Wandsworth Council

Accounts for the year 2024/25

Un-Audited
30 June 2025

www.wandsworth.gov.uk

Contents

Narrative Report

Introduction

This is the Statement of Accounts of Wandsworth Council for the financial year 2024/25. The Statement of Accounts is a complex, technical document, the form and content of which is governed by the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code) which in turn is underpinned by International Financial Reporting Standards. This means that the Accounts are prepared on the same basis as the rest of the local authorities and central government in the United Kingdom. This report is intended to provide a fair, balanced and understandable guide to the most significant aspects of the Council's financial performance, year-end financial position and cash flow, as well as giving information as to how the Council will develop over the next few years.

The Statement of Accounts is made up of four core statements as follows:

Core Statement	Purpose/relationship with other statements
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with the Code, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown both in the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and in the Movement in Reserves Statement.
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 unusable reserves. This statement also shows how the movements in year of the Council's reserves are broken down between gains and losses incurred in accordance with the Code and the statutory adjustments required to return to the amounts chargeable to Council Tax for the year. The increase/decrease (movement) in year line shows the statutory General Fund balance movements in the year following those adjustments.
Balance Sheet	This statement shows the value, as at the Balance Sheet date, of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets of the Council (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the Council.
Cash Flow Statement	This 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.

Organisational Overview

Wandsworth Council is concentrating on delivering local priorities – its focus is on making the Borough the best place to live in London and on improving the life chances of its most vulnerable residents, with the aim of providing local people with first rate services.

The Council has an ambitious vision for the Borough's future as it manages the biggest council-led regeneration and economic development programme in London. The Council will measure regeneration success in terms of the benefits it brings to its communities and will work hard to harness every opportunity that comes with new investment in the Borough. Clear and challenging targets have been set for delivering new jobs, apprenticeships, transport links, cultural attractions, business opportunities and genuinely affordable homes. In addition, the Council has set an ambitious target to be carbon neutral by 2030 and become the greenest inner London borough. The Wandsworth Environment and Sustainability Strategy (WESS) sets out a roadmap that aims to deliver a series of actions to deliver on this ambition. The WESS can be viewed online at: https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/media/7570/wandsworths-environment-and-sustainability-strategy.pdf.

Wandsworth has achieved much, including low crime rates within inner London, a school network where the vast majority of schools are rated either good or outstanding, a first-class library network, beautiful parks and commons, excellent transport links and one of London's best affordable home building records. But none of this can ever be taken for granted and listening to its residents and responding to their changing needs is a key feature of its business model.

The Council is committed to being accountable, an open Council with empowered communities, using new methods of engagement to deepen conversation with residents.

The Council's Corporate Plan 2022-26 prioritises the issues that residents have told us matter to them and aims to create: a fairer Wandsworth, a compassionate Wandsworth and a more sustainable Wandsworth. The latest Corporate Plan can be viewed online at: https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/media/oz1ex203/wandsworth_corporate_plan_2022_2026.pdf

Operational Model

The Council delivers some services itself, commissions others to provide some services on its behalf and also works with partners to deliver services. Commissioning is an ongoing process that includes assessing needs, engaging with local people to prioritise services and then planning and securing those services. The voluntary sector is both a key partner and provider of services in the Borough.

The Council directly delivers a number of services and is organised into seven directorates:

- Adult Social Care and Public Health
- Chief Executive's Group
- Children's Services
- Environment and Community Services
- Housing and Regeneration
- Finance
- Change and Innovation

The Council operates a Better Service Partnership (formerly known as the Shared Staffing Arrangement – SSA) with the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. The arrangement commenced on 1 October 2016, creating a single staffing structure across the two boroughs and has already delivered substantial savings to preserve front-line services. The Better Service Partnership has created one of the largest staff groups in local government, which will enable the two councils to retain quality, specialisms and expertise which are more sustainable in a larger organisation.

