	-	(146)	(2,431)	(7)	(2,584)
Charge for the Year	(2,887)	(641)	(340)	(10)	(3,877)
Disposals	-	8	26	-	34
Impairments recognised in the Provision of Services	(740)	269	-	(7)	(478)
Depreciation written out to the revaluation reserve	3,627	510	-	24	4,161
At 31 March 2015	-	-	(2,745)	-	(2,745)
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2015	89,591	14,352	1,542	2,083	107,568
At 1 April 2014	87,713	13,151	1,827	1,338	104,028

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2014	Council Dwellings	Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Total
£000's					
Cost or valuation					
At 1 April 2013	86,677	13,140	2,875	1,342	104,034
Additions	4,665	-	1,410	-	6,075
Disposals	(550)	(2)	(27)	-	(580)
Transfers	-	(104)	-	-	(104)
Revaluations	(3,078)	262	-	3	(2,814)
At 31 March 2014	87,713	13,296	4,258	1,345	106,612
Depreciation & Impairment					
At 1 April 2013	-	(182)	(2,224)	(6)	(2,412)
Charge for the Year	(2,722)	(508)	(218)	(10)	(3,458)
Disposals	-	1	11	-	11
Impairments	(826)	(33)	-	-	(859)
Revaluations	3,548	577	-	8	4,133
At 31 March 2014	-	(146)	(2,431)	(7)	(2,584)
Net Book Value					
At 31 March 2014	87,713	13,151	1,827	1,338	104,028
At 1 April 2013	86,677	12,957	651	1,337	101,622
Impairments recognised in CIES	3,178	58	-	-	3,236
reversed in CIES	(2,352)	(25)	-	-	(2,377)
	826	33	-	-	859
Revaluations recognised in Other CIES	470	883	-	11	1,363
reversed in Other CIES	-	(44)	-	-	(44)
	470	839	-	11	1,319

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Valuations

In accordance with IAS 16, the Council revalues all Property, Plant and Equipment on an annual basis on a fair value basis. It is considered that there is no material difference in a fair value basis compared to a valuation based on carrying value. All valuations were carried out externally by Scott Kershaw MRICS, Senior Surveyor, VOA. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out at 31 March 2015 in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Except for Vehicles, Plant and Equipment, all assets are valued each year and summary values are shown in the following table.

£000's	Council Dwellings	Land & Buildings	Vehicles, Plant & Equipment	Community Assets	Total
Carried at historical cost	-	-	4,287	-	4,287
Carried at valuation as at:					
31 March 2015	89,591	14,290	-	1,978	105,859
31 March 2014	-	62	-	105	167
	89,591	14,352	4,287	2,083	110,312

Valuation Assumptions

The significant assumptions applied in estimating the fair values by the Valuer are as follows:

- The land and property are not contaminated nor adversely affected by radon.
- Parts of the property which are covered, unexposed or inaccessible have not been inspected, and inspection of those parts that have not been inspected would neither reveal defects nor cause material alteration at any valuation.
- No potentially deleterious or hazardous materials were used in the construction of the assets and none has subsequently been incorporated.
- No investigation has been carried out to determine the presence of contamination, deleterious or hazardous materials at any of the properties.
- The Valuer has not undertaken building or soil surveys or a survey of possible contamination of the subject properties, although the Valuer shall have regard to the apparent state of repair and condition of the properties.
- There has been no recent flooding affecting the assets and representation of the assets on any map identifying possible flood occurrences will have no effect on the value.
- Reliance has been placed on information provided by the Council, except where stated otherwise, and all information supplied by the Council with regard to details of tenure, tenancies, planning consents, details of floor areas and site areas, and all other relevant information is accurate.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

- keOriginal documents of title and lease documentation have not been read.
- Except where specifically mentioned, it has been assumed that the assets are not subject to any unusual or especially onerous restrictions, encumbrances, mortgages, charges or other outgoing would affect their value and a good title can be shown.
- Mechanical and electrical installations and other specialist installations and services have not been tested.
- The assets and their values are unaffected by any matters which would be revealed by local search and replies to the usual enquiries or by any statutory notice, and that neither the construction of properties nor their condition, use or intended use was, is or will be unlawful or in breach of any covenants.
- No access audit has been undertaken to ascertain compliance with the Equality Act 2010.
- No allowances have been made for any rights obligations or liabilities arising from the Defective Premises Act 1972.
- Where a building is either listed or is in a conservation area, this will be identified in any individual report or on the valuation schedules.

Impairments

Impairments for the year ended 31 March 2015 recognised in the Income and Expenditure Statement were £3,228k, with £2,750k of impairments being reversed relating to previous years.

10. Investment Properties

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

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Balance at the beginning of the year	4,285	3,975
Transfers to Property, Plant and Equipment	-	(16)
Surplus/(Deficit) on revaluation	250	326
Balance at the end of the year	4,535	4,285

Income and expenditure associated with Investment properties (including asset charges) have been accounted for in the "Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure" line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (Note 7).

Where an investment property is held under an operating lease, disclosure in respect of the operating lease is given in Note 31, Leases.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

11. Financial Instruments

With the exception of borrowings (as detailed in Note 18) the Council has determined fair value to be carrying value as there is no material difference between these two values.

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

£000'S	Non Current		Current	
	2015	2014	2015	2014
Investments				
Loans and receivables	40	40	-	-
Total Investments	40	40	-	-
Debtors				
Loans and receivables	34	34	-	-
Financial assets carried at contract amounts	-	-	2,281	1,600
Debtors that are not financial instruments	-	-	252	926
Total Debtors	34	34	2,533	2,526
Cash and cash equivalents				
Loans and receivables (note 16)	-	-	14,285	7,456
Total cash liability	-	-	14,285	7,456
Borrowings				
Financial liabilities at amortised costs	(57,423)	(58,423)	(28)	(35)
Total Borrowings	(57,423)	(58,423)	(28)	(35)
Other Long Term Liabilities	(77)	(69)	-	-
Total Other long term liabilities	(77)	(69)	-	-
Creditors				
Financial liabilities carried at contract amounts	-	-	(4,067)	(3,158)
Creditors that are not financial instruments	-	-	(1,469)	(373)
Total Creditors	-	-	(5,536)	(3,531)

The investments of 40k included in the above table, relate to money held in trust for a local community group.

Debtors (Loans and receivables) relate to charges placed on properties following work undertaken by the Council under statutory powers.

As at 31st March 2015, the debt outstanding comprised the following loans.

- A portfolio of loans from the Public Works Loan Board with a book value of £57,423k (2014: £57,423k). £47,423k of the loans are fixed with rates between 2.7% and 3.5%. The remaining £10,000k loan is a variable rate loan (with a benchmark of the six month gilt), currently incurring interest at 0.75% (2014: 0.57%), with a maturity of 2022.
- Loans received from various Parish Councils within the South Derbyshire District Council area who have deposited funds with the Council. These loans can be recalled on immediate notice. Interest is calculated at the Bank of England Base Rate, less 1%.

During 2014/15, the Council repaid an outstanding market loan of £1m (as detailed in Note 7) and a short-term interest free loan of £7k. No further borrowing was undertaken in the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

11. Financial Instruments (continued)

Interest Income, Expenses, Gains and Losses

As part of the CIPFA code of practice in the financial instruments note, the Council is also required to disclose the interest income and expenses and the gains and losses in respect of this. These are shown in the table below:

£000'S	2015			2014		
	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables	Total	Financial Liabilities measured at amortised	Financial Assets: Loans and Receivables	Total
Interest Expense	(1,830)	-	(1,830)	(1,632)	-	(1,632)
Total Expense	(1,830)	-	(1,830)	(1,632)	-	(1,632)
Interest Income	-	54	54	-	39	39
Total Income	-	54	54	-	39	39
Net gains/ loss)	(1,830)	54	(1,776)	(1,632)	39	(1,593)

Fair Values of Assets and Liabilities

The financial liabilities, financial assets represented by loans and receivables and long-term debtors and creditors are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. The fair value is 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:

- The fair values of long term loans from the Public Works Loans Board have been based on the new lending rates for equivalent loans at that date with an identical remaining term to maturity.
- For loans receivable prevailing benchmark market rates have been used to provide the fair value.
- No early repayment impairment is recognised.
- The fair value of trade and other receivables is taken to be the invoiced or billed amount

The fair value adjustment relates to the Public Works Loan Board Portfolio. The fair values were obtained from the Public Works Loan Board website, which values all loans for the purpose of year-end financial statements. The fair value is in 2015, approximately £8.8m higher than the current book value. This reflects that the loans are currently worth more due to the average discount rate on these loans being 1.66%, compared to the average actual interest paid of 2.77%.

With the exception of borrowings, the Council has determined fair value to be carrying value as there is no material difference between these two values. The fair value on borrowings is calculated as follows:

£000'S	Carrying amount	Fair value	Carrying amount	Fair value
	2015	2015	2014	2014
Financial Liabilities				
Long Term	(57,423)	(66,259)	(58,423)	(59,133)
Short Term	(28)	(28)	(35)	(35)
	(57,451)	(66,287)	(58,458)	(59,168)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

11. Financial Instruments (continued)

Nature and Extent of Risks arising from Financial Instruments

The CIPFA's Code of Practice on Treasury Management which requires the adoption of the CIPFA Treasury Management Code and the approval of Treasury Management Strategy before the commencement of each financial year has been adopted by the Council. The Strategy sets out the parameters for the management of risks associated with financial instruments.