However, Richmond and Wandsworth Councils continue to be separate sovereign bodies with their own elected Councillors, Cabinets and Leaders, maintaining their distinct identities and retaining the ability to develop policies and priorities that matter to their local residents.

Risks and Opportunities

The Audit Committee of the Council has responsibility for monitoring the effective development and operation of risk management policies in the Council, making recommendations to the Cabinet on risk management procedures. The Annual Governance Statement again confirms that the Council's Risk Management Strategy is effective and well embedded into corporate management processes. The latest review of key risks and mitigating controls is due to be published in early July 2025 at the following link:
https://democracy.wandsworth.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=311&MId=9951&Ver=4

Performance

As the Council's main strategy document, the Corporate Business Plan plays a key role in shaping the performance management framework for the Council. A suite of performance indicators is included within the Corporate Business Plan to help monitor performance and track progress on key issues for the Council.

Financial Performance

General Fund Revenue Budgets

The final outturn position for the year compared to the revised budget is set out below:

	Revised Budget	Actual	Over(+) Under (-) /Spend
Committee	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Health	102,256	104,950	2,693
Environment	51,170	51,310	141
Children's	97,012	97,496	484
Finance	7,440	4,645	(2,795)
Housing	27,382	32,505	5,123
Transport	(930)	(728)	202
Net service spend	**284,330**	**290,178**	**5,848**
Treasury investments income	(21,489)	(22,502)	(1,013)
Total Committee Expenditure	**262,841**	**267,676**	**4,835**
Unused inflation contingency	3,472	0	(3,472)
Non-specific grants	(57,589)	(57,625)	(37)
Net General Fund Expenditure	**208,724**	**210,051**	**1,326**

There are a number of budgets approved for 2024/25 but on a short-term basis that span the financial year end. The unspent budgets for these programmes (-£1.6m) need to be re-established ("slipped") into 2025/26 to enable completion of the programmes and the budgets for these are requested to be rolled over to 2025/26.

General Fund revenue service committee budgets have been under pressure during the year from high demand and high costs particularly in children's and adults' social care, and homelessness. However, additional treasury income above the budgeted level plus unused inflation contingency (the nationally set pay award was weighted towards lower paid staff and so cost less than was budgeted for) largely offset these pressures.

Further information on the Council's financial performance (outturn) is reported to the Finance Committee and the Executive in June/July of each year and the latest report is published on the Council's website at: https://democracy.wandsworth.gov.uk/documents/s120833/25-237.pdf

Revenue Reserves

The opening General Fund working balance was £15.3m at 1 April 2024 and was budgeted to drop in year to the agreed contingency level of £13.5m reflecting the spending of funds carried forward from 2023/24. As a result of the carry forward of short-term budgets which spanned the financial year end funded from the General Fund working balance (£1.5m), the General Fund balance was finalised at £15.0m at 31 March 2025.

When setting the budget, it was assumed that some expenditure on specific programmes (e.g. the Council's cost of living response, Access for All initiatives, corporate change programme) would be funded by the use of reserves. The net position of this planned reserve use and overall net overspend on General Fund expenditure is a net drawing from earmarked reserves in year of £10.3m, with a final balance of the subset of revenue reserves at £193.9m. When considered as a whole (which includes those more specific reserves such as for S106 revenue, education, insurance, and the HRA) the earmarked reserves have increased by £9.9m during the year from £373.8m to £381.5m. A full breakdown of earmarked reserves is provided in Note 13 to the Accounts.

Treasury Management

Treasury investment income performed very well over the year as a direct result of the interest rate environment where rates stayed higher for longer than expected when budgets were set. Higher returns were also generated from the 2024/25 capital programme reprofiling reflecting spend being lower and later in the year than expected.

The Council has no external debt having repaid all long-term borrowing taken up for the Housing Revenue Account subsidy buyout in 2012.