The Council is exposed to the financial risks:

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

Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The Council's risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and on implementing restrictions to minimise these. The procedures for risk management are set out in the Local Government Act 2003 and the associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with the CIPFA Prudential Code for Treasury Management in the Public Sector which governs borrowing and investment activity.

Overall, these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

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

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

The Council maintains written principles for overall risk management, as well as written policies covering specific areas, such as interest rate risk, credit risk, and the investment of surplus cash through Treasury

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Management Practices (TMPs). These TMPs are a requirement of the Code of Practice and are reviewed regularly.

11. Financial Instruments (continued)

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions, as well as credit exposures to the Council's customers. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria outlined above. The following narrative summarises the Council's potential maximum exposure to credit risk on financial assets, based on the experience of default assessed by the ratings agencies and the Council's treasury advisors.

The following table summarises the balances held at 31st March 2015:

Counterparty £000's	Credit rating criteria met when Investment placed	Balance Invested at 31 March 2015
Banks	Yes	1,914
Other local authorities	Yes	12,000
		13,914

Liquidity Risk

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the Money Markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow need, and whilst the Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) provides access to longer term funds, it also acts as a lender of last resort to councils (although it will not provide funding to a council whose actions are unlawful). The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. There is, therefore, no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures detailed previously, (the setting and approval of prudential indicators, together with the approval of the treasury and investment strategy reports and through cash flow management procedures required by the Code of Practice.

The maturity analysis of financial liabilities is as follows:

Maturity analysis of financial liabilities £000's	Balance at 31 March 2015	Balance at 31 March 2014
Less than one year	28	1,035
Between one and two years	-	-
Between two and five years	-	-
Between five and ten years	20,000	10,000
More than ten years	37,423	47,423
	57,451	58,458

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

11. Financial Instruments (continued)

Interest Rate Risk

Interest movements on borrowing and investments are common factor across institutions in the financial market and can have an impact on the Council. For instance, a rise in variable and fixed interest rates would have the following effects:

- borrowings at variable rates, the interest expense charged to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise.
- borrowings at fixed rates, the fair value of the borrowing liability will fall.
- investments at variable rates, the interest income credited to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise
- investments at fixed rates, the fair value of the assets will fall.

Although the majority of the Councils investment rates are fixed, market and forecast interest rates will continue to be monitored.

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains debt and short-term investment portfolios. Whilst the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer term risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature.

The approved prudential indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt, and the limits placed on investments, are the key parameters used to address this risk. The Council's approved treasury and investment strategies address the main risks and the Financial Services Unit addresses the operational risks within the approved parameters. This includes monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day-to-day cash flow needs.

Market Risk/Interest Rate Risk

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

- Borrowings at variable rates – the interest expense charged to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise.
- Borrowings at fixed rates – the fair value of the borrowing liability will fall.
- Investments at variable rates – the interest income credited to the Income and Expenditure Account will rise.
- Investments at fixed rates – the fair value of the assets will fall.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The Annual Treasury Management Strategy draws together the Council's prudential indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. From this Strategy a prudential indicator is set which provides maximum and minimum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure.

Under the direction of the Council's Chief Finance Officer, the Financial Services Unit monitors market and forecast interest rates within the year to adjust exposures appropriately.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

12. Debtors

Current £000's	2015	2014
Central Government Bodies	252	926
Other Local Authorities	472	1,159
Other entities and individuals	3,371	1,839
	4,096	3,923
Less: Bad Debt Impairment Provisions	(1,562)	(1,397)
Total	2,533	2,526

The movement in the amounts relating to Government Bodies and other Local Authorities reflects timing difference on the share of income on the **Collection Fund**.

The increase in the amount owing from other entities relates to outstanding developer contributions arising from Section 106 planning agreements.

Credit arrangements provided to Debtors

The Council does not generally allow credit for its Trade Debtors, such that £297k (2014: £489k) is past its due date for payment but not provided. The past due amount can be analysed by age as follows:

Past Due £000's	2015	2014
Less than 3 Months	94	338
3 - 6 Months	104	47
6 Months - 1 Year	43	24
More than 1 Year	56	80
Total	297	489

13. Assets Held for Sale

£000's	2015	2014
Balance at beginning of the year	2,640	70
Movement in Assets Held for Sale	(804)	2,570
Balance at end of the year	1,836	2,640

As detailed in Note 3, assets held for sale include land at William Nadin Way, Swadlincote (2014 and 2015) together with land at Chestnut Avenue, Midway (2015 only).

The Council has classed these assets as "held for sale" in accordance with IFRS 5. This is because in both cases, there is a contractual commitment in place and the land is currently in the process of being sold or transferred having been valued for such purposes. Contracts have been exchanged, are unconditional and binding.

In addition, due to progress being made on both regeneration schemes, it is now unlikely that the plans will be significantly changed or withdrawn.

The land held for sale at William Nadin Way is valued at £1.275m and the land at Chestnut Avenue at £0.56m. The overall reduction in value from 2014 is that the 1st phase of land at William Nadin Way (held for sale as at 31st March 2014) was sold in 2014/15 at a gross value of £1.88m.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

14. Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the cash flow statement, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and in bank, together with short term deposits and investments (considered to be cash equivalents) net of outstanding bank overdrafts. Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period as shown in the statement of cash flows can be reconciled to the related items in the Balance Sheet as follows:

£000's	2015	2014
Cash and Bank Balances	2,285	5,415
Short Term Deposits (considered to be cash equivalents)	12,000	2,041
Bank Overdraft	-	-
Total	14,285	7,456

The short term deposits (£12m) were all invested with other local authorities as at 31st March 2015.

15. Creditors

Current £000's	2015	2014
Central Government Departments	(1,469)	(373)
Other Authorities	(708)	(62)
All Other Bodies	(3,347)	(3,082)
Accumulated Absences	(12)	(14)
Total	(5,536)	(3,531)

The movement in the amounts relating to Government Bodies and other Local Authorities reflects timing differences on the share of income on the **Collection Fund**.

16. Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The Council has made 3 provisions in the accounts for 2014/15 as shown in the following table.

Current £000's	At 1 April	Increase in provision during year	Utilised during the year	Unused amounts released	At 31 March
2014/15					
Personal Searches	(100)	(56)	-	-	(156)
Planning Appeal	(70)	(172)	20	50	(172)
Benefit Claw Back	(90)	-	-	90	-
NNDR Appeals	(251)	(22)	-	-	(272)
Termination Benefits	(104)	-	91	13	0
	(614)	(250)	111	152	(600)
2013/14					
Personal Searches	-	(100)	-	-	(100)
Planning Appeal	-	(70)	-	-	(70)
Benefit Claw Back	(147)	(90)	-	147	(90)
NNDR Appeals		(251)			(251)
Termination Benefits	(205)	(104)	205	-	(104)
	(352)	(614)	205	147	(614)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

16. Provisions (continued)

Personal Searches

A provision of £100,000 was made in 2012/13 for the refund of personal search fees. This followed a legal case affecting all councils which determined that charges for personal searches should not have been made as they were outside Environmental Information Regulations. Consequently, all personal search fees dating back to 2005 are to be refunded. Over the last two years, legal firms have acted on behalf of councils to determine actual liabilities. No payments have yet been made.

However, the Council has recently been notified of its final liability. This includes interest and legal fees. In total, costs have been settled at £156,000. Therefore, this provision has been increased in 2014/15 from £100,000.

Planning Appeals

This is for costs associated with a planning appeal totalling £172,000. A provision of £70,000 was made in 2013/14 for a separate appeal. In regards to the appeal in 2013/14, although some additional fees were incurred, costs were not awarded against the Council and £50,000 has been recredited back to the Income and Expenditure Account from the original provision of £70,000.

National Domestic Rate (NDR) Appeals

This is to provide for known appeals by local businesses against their rateable value which forms the basis of their NDR liability.

Provisions Utilised or Released During the Year

Actual costs made in 2013/14 for the clawback of benefit subsidy and the payment of early termination benefits were settled in 2014/15. These costs are reflected in the Income and Expenditure Statement with the relevant provision recredited back to income and expenditure.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

17. Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund expenditure in 2014/15

£000's	Closing balance 2013/14	Transfers in	Transfers out	Closing balance 2014/15
General Fund				
IT Reserve	196	-	-	196
Committed Expenditure Reserve	299	-	(135)	164
Dilapidation Deposit (Dellner Woodville Site)	261	-	-	261
S106 Receipts	1,034	2,670	(212)	3,492
Grants Unapplied	151	-	(78)	73
Homelessness Prevention	177	73	(63)	187
Schools Sport Partnership Project	188	-	(5)	183
Pensions Reserve	-	182	-	182
Planning Staffing & Support Costs Reserve	-	167	-	167
Other Earmarked Reserves	351	213	(76)	488
Total	2,656	3,305	(569)	5,392
Earmarked Capital Reserves	578	270	(66)	782
	3,234	3,575	(635)	6,174

18. Usable Reserves

£000's	2015	2014
General Fund ¹	6,135	5,910
Earmarked Reserves ^{1,2}	6,174	3,234
HRA ¹	2,381	2,810
Capital Receipts Reserve ²	5,179	3,500
Capital Grants Unapplied Account ²	2,158	1,701
Major Repairs Reserve ²	1,703	1,648
Total	23,730	18,805

Notes

1. Reserve for Revenue purposes
2. Reserve for Capital purposes

Revenue Reserves

The General fund is the main revenue fund of the Council. Day-to-day spending on services is met from this Fund. Income and expenditure associated with the provision of Council Housing is charged separately under statute within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). The HRA has its own reserve.

Earmarked Reserves

The Council maintains various earmarked reserves for specific purposes. These reserves are used to meet one-off commitments or to spread the cost of more significant expenditure over a number of years, for example, replacement of vehicles and ICT developments. Reserves are also created where income, for example external contributions, is received in advance of expenditure which may occur beyond one year.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

18. Usable Reserves (continued)

£000's	2015	2014
IT Reserve	196	196
Committed Expenditure Reserve	164	299
S106 Capital Receipts	3,492	1,034
Capital Grants Unapplied	73	151
Dilapidation Deposit (Dellner Woodville Site)	261	261
Fixed Asset Replacement Fund	782	578
Homelessness Prevention	187	177
Schools Sport Partnership Project	183	188
Pensions Reserve	182	-
Planning Staffing & Support Costs Reserve	167	-
Other Earmarked Reserves	487	351
Total	6,174	3,234

- **IT Reserve:** to upgrade and develop the Council's ICT infrastructure to enable it to keep abreast of modern technology. This is supplemented each year from any budget savings on day to day IT expenditure.
- **Committed Expenditure Reserve:** to meet various commitments that were allocated in previous year's budgets but not spent.
- **Section 106 Receipts:** contractual sums received from developers as part of the planning process to provide health, community and leisure facilities in new residential areas. In many cases, this money is eventually passed over to other agencies to provide facilities.
- **Dilapidation Deposit:** held pending any commitment to repairs of the Council's main factory site upon termination of the Lease. Some major works have been identified to be completed in 2015/16.
- **Fixed asset Replacement Fund:** to finance the replacement of vehicles, plant and equipment.
- **Homelessness Prevention:** to meet future commitments for prevention of homelessness.
- **Schools Sport Partnership Project:** funding received in advance for youth sports programmes.
- **Pensions Reserve:** a new reserve created in 2014/15 to provide for any further increases in the employer's contribution rate to its Pension Fund.
- **Planning Staffing and Support Costs:** a new reserve created in 2014/15 to provide temporary resources over the next 2 to 3 years to deal with an increase in demand for planning applications and related matters.

Capital Reserves

These are held to provide new assets or to upgrade exiting ones.

Capital Receipts Reserve

These are cash receipts from the sale of Council assets, which have not yet been used to finance capital expenditure. This includes a sum of approximately £2m to finance a programme of building new council homes for social rent. 3 projects were due to commence in 2015/16.

Capital Grants Unapplied Account

This comprises Government, other grants and external contributions received to fund expenditure, which is generally incurred beyond one year. A list of unapplied grants is provided below:

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

18. Usable Reserves (continued)

£000's	2015	2014
Public Open Space (Commutated Sums)	865	453
Crime and Disorder Partnership	401	442
Youth Engagement Partnership	569	487
Get Active in the Forest Partnership	89	112
Other Capital Grants Unapplied	234	206
Total	2,158	1,701

Major Repairs Reserve

This Reserve is used to finance investment in the housing stock and the reserve is funded by transfers from the HRA (through the Capital Expenditure Requirement).

A full analysis of the movements is provided in the Housing Revenue Account Statements.

19. Unusable Reserves

£000's	2015	2014
Capital Adjustment Account ²	33,197	31,004
Revaluation Reserve ²	10,080	8,949
Pensions Reserve ¹	(29,837)	(22,658)
Collection Fund Adjustment Account ¹	318	(312)
Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account ¹	(11)	(14)
Total	13,747	16,969

Notes

1. Reserve for Revenue purposes
2. Reserve for Capital purposes

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).

The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council.

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

Note 20 "Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations" provides details of the source of all the transactions posted to the Account, apart from those involving the Revaluation Reserve.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

19. Unusable Reserves (continued)

£000's	2015
Balance at 1st April 2014	31,003
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	(4,355)
Revaluation gains on Property, Plant and Equipment	400
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	1,279
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal	(698)
Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year	27,629
Capital financing applied in the year:	
Use of Capital Receipts to finance new capital expenditure	447
Use of Major Repairs Reserves to fund new capital expenditure	5,545
Capital grants and contributions credited to the comprehensive I&E statement that have been applied to capital financing	(1,359)
Application of grants to capital financing from the Capital Grants Unapplied Account	146
Minimum Revenue Provision	242
Voluntary Revenue Provision	111
Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balance	185
Movements in the market value of Investment Properties	250
Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account ¹	-
Total	33,197

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:

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

The Reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the Reserve was created.

Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

£000's	2015
Balance at 1st April 2014	8,951
Upward revaluation of assets	2,891
Downward revaluation of assets	(1,360)
Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal	-
Surplus on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Provision of Services	10,482
Accumulated gains on assets sold	(400)
Total	10,082

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

19. Unusable Reserves (continued)

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs.

However, statutory arrangements require a benefit earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

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

Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account

The Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

20. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

Year ended 31 March 2015	General Fund	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Major Repairs Reserve	Total
£000's						
Adjustments primarily involving Capital Adjustment Account:						
Reversal of items debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	683	3,673	-	-	-	4,355
Revaluation deficits / (surpluses) on Property, Plant and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Movements In the fair value of Investment Properties	(232)	(19)	-	-	-	(250)
Capital Grants and Contributions Applied	-	-	-	(66)	-	(66)
Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital Under Statute	(1,247)	(32)	-	-	-	(1,279)
Transfers in Reserves	1,247	32	-	-	-	1,279
(Profit) / loss on disposal of non current asset disposals	85	613				698
Insertion of items not debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:						
Minimum Reserve Position for Capital Funding	(242)	-	-	-	-	(242)
Voluntary Revenue Contribution for Capital Funding	(111)	-	-	-	-	(111)
Capital Expenditure charged against the General Fund, Capital Receipts and HRA balances	(185)	-	(447)	-	-	(632)
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Receipts Reserve:						
Transfer of cash sale proceeds credited as part of the gain/loss on disposal	(1,899)	(928)	2,827	-	-	-
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new Capital Expenditure	901	(287)	(615)	-	-	-
Contributions from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	-	269	(269)	-	-	-
Adjustments primarily involving the Capital Grants Unapplied:						
Use of the Capital Grants Reserve to finance new Capital Expenditure	39			(39)		-
Contributions to Capital Grants from General Fund	(562)			562		-
Adjustment primarily involving the Major Repairs Reserve:						
Revenue contribution to finance major repairs	(100)	(5,500)			5,600	-
Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	1	-	-	-	(5,546)	(5,545)
	(1,804)	(2,179)	1,679	456	54	(1,794)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

20. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2015	General Fund	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Major Repairs Reserve	Total
£000's						
Adjustments with the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefit debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 32)	1,953	490	-	-	-	2,443
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(1,203)	(302)	-	-	-	(1,505)
	750	188	-	-	-	938
Adjustments with the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which Council Tax income & NNDR credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from income calculated for the year	(630)	-	-	-	-	(630)
Adjustments with the Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account:						
Adjustments in relation to Short Term compensated absences	1	(3)				(2)
Total Adjustments	(1,683)	(1,994)	1,679	456	54	(1,488)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

20. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2014	General Fund	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Major Repairs Reserve	Total
£000's						
Adjustments with the Capital Adjustment Account:						
Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	667	3,650	-	-	-	4,317
Revaluation deficits / (surpluses) on:	-	-	-	-	-	-
· Property, Plant and Equipment	-	-	-	-	-	-
· Investment Property	(304)	(23)	-	-	-	(326)
Funding of Covenant Repayment	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revenue Expenditure Funded by Capital Under Statute	582	26	(384)	(223)	-	-
Minimum Reserve Position for Capital Funding	(253)	-	-	-	-	(253)
Voluntary Revenue Contribution for Capital Funding	(55)	-	-	-	-	(55)
(Profit) / loss on disposal of non-current asset disposals	(8)	(322)	880	-	-	550
Transfers between Reserves	(582)	(26)	384	223	-	-
Revenue contribution to finance major repairs	-	(5,500)	-	-	5,500	-
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	(4,665)	(4,665)
	47	(2,194)	880	-	835	(432)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

20. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2014	General Fund	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Major Repairs Reserve	Total
£000's						
Adjustments with the Pensions Reserve:						
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefit debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (see Note 32)	1,962	491	-	-	-	2,453
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(1,145)	(286)	-	-	-	(1,431)
	817	205	-	-	-	1,022
Adjustments with the Collection Fund Adjustment Account:						
Amount by which Council Tax income & NNDR credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year	321	-	-	-	-	321
Adjustments with the Accumulating Compensated Absences Adjustment Account:						
Adjustments in relation to Short Term compensated absences	2	(1)	-	-	-	1
Other:						
Contributions from the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance the payments to the Government capital receipts pool	-	294	(294)	-	-	-
	-	294	(294)	-	-	-
Total	1,188	(1,696)	586	-	835	913

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

21. Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions

The analysis of income and expenditure by service on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account is that specified by the Service Reporting Code of Practice 2014/15. However, decisions about resource allocation are taken by the Council on the basis of budget responsibilities analysed across Committee portfolios, to match the Council's decision making structure. To some extent, budget reports are prepared on a different basis from the accounting policies used in the financial statements. In particular:

- No charges are made in relation to capital expenditure (whereas depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account). In addition, actual capital expenditure is reported separately.
- The cost of retirement benefits is based on cash flows (payment of employers' pension contributions) rather than current service cost of benefits accrued in the year.
- Overall government and Council Tax financing, together with some treasury management transactions (borrowing) are also reported separately as these transactions do not fall under the remit of any particular service budget holder, being more corporate related items.

The income and expenditure of the Council's principal portfolios recorded in the budget reports for the year is as follows:

£000's	Environmental & Development Services	Finance & Management	Housing & Community Services	Total
2014/15				
Income				
Fees, charges and other service income	3,400	3,841	14,367	21,608
Government grants	-	18,181	-	18,181
	3,400	22,023	14,367	39,790
Expenditure				
Employee expenses	3,383	1,739	3,428	8,549
Other service expenses	4,789	19,765	10,978	35,533
	8,172	21,504	14,406	44,082
Net Expenditure/(Income)	4,772	(519)	39	4,292

£000's	Environmental & Development Services	Finance & Management	Housing & Community Services	Total
2013/14				
Income				
Fees, charges and other service income	2,848	5,776	13,737	22,360
	2,848	5,776	13,737	22,360
Expenditure				
Employee expenses	3,282	1,910	3,470	8,662
Other service expenses	4,695	1,859	11,621	18,175
	7,976	3,769	15,091	26,837
Net Expenditure/(Income)	5,129	(2,007)	1,355	4,477

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

21. Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions (continued)

This reconciliation shows how the figures in the analysis of committee income and expenditure relate to the amounts included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Net Expenditure in the Directorate Analysis	4,292	4,477
Add: Amounts included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement not reported to management in the Directorate Analysis ¹	92	2,877
Deduct: Amounts included in the Directorate Analysis not reported in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement ²	(212)	(320)
Cost of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	4,172	7,034

1. These amounts mainly relate to capital and pension adjustments which are reversed out under the "Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis" under regulations.
2. These amounts mainly relate to Financing and Investment Income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement after the Cost of Services Line.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

21. Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions (continued)

	Directorate Analysis	Services and Support Services not in Analysis	Amounts not reported to management for decision making	Amounts not included in Income and Expenditure Account	Allocation of Recharges	Cost of Services	Corporate Amounts	Total
<i>£000's</i>								
2014/15								
Income								
Fees, charges and other service income	(39,790)	-	-	-	-	-	(596)	(40,386)
Interest and investment income	-	(54)	-	-	-	-	-	(54)
Income from Council Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,132)	(5,132)
Income from NNDR	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,848)	(2,848)
Government grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,436)	(4,436)
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,693)	(1,693)
	(39,790)	(54)	-	-	-	-	(14,704)	(54,548)
Expenditure								
Employee expenses	8,549	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,549
Other service expenses	35,533	-	-	-	-	-	61	35,593
Efficiency Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	-	270	270
Interest and investment Expenditure	-	2,801	-	-	-	-	-	2,801
Precepts and levies	-	650	-	-	-	-	-	650
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	-	269	-	-	-	-	-	269
	44,082	3,721	-	-	-	-	331	48,134
Deficit / (Surplus) on the provision of services	4,292	3,667	-	-	-	-	(14,374)	(6,414)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

21. Amounts Reported for Resource Allocation Decisions (continued)

	Directorate Analysis	Services and Support Services not in Analysis	Amounts not reported to management for decision making	Amounts not included in Income and Expenditure Account	Allocation of Recharges	Cost of Services	Corporate Amounts	Total
<i>£000's</i>								
2013/14								
Income								
Fees, charges and other service income	(22,360)	-	-	-	-	4,394	(862)	(18,828)
Interest and investment income	-	(39)	-	-	-	-	-	(39)
Income from Council Tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,047)	(5,047)
Income from NNDR	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,190)	(2,190)
Government grants and contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,875)	(4,875)
Profit on disposal of fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	(222)	(222)
	(22,360)	(39)	-	-	-	4,394	(13,197)	(31,202)
Expenditure								
Employee expenses	8,662	-	-	-	-	(116)	-	8,546
Other service expenses	18,175	-	214	285	-	(1,892)	-	16,782
Interest and investment Expenditure	-	2,770	-	-	-	-	-	2,770
Precepts and levies	-	647	-	-	-	-	-	647
Payments to Housing Capital Receipts Pool	-	294	-	-	-	-	-	294
	26,837	3,711	214	285	-	(2,008)	-	29,038
Deficit / (Surplus) on the provision of services	4,477	3,672	214	285	-	2,386	(13,197)	(2,164)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

22. Agency Services

The Council carries out, under an agency agreement with Derbyshire County Council, certain highways and gulley cleaning work. The value of this work is shown in the following table.

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Income	292	275
Expenditure	(109)	(87)
Net surplus arising on the agency agreement	183	188

23. Members' Allowances

During the year Members allowances totalled £344k (2013/14: £337k) as shown in the following table.

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Basic Allowance	218	218
Telephone Allowance	11	11
Travel and Subsistence	8	8
Special Responsibility Allowances	107	100
	344	337

24. Officer's Remuneration

Senior Management Salaries

The cost to the Council of its Senior Management Team is shown in the following table.

£'s		Salary, Fees And Allowances	Expenses Allowances (including redundancy)	Pension Contributions	Total
Chief Executive	2014/15	121,000	1,492	15,488	137,980
	2013/14	120,103	1,485	26,723	148,311
Director of Finance & Corporate Services	2014/15	76,883	1,492	9,841	88,215
	2013/14	73,292	1,485	16,307	91,084
Director of Housing & Environmental	2014/15	61,329	1,233	7,850	70,411
	2013/14	71,000	1,485	15,798	88,282
Director of Community & Planning	2014/15	74,370	1,492	9,519	85,381
	2013/14	71,000	1,485	15,798	88,282

The Director of Housing & Environmental left the Council in December 2014 and a new Director was appointed in February 2015.

In addition, the Council has one other officer whose remuneration exceeds more than £50,000 per year in total as shown below.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

24. Officer's Remuneration (continued)

	2014/15 Number	2013/14 Number
£50,001 to £55,000	1	1
	1	1

Exit Packages

£'s	2014/15	2013/14	2014/15	2013/14
£0 to £20,000	-	2	-	15,341
£20,001 to £40,000	1	3	31,085	88,385
	1	5	31,085	103,726

The total cost of these packages, which relate to early termination payments made as part of voluntary redundancy arrangements under the Council's Policy, was charged in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

25. External Audit Fees

The Council has incurred the following costs relating to the annual audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and other services provided by the Councils external auditors.

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
External Audit Fees	66	65
Grant Claim Certification Fees	24	28
Benchmarking existing service contracts	10	-
Reviewing Internal Recharges for Support Services	-	5
Welfare Reform Implementation	-	5
Audit Commission Rebate	(7)	(9)
Total	93	94

26. Grant Income

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2014/15:

£'000	2014/15	2013/14
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income (Note 8)		
General Government Grants	4,436	4,875
Business Rate Reliefs (Section 31 Grants)	553	261
	4,989	5,136
Credited to Net Cost of Service		
Department of Works and Pensions (Benefit Subsidy and Welfare Reform)	18,181	18,500
Supporting Housing	272	310
Contributions from Developers (section 106 Planning Agreements)	3,103	442
Other Grants and Contributions to Service Expenditure	847	719
	22,403	19,972

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

26. Grant Income (continued)

The Council has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them, which if not met would require the monies or property to be returned to the giver. The balances as at 31st March 2015 are as follows:

£'000	2014/15	2013/14
Capital Grants Received in Advance	211	117

27. Related Parties

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

Central Government

Central government has effective control over the general operations of the Council – it is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates, provides the majority of its funding in the form of grants and prescribes the terms of many of the transactions that the Council has with other parties (e.g. council tax bills, housing benefits). Grants received from government departments are set out in the subjective analysis in Note 23 - Amounts Reported for Resources Allocation Decisions. Debtor and Creditor values are analysed in notes 14 and 17 respectively.

Elected Members

The Council appoints elected members to sit as representatives in an official capacity on committees of local voluntary and community organisations. Some of these organisations are also grant funded by the Council. In addition, there are some members who also sit on these committees as an independent person not representing the Council, or who may have close family employed by these organisations.

In each case, the member is part of a wider decision making body and cannot on their own materially influence operations or funding, etc. In addition, members concerned are required to declare an interest in any funding decisions made by the Council in which they are in attendance and cannot then participate in any discussion or decision. The Council maintains appropriate records of these related parties in accordance with its Constitution. This applies to both Council Officers and Members.

All members are required to specify relationships that they have such as through employment and directorships, etc. During 2014/15, the Council had no dealings with any companies or organisations declared by elected members.

28. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the following table, together with the resources that have been used to finance it.

The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) is a measure of the Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes. It increases with new borrowing and is reduced as loans are repaid and amounts set-aside to repay future debt. The Council's overall debt outstanding cannot exceed the CFR.

The position for 2014/15 is shown in the following table.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

28. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing (continued)

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Capital Financing Requirement at 1 April	69,477	69,175
Add: Capital Expenditure		
Property, Plant and Equipment	6,243	6,075
Investment Properties	0	0
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	1,279	1,482
Total Expenditure	7,522	7,557
Less: Source of Finance		
Capital Receipts	(447)	(404)
Government Grants and External Financing	(866)	(759)
Other External Contributions	(320)	(368)
General Fund Revenue Contributions	(185)	(677)
Housing Revenue Account Contributions	(5,509)	(4,432)
Planning Agreements - S106 Developer Contributions	(196)	(30)
Total Financing	(7,522)	(6,670)
Minimum Revenue Provision	(242)	(253)
Voluntary Revenue Contribution	(111)	(55)
Actual Loan Principal Repaid	(1,007)	(277)
Total Repayments and Revenue Provisions	(1,360)	(585)
Capital Financing Requirement at 31 March	68,116	69,477
Actual Borrowings Outstanding - Gross (Note 18)	57,451	58,458
Investments - Short-term Investments Outstanding	(12,000)	(7,000)
Net Borrowings Outstanding (Gross less Investments)	45,451	51,458

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes

Nature of the Scheme

The Local Government Pension Scheme is available for Local Government in England and Wales. All employees are bought into the scheme unless they choose the option to opt out. South Derbyshire District Council is part of the Derbyshire Local Government Pension Scheme which is administered by the Derbyshire County Council Pension Section. Income and expenditure of the Scheme is accounted for in a Pension Fund managed by the County Council's Pensions Committee.

The Fund complies with Local Government Pension Scheme (Administration) Regulations 2008 and the draft statutory guidance issued on 21st July 2008 and incorporates changes approved by the Pensions Committee on 26 September 2008.

As the administering body Derbyshire County Council has a statutory responsibility for administering the pension scheme under the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and associated legislation under Sections 7.12 & 24 of the Superannuation Act 1972; this is delegated to the Pensions Committee.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Participation in the Local Authority Pension Scheme

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

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

Governance of the Council's Pension Scheme

The Scheme is operated under the regulatory framework for the Local Government Pension Scheme and the governance of the Scheme is the responsibility of the Pensions Committee. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pension Fund Regulations. The investment managers of the Fund are appointed by the Pensions Committee.

Pensions Risk

The principal risks to the Council of the Scheme are the longevity assumptions, statutory changes to the Scheme, structural changes (i.e. large scale withdrawals) changes to inflation, bond yields and the performance of the equity investments held by the Scheme. These are mitigated to a certain extent by the statutory requirements to charge the General Fund and Housing Revenue Account the amounts required by statute as described in the accounting policies note to these Accounts, i.e. **Note 1**.

Discretionary Post Retirement Benefits

These are unfunded defined benefit arrangements for which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. There is no investment assets built up to meet these pension liabilities and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments as they eventually fall due.

Transactions relating to retirement benefits – CIES Charges

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the Cost of Services on Continuing Operations when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions.

However, the charge the Council is required to make against Council Tax and Housing Rents is based on the cash payable in the year, and the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out in the adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations in the Movement on Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the CIES and the adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations line, in the Movement on Reserves Statement during the year.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

	2014/15	2013/14
Included in Net Cost of Services:		
Current Service Cost	1,472	1,268
Past Service Cost/(Gain) including curtailments	-	47
Pension Strain	-	-
	1,472	1,315
Included in Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure		
Interest income on plan assets	(2,154)	(1,988)
Interest cost on defined benefit obligations	3,125	3,126
	971	1,138
Net charge/(credit) to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Account	2,443	2,453
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		
Changes in demographic assumptions	-	(446)
Changes in financial assumptions	10,735	886
Other Experience	(664)	(4,352)
Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	(3,830)	(1,663)
Total	6,241	(5,575)
Adjustments Between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations		
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited on the Provision of Services in the CIES	(2,443)	(2,453)
Actual Amount Charged Against the General Fund Balance for Pensions in the Year		
Employers' Contributions Payable to the Scheme	1,505	1,431
Net (credit)/charge to the General Fund	(938)	(1,022)

The Current Service Cost figures include an allowance for administration expenses of 0.20%, unchanged from 2013/14.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

The following tables show the changes between the value of the liabilities and assets (investments) of the Council's Pension Scheme in the year and the overall liability in the longer term. These figures are based on an independent actuarial valuation of the Pension Fund as at 31st March.

Reconciliation of the Present Value of the Scheme Liabilities £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Balance at 1 April	(73,195)	(75,061)
Current Service Cost	(1,472)	(1,268)
Interest Cost on Defined Benefit Obligation	(3,125)	(3,126)
Contributions by Members	(376)	(353)
Changes in Demographic Assumptions	-	446
Changes in Financial Assumptions	(10,735)	(886)
Past Service (Costs) including curtailments	-	(47)
Other Experience	717	4,352
Estimated Benefits Paid	2,558	2,596
Unfunded Benefits	155	152
Balance at 31 March	(85,473)	(73,195)
Reconciliation of the Present Value of the Scheme Assets £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Balance as at 1 April	50,537	47,850
Interest Income on Plan Assets	2,154	1,988
Contributions by Members	376	353
Contributions by Employer	1,350	1,279
Contributions in respect of unfunded benefits	155	152
Return on Assets excluding amounts included in net interest	3,830	1,663
Estimated Benefits Paid	(2,558)	(2,596)
Unfunded Benefits Paid	(155)	(152)
Balance at 31 March	55,689	50,537

The expected return on scheme assets is determined by considering the expected returns available on the assets from the current investment policy. Expected yields on fixed interest investments are based on gross redemption.

Analysis of scheme assets and liabilities

£000's	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
Fair Value of Assets in Pension Scheme	55,689	50,537	47,850	43,021	43,130
Present Value of Defined Benefit Obligation	(85,473)	(73,195)	(75,061)	(65,033)	(60,575)
(Deficit) in the Scheme	(29,784)	(22,658)	(27,211)	(22,012)	(17,445)

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

The table shows that there is a continuing deficit on the Pension Scheme. This can fluctuate between years due to changes in assumptions and the value of annual payments into the Fund. The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long-term to pay retirement benefits. The total liability of £85.5m (2014: £73.1m) has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the Balance Sheet, resulting in a net liability of £29.8m (2014: £22.6m).

However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit meant that the financial position of the Council is not materially affected in any one year. Plans are in place to reduce the deficit on the Pension Fund over time through various pension reforms affecting the Local Government Pension Scheme at a national level.

The net increase in the deficit in 2014/15 is approximately £7m. This is mainly due to the falling value of bonds and to a lesser extent, the cost of defined benefits in the short-term. This has been offset by stronger performance on other assets, in particular from investment funds and unit trusts. Performance on assets is shown in the following table.

Major categories of plan assets

The Pension Fund's assets consist of the following categories, by proportion of the total assets held:

£000's	2015 Quoted Prices in Active Markets	2015 Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	2015 Total	2015 Percentage of Total Assets	2014 Quoted Prices in Active Markets	2014 Quoted Prices not in Active Markets	2014 Total	2014 Percentage of Total Assets
Equity Securities:								
Consumer	4,410	0	4,410	8%	4,358	0	4,358	9%
Manufacturing	5,581	0	5,581	10%	7,159	0	7,159	14%
Energy & Utilities	4,066	0	4,066	7%	4,510	0	4,510	9%
Financial Institutions	4,327	0	4,327	8%	8,783	0	8,783	17%
Health & Care	2,491	0	2,491	4%	2,687	0	2,687	5%
Information Technology	1,120	0	1,120	2%	1,408	0	1,408	3%
Other	5,571	0	5,571	10%	742	0	742	1%
Government Bonds:								
Corporate Bonds (investment grade)	0	2,690	2,690	5%	251	0	251	0%
UK Government	6,794	0	6,794	12%	6,276	0	6,276	12%
Other	1,474	0	1,474	3%	1,470	0	1,470	3%
Private Equity:								
All	272	142	414	1%	248	142	390	1%
Real Estate								
UK property	0	2,701	2,701	5%	1,496	879	2,375	5%
Investment Funds & Unit Trusts								
Equities	9,733	337	10,071	18%	5,505	103	5,608	11%
Bonds	0	0	0	0%	0	1,493	1,493	3%
Infrastructure	155	291	445	1%	0	222	222	0%
Cash & Cash Equivalents								
All	0	0	0	0%	2,805	0	2,805	6%
	45,995	9,694	55,689	100%	47,698	2,839	50,537	100%

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Basis for Estimating Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed by the Actuary using the projected unit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels etc. Estimates have been based on data pertaining to the latest full valuation of the Pension Scheme as at 31 March 2013. The assumptions are shown in the following table.

	2014/15	2013/14
Mortality Assumptions (years):		
Men	22.0	22.0
Women	24.2	24.2
Longevity at 65 for Future Pensioners:		
Men	24.1	24.1
Women	26.6	26.6
Principal Assumptions in the Valuation of the Liability		
Inflation / Rate of Increase in Pensions	2.40%	2.80%
Rate of Increase in Salaries	3.30%	3.60%
Discount Rate	3.20%	4.30%
Take-up of option to convert annual pension into retirement lump sum:		
Service to April 2009	50%	50%
Service post April 2009	75%	75%

Information about the Defined Benefit Obligation

Defined benefit obligation illustrates the profile of the scheme liabilities between types of member, including the weighted average duration of the pension obligation.

Change in assumptions at 31 March 2015:	Liability Split %	Weighted Average Duration
Active Members	39.60	23.20
Deferred Members	20.80	23.30
Pensioner Members	39.60	11.70
	100.00	17.70

Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity analysis shows the effect a change in financial assumptions used would have on the value of the scheme liabilities as at 31 March 2015 on varying basis.

To quantify the uncertainty around life expectancy a calculation was completed on a 1 year increase in life expectancy for sensitivity purposes giving an approximate 3% increase in cost of benefits. In practice the actual cost of a one year increase would depend on the structure of the revised assumption, for example, do survival rates predominantly apply at younger or older ages.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

29. Defined Benefit Pension Schemes (continued)

Change in assumptions at 31 March 2015:	Approximate % Increase to Employer Liability	Approximate monetary amount £000
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	10.0	8,493
1 year increase in Member Life Expectancy	3.0	2,564
0.5% increase in Salary Increase Rate	3.0	2,182
0.5% increase in Pension Increase Rate	7.0	6,189

Projected Defined Benefit Cost for the Period 31 March 2016

The Projected Defined Benefit is an analysis of the projected amount to be charged to the operating profit for the period to the 31st March 2016, is shown in the following table.

Period Ended 31 March 2016	Assets	Obligations	Net (Liability)/asset	
	£000	£000	£000	% of pay
Projected Service Cost		1,842	(1,842)	(32)
Past Service Cost including curtailments			0	
Effects of settlements			0	
Total Service Cost	0	1,842	(1,842)	(32)
Interest Income on plan assets	1,770		1,770	30
Interest cost on defined benefit obligation		2,728	(2,728)	(47)
Total Net Interest Cost	1,770	2,728	(958)	(16)
Total Included in Profit & Loss	1,770	4,570	(2,800)	(48)

30. Prior Year Adjustment

There were no prior year adjustments affecting the Accounts for 2014/15.

31. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

There have been no events occurring between the Balance Sheet date of 31 March 2015 and the date the accounts are audited, approved and signed off (*i.e.* 24th September 2015 – *following audit*) that have a bearing on the financial results.

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 March 2015

32. Contingent Liabilities

Municipal Mutual Insurance Limited (MMI)

In September 1992, the main insurer for local authorities (MMI) declared that it was no longer able to write new insurance business and would be going into "run off. This was due to MMI suffering substantial losses between 1990 and 1992. These losses reduced MMI's net assets to a level below the minimum regulatory solvency requirement.

Shortly after the run off declaration, MMI negotiated a Scheme of Arrangement with its creditors, who were mainly local authorities. This was subsequently agreed by the High Court and became effective from January 2004. In summary, the scheme allows MMI to claw back claims paid on behalf of scheme creditors from October 1992 if at some point MMI could not foresee a solvent run off for the Company. The Council was a policy holder with MMI in 1992; it subsequently became part of the Scheme and is covered by the arrangement.

Since 1992, MMI have continued to settle outstanding claims on the Council's behalf under the Scheme. The run off was expected to have been completed by 2006. However, some claims have taken longer to settle than envisaged. The main issue that MMI have been facing is that they are still picking up claims that flow from long-term diseases such as asbestos related conditions.

In October 2012, MMI published their latest set of accounts which showed a deteriorating financial performance with a net liability on their balance sheet of £152.8m. Consequently, in November 2012, the Directors of MMI triggered the Scheme of Arrangement. The control of the company then transferred from the Directors to the appointed administrator, Ernst and Young (EY).

EY conducted a review of MMI's financial position to determine how to meet the financial liability outstanding. Under the Scheme of Arrangement, EY can initiate a Levy, under clawback arrangements, on creditors to make good a financial shortfall. The Levy is subject to a minimum threshold.

As part of EY reviewing the assets and liabilities of MMI, they commissioned an actuarial review of the insurance liabilities as at 31st December 2012. This concluded that the projection for future claims is uncertain and they provided MMI with a range of estimates.

Using this information and based on assumptions regarding investment returns, EY indicated that a Levy of between 9.5% and 28% is required to achieve a projected solvent run off. In April 2013, EY informed all creditors, including the Council, that they were setting a Levy of 15%, which is based on a mid-point estimate.

This required the Council to make an initial payment to MMI based on this percentage. The Scheme requires EY to review the Levy rate at least once per year and they can adjust the rate up or down depending on liability trends. Due to the latent nature of many claims that MMI is still receiving and that many of the trends in reporting continue to be adverse, the projections are subject to substantial uncertainty.

The levy for each creditor is based on the amount of claims settled by MMI since 1992, subject to a minimum threshold of £50,000. As at 31st March 2015, MMI had settled claims on behalf of the Council since 1992 to the value of £131,645. At this stage, there is one known claim outstanding with an estimated liability of £15,000. The Council paid a levy of £12,247 in 2013/14 but was not asked to pay anything in 2014/15.

Although to-date, this matter has not materially affected the Council's financial position, the payment of future levies is possible and could be greater. As EY have highlighted, there is much uncertainty around any future payment and further claims, as yet unknown, may arise in the future.

Housing Revenue Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Income and Expenditure Statement

The Housing Revenue Account (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. The Council charge rents to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; 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 HRA Movement in Reserves Statement.

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
General	1,417	1,300
Special	785	782
Rents, rates & taxes	26	28
Depreciation & Impairment of NCA's	3,648	3,602
Provision for Bad Debts	10	67
Supervision & Management	5,885	5,781
Repairs & Maintenance	3,305	2,668
Total Expenditure before Exceptional Items	9,190	8,448
Cost of HRA Self Financing (Exceptional Item)	-	-
Total Expenditure	9,190	8,448
Dwelling Rents	(12,264)	(11,674)
Non-Dwelling Rents	(110)	(107)
Charges for Services & Facilities	(183)	(177)
Contributions towards Expenditure	(42)	(5)
Supporting People	(289)	(310)
Total Income	(12,887)	(12,274)
Net Cost of HRA Services as included in the Comprehensive I&E	(3,697)	(3,826)
HRA share of Corporate & Democratic Core	144	187
HRA share of other amounts included in Cost of Services	-	-
Net Cost of HRA Services	(3,553)	(3,639)
Losses/(Gains) on sale of HRA non-current assets	(27)	(27)
Interest payable and similar charges	1,820	1,631
HRA investment income	-	(12)
Pensions interest cost & expected return on pension assets	195	227
Surplus for Year on HRA Services	(1,565)	(1,821)

Housing Revenue Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Movement on the Housing Revenue Account

The Movement on the HRA Statement takes the outturn on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement and reconciles it to the surplus or deficit for the year on the HRA, calculated in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

	2014/15	2013/14
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,810	2,686
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	1,565	1,821
Adjustments between accounting and funding basis under regulations	(1,076)	(1,696)
Net decrease before transfers to Earmarked Reserves	489	124
Transfer to Earmarked Reserves	(919)	-
Decrease for the year on the HRA	(430)	124
Balance at the end of the year	2,381	2,810

Note to the Statement of Movement on the Housing Revenue Account

	2014/15	2013/14
Items included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but excluded from the movement on HRA Balance for the year		
Revaluation and impairment of non-current assets ¹	3,673	3,650
Retirement benefits charged/(credited) ²	490	491
(Gains)/losses on sale of HRA non-current assets ^{1,3}	(21)	(27)
	4,142	4,113
Items not included in the HRA Income and Expenditure Account but included in the movement on HRA Balance for the year		
Revenue contribution to finance major repairs	(5,500)	(5,500)
Employer's contributions payable to the Pensions Fund and retirement benefits payable direct to pensioners ²	(302)	(286)
	(5,802)	(5,786)
Net additional amount required by statute to be debited or (credited) to the HRA for the year	(1,660)	(1,673)

Notes

1. Transfers to / from Capital Adjustment Account
2. Transfers to / from Pensions Reserve
3. Transfers to / from Capital Receipts Reserve

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2015

1. Introduction

The Housing Revenue Account is a record of expenditure on, and income from, the provision of local council housing, and the form and content of the Account is prescribed by statute.

The Housing Revenue Account is “ring-fenced” and must be self-supporting. Contributions both to and from the Housing Revenue Account (e.g. from the General Fund) are limited to special circumstances.

2. Housing Stock

The number of dwellings in the Council’s housing stock, as at 31 March 2015, totalled 2,990 (2014: 3,008) properties. This followed the sale of 18 properties under the Government’s Right to Buy Scheme. The stock is broken down over type of properties as shown in the following table.

	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13
Houses	1,568	1,583	1,598
Flats	786	789	790
Bungalows	636	636	636
	2,990	3,008	3,024

Dwelling houses within the Housing Revenue Account are valued in accordance with the RICS Appraisal and Valuation Manual, as published by the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, and DCLG guidance. Accordingly the Existing Use Value for Social Housing (EUV-SH) has been used as the basis of valuation. The beacon approach to valuation of the housing stock has been adopted as recommended by the DCLG, including the regional adjustment to be adopted within the EUV-SH valuation.

The vacant possession value (open market value) of Council dwellings as at 31 March 2015 was £263,516k (2014: £257,979). This does not compare to the Balance Sheet, which shows the Existing Use Value, the difference being an indication of the economic and social costs of providing Council housing at less than market rent.

3. Major Repairs Reserve

The Major Repairs Reserve is used to fund major improvements to council properties. Expenditure financed from this Reserve is shown in Note 5. The movement on the Reserve during the 2014/15 is summarised below:

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Balance at the beginning of the year	1,648	653
Add Depreciation Provision	2,988	2,825
Use of Capital Receipts Reserve	-	160
Revenue Contribution for Capital	5,500	5,500
Amount available for capital expenditure on HRA Land, Houses and Other Property	10,137	9,138
Less Capital expenditure in the year (including Depreciation)	(8,433)	(7,490)
Balance at the end of the year	1,704	1,648

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2015

4. Property, Plant and Equipment

Year ended 31 March 2015	Council Dwellings	Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Investment Properties	Total
£000's						
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2014	87,713	2,136	102	89,950	193	90,143
Additions	5,412	164	32	5,608	-	5,608
Disposals	(645)	(12)	-	(657)	-	(657)
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(2,889)	78	-	(2,811)	19	(2,792)
At 31 March 2015	89,591	2,366	133	92,090	211	92,301
Depreciation and Impairment						
At 1 April 2014	-	-	(93)	(93)	-	(93)
Charge for the Year	(2,887)	(95)	(6)	(2,989)	-	(2,989)
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairments recognised in the Provision of Services	(740)	(56)	-	(796)	-	(796)
Depreciation written out to the revaluation reserve	3,627	151	-	3,778	-	3,778
At 31 March 2015	(0)	-	(99)	(99)	-	(99)
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2015	89,591	2,366	34	91,991	211	92,202
At 1 April 2014	87,713	2,136	9	89,857	193	90,050

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2015

4. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Year ended 31 March 2014	Council Dwellings	Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant and Equipment	Total Property, Plant and Equipment	Investment Properties	Total
£000's						
Cost or valuation						
At 1 April 2013	86,677	2,086	102	88,864	170	89,034
Additions	4,665	-	-	4,665		4,665
Disposals	(550)	(2)	-	(552)		(552)
Transfers	-	-	-	-		-
Revaluations	(3,078)	52	-	(3,027)	23	(3,004)
At 31 March 2014	87,713	2,136	102	89,950	193	90,143
Depreciation and Impairment						
At 1 April 2013	-	(89)	(68)	(157)	-	(157)
Charge for the Year	(2,722)	(78)	(25)	(2,825)	-	(2,825)
Disposals	-	1	-	1	-	1
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Impairments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	2,722	166	-	2,888	-	2,888
At 31 March 2014	-	-	(93)	(93)	-	(93)
Net Book Value						
At 31 March 2014	87,713	2,136	9	89,857	193	90,050
At 1 April 2013	86,677	1,998	34	88,707	170	88,877
Impairments recognised in CIES	(3,178)	-	-	(3,178)	-	(3,178)
reversed in CIES	2,352	1	-	2,352	-	2,352
	(826)	1	-	(825)	-	(825)
Revaluations recognised in Other CIES	470	217	-	686	-	686
recognised in Other CIES	-	-	-	-	-	-
	470	217	-	686	-	686

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2015

5. Capital Expenditure

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Capital Investment		
Operational Assets	5,609	4,662
	5,609	4,662
Sources of Funding		
External Grants	100	123
Capital Receipts	64	-
Major Repairs Reserve	5,445	4,539
	5,609	4,662

6. Capital Receipts from Disposal of Land, Houses and Other Property

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Land	-	-
Council Homes	(928)	(872)
Total Receipts	(928)	(872)
Less: Pooled payments to Central Government	269	294
Net Receipts Retained (transferred to Capital Receipts Reserve)	(659)	(578)

The retained receipts are earmarked in the Housing Capital Receipts Reserve to fund the Council's New Build Programme, which is to provide new Council Housing for rent.

7. Rent Arrears

A summary of rent arrears and prepayments is shown in the following table:

£000's	2015	2014
Current Tenant Arrears	230	207
Former Tenant Arrears	174	180
Total Tenant Arrears	404	386

8. Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts

The provision for bad and doubtful debts relating to rents and other charges, made against the Rent Arrears in Note 7 above, in the HRA is £232k (2014: £246k).

9. Depreciation and Impairment of Fixed Assets

The Dwellings in the Housing Revenue Account were valued as at £263,516k. After taking account of houses sold in 2014/15 and the Social Housing Discount Factor, the vacant possession value of the remaining dwellings at 31 March 2015 was £89,591 (2014: £87,713k). The lower figure of £89,591k shown in the accounts represents the cost to the Council of providing housing at less than open market rents. As a result of the valuation the CIES was credited with £740k (2013/14: £826k) for the reversal of previous year impairments. This gain has been transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

For the Year Ended 31 March 2015

The Housing Revenue Account assets were valued as at 31 March 2015; the balance sheet value reflects sales of dwellings and depreciation in the year. The revaluation was in accordance with the Government's resource accounting policy, at Existing Use Value - Social Housing.

As shown in Note 4, Depreciation of £2,989k (2014: £2,825k) has been charged to the HRA. This figure is made up of £2,887k (2014: £2,722k) for Council Dwellings and £102k (2014: £103k) is in respect of garages, shops and other assets. These amounts have been credited back to the HRA below the net operating expenditure as a transfer from the Major Repairs Reserve.

10. Pension Costs

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Council offers retirement benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that need to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme administered by Derbyshire County Council. This is a funded 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 cost of retirement benefits are recognised in the Net Cost of Services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions.

However the charge required to be made against the Housing Revenue Account is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of retirement benefits is reversed out of the Housing Revenue Account after Net Operating Expenditure.

The Collection Fund Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

This account reflects the statutory requirements for the Council as a “Billing Authority” to maintain a separate Collection Fund Account. This shows the transactions of the Council in relation to Non-Domestic Rates and the Council Tax and illustrates the way in which these have been distributed to preceptors and the Council’s General Fund.

Collection Fund Account 2014/15 £000's	2014/15	2013/14
Income		
Council Tax Income	(45,729)	(44,151)
Business Rates Income	(22,737)	(22,015)
Deferrals and TPP	(86)	0
Total Income	(68,552)	(66,166)
Less Expenditure		
Council Tax Precepts (Note 4)	44,822	43,514
Business Rates Precepts (Note 6)	21,080	20,730
Previous Year's Surplus Paid to Preceptors (Note 4)	173	0
Cost of Collection	91	91
Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts	460	1,800
Provision for Business Rates Appeals	54	628
(Surplus) / Deficit on the Fund	(1,872)	597
Fund Balance Brought Forward	528	(69)
Surplus (-) / Deficit on the Fund (as above)	(1,872)	597
Fund Balance as at 31st March	(1,344)	528
Council Tax Element (Note 1)	(696)	(358)
Business Rates Element	(648)	886

The increase in income during 2014/15 was due to growth in the number of both residential and commercial properties, i.e. the Council’s Tax Base. The provision for both write-offs and appeals was much lower in 2014/15 compared to 2013/14. This was due to provisions being set up in 2013/14 for Business Rates following the change in the national system for financing local authorities.

Together with the increase in income, this generated a surplus of £1.872m on the overall Fund and brought the Business Rates element back into surplus as at 31st March 2015.

The Collection Fund Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

1. Council Tax

The introduction of Council Tax on 1 April 1993 revised the method of accounting for the Council's Collection Fund. The main features of the arrangements are:

- a) Interest is not payable between the General Fund and the Collection Fund on cash-flow deficits/surpluses. All interest is payable directly to the General Fund, as shown on the Income and Expenditure Account.
- b) The year-end surplus or deficit on the Collection Fund is distributed the Billing and Precepting Authorities on the basis of estimates, made in January of each year-end balance. This also applies to the Business Rates element.

The balance has been disaggregated for the purpose of these Accounts to attribute relevant amounts to the precepting authorities and the Council, as the billing authority as follows:

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Derbyshire County Council	507	262
Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner	79	39
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	32	16
	617	317
South Derbyshire District Council	79	41
	696	358

2. Council Tax Valuation Bands

Most domestic Dwellings (including flats) whether rented or owned, occupied or not, are subject to Council Tax. Each Dwelling is allocated to one of eight bands according to their open market capital value at 1 April 1991.

Band				
A	Between	0	and	40,000
B	Between	40,001	and	52,000
C	Between	52,001	and	68,000
D	Between	68,001	and	88,000
E	Between	88,001	and	120,000
F	Between	120,001	and	160,000
G	Between	160,001	and	320,000
H	Greater than	320,001		

3. Council Tax Base

The amount of Council Tax payable is calculated by establishing a 'Council Tax Base'. This is the Council's estimated number of chargeable dwellings subject to Council Tax, expressed in relation to those dwellings in Band D. The Tax Base for 2014/15 was based on 40,529 chargeable dwellings.

After allowing for national exemptions and discounts, such as the Single Persons Discount, the Tax Base for 2014/15, on which the Council Tax rate was set, is shown in the following table.

The Collection Fund Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

Band	Calculated number of dwellings	Ratio to Band D	Equivalent number of Dwellings	2013/14
X	27	5/9	15	16
A	9,783	6/9	6,522	6,300
B	8,532	7/9	6,636	6,430
C	6,414	8/9	5,701	5,514
D	6,024	1	6,024	5,828
E	3,458	11/9	4,226	4,088
F	1,790	13/9	2,586	2,497
G	854	15/9	1,423	1,404
H	62	18/9	124	117
			33,257	32,194

The Band D Council Tax rate for South Derbyshire District Council was £150.25 for 2014/15, unchanged from 2013/14.

4. Council Tax Precepts and Demands

2014/15	Precept	Surplus	Total
<i>£000's</i>			
Derbyshire County Council	32,657	126	32,783
South Derbyshire District Council	5,072	20	5,092
Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner	5,059	19	5,078
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	2,034	8	2,042
Total Income	44,822	173	44,995

2013/14	Precept	Surplus	Total
<i>£000's</i>			
Derbyshire County Council	31,626	0	31,626
South Derbyshire District Council	5,014	0	5,014
Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner	4,901	0	4,901
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	1,972	0	1,972
Total Income	43,514	0	43,514

The Collection Fund Account

For the year ended 31 March 2015

5. Non-Domestic Rates

Non-Domestic Rates are managed on a national basis. The Government specifies an amount and subject to the effects of transitional arrangements and any other prevailing reliefs, local businesses pay rates calculated by multiplying their rateable value by that amount. In 2014/15 the amount was 47.1p in the pound (2013/14: 46.2p). The Council is responsible for collecting rates due from the ratepayers in its area.

The total rateable value of business premises in South Derbyshire at 31 March 2015 was £56,516,948 (2014: £54,799,635) – an increase of 3% in business space in the area, mainly due to growth in new business units and expansions. The total amount of Non Domestic Rates collected is shared on the following basis:

Public Body	%
Central Government	50%
South Derbyshire District Council	40%
Derbyshire County Council	9%
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	1%

The surplus balance on the Business Rates element of £662k on the Collection Fund Account, has been disaggregated for the purpose of these Accounts to attribute relevant amounts to the precepting authorities and the Council as the Billing Authority as follows:

£000's	2014/15	2013/14
Central Government	(324)	443
Derbyshire County Council	(58)	80
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	(6)	9
	(389)	532
South Derbyshire District Council	(259)	354
	(648)	886

6. Non-Domestic Rate Demands

These are the amounts (precepts) paid into the General Funds of the preceptors under statute.

2014/15 £000's	Precept	Surplus	Total
Central Government	10,540	0	10,540
South Derbyshire District Council	8,432	0	8,432
Derbyshire County Council	1,897	0	1,897
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	211	0	211
Total Income	21,080	0	21,080

2013/14 £000's	Precept	Surplus	Total
Derbyshire County Council	10,365	0	10,365
South Derbyshire District Council	8,292	0	8,292
Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner	1,866	0	1,866
Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Authority	207	0	207
Total Income	20,730	0	20,730

Glossary

ACCOUNTING PERIOD

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

ACCRUALS

Sums included in the final accounts to recognise revenue and capital income and expenditure earned or incurred in the financial year, but for which actual payment had not been received or made as at 31 March.

ACTUARIAL GAINS AND LOSSES

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the changes in actuarial surpluses or deficits that arise because:

- ➔ Events have not coincided with the actuarial assumptions made for the last valuation (experience gains and losses); or
- ➔ The actuarial assumptions have changed.

ASSET

An item having value to the Council in monetary terms. Assets are categorised as either current or fixed:

- ➔ A current asset will be consumed or cease to have material value within the next financial year (e.g. cash and stock).
- ➔ A fixed asset provides benefits to the Council and to the services it provides for a period of more than one year and may be tangible e.g. a community centre, or intangible, e.g. computer software licences.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

An independent examination of the Council's financial affairs.

BALANCE SHEET

A statement of the recorded assets, liabilities and other balances at the end of the accounting period.

BUDGET

The forecast of net revenue and capital expenditure over the accounting period.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Expenditure on the acquisition of a fixed asset, which will be used in providing services beyond the current accounting period, or expenditure which adds to and not merely maintains the value of an existing fixed asset.

CAPITAL FINANCING

Funds raised to pay for capital expenditure. There are various methods of financing capital expenditure including borrowing, leasing, direct revenue financing, usable capital receipts, capital grants, capital contributions, revenue reserves and earmarked reserves.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The capital schemes the Council intends to carry out over a specific period of time.

Glossary

CAPITAL RECEIPT

The proceeds from the disposal of land or other fixed assets. Proportions of capital receipts can be used to finance new capital expenditure, within rules set down by the government but they cannot be used to finance revenue expenditure.

CIPFA

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy.

COLLECTION FUND

A separate fund that records the income and expenditure relating to Council Tax and non-domestic rates.

COMMUNITY ASSETS

Assets that the Council intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historical buildings.

CONSISTENCY

The concept that the accounting treatment of like items within an accounting period and from one period to the next are the same.

CONTINGENT ASSET

A contingent asset is a possible asset arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's accounts.

CONTINGENT LIABILITY

A contingent liability is either:

- ➔ A possible obligation arising from past events whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the Council's control; or
- ➔ A present obligation arising from past events where it is not probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required, or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured with sufficient reliability.

CORPORATE AND DEMOCRATIC CORE

The corporate and democratic core comprises all activities that local authorities engage in specifically because they are elected, multi-purpose authorities. The cost of these activities are thus over and above those which would be incurred by a series of independent single purpose, nominated bodies managing the same services. There is therefore no logical basis for apportioning these costs to services.

CREDITOR

Amount owed by the Council for work done, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been made by the end of that accounting period.

CURRENT SERVICE COST (PENSIONS)

The increase in the present value of a defined benefits pension scheme's liabilities, expected to arise from employee service in the current period.

Glossary

DEBTOR

Amount owed to the Council for works done, goods received or services rendered within the accounting period, but for which payment has not been received by the end of that accounting period.

DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME

Pension schemes in which the benefits received by the participants are independent of the contributions paid and are not directly related to the investments of the scheme.

DEPRECIATION

The measure of the cost of wearing out, consumption or other reduction in the useful economic life of the Council's fixed assets during the accounting period, whether from use, the passage of time or obsolescence through technical or other changes.

DISCRETIONARY BENEFITS (PENSIONS)

Retirement benefits, which the employer has no legal, contractual or constructive obligation to award and are awarded under the Council's discretionary powers such as the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996.

EQUITY

The Council's value of total assets less total liabilities.

EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

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

EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

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

EXPECTED RETURN ON PENSION ASSETS

For a funded defined benefit scheme, this is the average rate of return, including both income and changes in fair value but net of scheme expenses, which is expected over the remaining life of the related obligation on the actual assets held by the scheme.

EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS

Material items, possessing a high degree of abnormality, which derive from events or transactions that fall outside the ordinary activities of the Council and which are not expected to recur. They do not include exceptional items, nor do they include prior period items merely because they relate to a prior period.

FAIR VALUE

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

GENERAL FUND

The main revenue fund of the Council. Day-to-day spending on services is met from this fund. Spending on the provision of Council housing however must be charged to a separate Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

Glossary

GOING CONCERN

The concept that the Statement of Accounts is prepared on the assumption that the Council will continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Grants made by the government towards either revenue or capital expenditure in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the Council. These grants may be specific to a particular scheme or may support the revenue spend of the Council in general.

HOUSING BENEFITS

A system of financial assistance to individuals towards certain housing costs administered by authorities and subsidised by central government.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA)

A separate account to the General Fund, which includes the income and expenditure arising from the provision of housing accommodation by the Council.

IMPAIRMENT

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset to below its carrying amount on the Balance Sheet.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

The revenue account of the Council that reports the net cost for the year of the functions for which it is responsible and demonstrates how that cost has been financed from precepts, grants and other income.

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

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

INTANGIBLE ASSETS

An intangible (non-physical) item may be defined as an asset when access to the future economic benefits it represents is controlled by the reporting entity. This Council's intangible assets comprise computer software licences.

INTEREST COST (PENSIONS)

For a defined benefit scheme, the expected increase during the period of the present value of the scheme liabilities because the benefits are one period closer to settlement.

INVESTMENTS (PENSION FUND)

The investments of the Pension Fund will be accounted for in the statements of that fund. However, authorities are also required to disclose, as part of the disclosure requirements relating to retirement benefits, the attributable share of the pension scheme assets associated with their underlying obligations.

LIABILITY

A liability is where the Council owes payment to an individual or another organisation.

- ➔ A current liability is an amount which will become payable or could be called in within the next accounting period, e.g. creditors or cash overdrawn.

Glossary

- A deferred liability is an amount which by arrangement is payable beyond the next year at some point in the future or to be paid off by an annual sum over a period of time.

LIQUID RESOURCES

Current asset investments that are readily disposable by the Council without disrupting its business and are either:

- Readily convertible to known amounts of cash at or close to the carrying amount; or
- Traded in an active market.

MATERIALITY

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

MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP)

The minimum amount which must be charged to the revenue account each year in order to provide for the repayment of loans and other amounts borrowed by the Council.

NET BOOK VALUE

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

NET DEBT

The Council's borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

NON-DISTRIBUTED COSTS

These are overheads for which no user now benefits and as such are not apportioned to services.

NATIONAL NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NNDR)

The National Non-Domestic Rate is a levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by the government and multiplied by the assessed rateable value of the premises they occupy. It is collected by the Council on behalf of central government and then redistributed back to support the cost of services.

NON-OPERATIONAL ASSETS

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

OPERATING LEASE

A lease where the ownership of the fixed asset remains with the lessor.

OPERATIONAL ASSETS

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

PAST SERVICE COST (PENSIONS)

For a defined benefit pension scheme, the increase in the present value of the scheme liabilities related to employee service in prior periods arising in the current period as a result of the introduction of, or improvement to retirement benefits.

Glossary

PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES

The liabilities of a defined benefit pension scheme for outgoings due after the valuation date. Scheme liabilities measured during the projected unit method reflect the benefits that the employer is committed to provide for service up to the valuation date.

PRECEPT

The levy made by precepting authorities by billing authorities, requiring the latter to collect income from Council Tax on their behalf.

PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT

Material adjustments applicable to previous years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors. This does not include normal recurring corrections or adjustments of accounting estimates made in prior years.

PROVISION

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

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BOARD (PWLb)

A Central Government Agency, which provides loans for one year and above to authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the government can borrow itself.