Capital Expenditure

Capital expenditure for the year, excluding expenditure on council housing, was £79m. The Outturn against planned budget was as follows:

Committee	Budget 2024/25 £'000	Expenditure 2024/25 £'000	Variance 2024/25 £'000
Health	6,233	8,030	1,797
Environment	15,075	9,288	(5,787)
Children's	26,274	24,351	(1,923)
Finance	12,467	15,171	2,704
Housing	1,578	2,369	791
Transport	18,308	19,812	1,504
Total	**79,935**	**79,021**	**(914)**
Financed by:			
Capital Receipts	11,560	17,335	
Grants and Reimbursements	21,556	21,522	
CIL and Section 106 Receipts	31,428	29,004	
Revenue Contributions	268	536	
Borrowing	15,123	10,624	
Total	**79,935**	**79,021**	

Unspent budget on schemes will be slipped into future years where appropriate. At the end of the year the Council had fully utilised all General Fund usable capital receipts (£13.5m balance 2023/24).

Schools Budget

The Dedicated Schools Budget (DSB) was overspent by a net total of £7.3m in year. The main pressures are in the High Needs Block. The main drivers of expenditure are increased volumes of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) which are granted to children and young people aged up to 25 who require support beyond that which an educational setting can provide with regular Special Educational Needs (SEN) support. The number of EHCPs granted nationally has steadily increased over the years and this is reflected in Wandsworth. Where local school settings are at full capacity, children are placed at independent settings which are considerably more expensive. The DSB deficit brought forward from 2023/24 of £13.9m together with the in-year overspend leaves a deficit balance of £21.2m which will be carried forward into 2025/26. Further information on the impact of the overspend can be read about in the outturn report referenced above.

Council Housing

Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budgets for 2024/25 assumed net use of reserves in the year of £14.4m from an opening balance of £192.2m. Actual income and expenditure in the year generated a net deficit of £38.9m, with the variance largely resulting from overspends on revenue repairs and the requirement to set up an unbudgeted bad debt provision for income previously accrued for in relation to interest due to the Council from the Joint Venture. Total reserve balances carried forward are therefore £153.4m. Of this £25m relates to the remaining balance on the Major Repairs Reserve and the balance, £128.3m, being the remaining balance on the HRA. These reserves are retained against the risk of future shortfalls on the ringfenced account, to fund future expenditure on major repairs and to support the Council's extensive investment in new stock including regeneration and development plans.

Collection Fund

The Collection Fund net deficit at the year-end was £11.9m: a £3.2m surplus in relation to Council Tax and a £15.1m deficit for Business Rates. The Council is liable for 30% of the Business Rates deficit which is collected from the General Fund over the next two years.

Group Accounts

During the 2024/25 financial year the Council had a joint venture with Taylor Wimpey UK Limited, Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP. The principal activity of the LLP centres around the regeneration of the York Road estate. The LLP's accounts have been consolidated as part of the Council's Group Accounts.

The LLP's structure was changed in December 2024. Taylor Wimpey have ceased to be a partner, and the Council now own 99% of the LLP. The remaining 1% is owned by Winstanley York Road Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Council. The LLP is now treated as a subsidiary in the Group Accounts, as the Council has substantial control over the entity. For further information see the Group Accounts from page 93.

Pensions

The Council is an employer in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) under statute, as well as other Government administered schemes for the NHS and Teachers. The benefits payable under the LGPS are set nationally by Government, but the Council is responsible for collecting contributions and investing them in a way to ensure that these benefits will be funded. The Pension Fund is maintained at a level to meet the Council's long-term liability for pension benefits, with Council contributions fixed accordingly.

The latest triennial valuation was on 31 March 2022. As at 31 March 2025 the Pension Fund had a net liability (deficit) of £6.4m (£7.2m net liability in 2023/24). This figure is Wandsworth's share of pensions liabilities, so includes Wandsworth's share of the Better Service Partnership staffing liabilities as well as pre-Better Service Partnership costs of council staff.

Any changes to the Pension Fund surplus or deficit is largely attributable to complex external factors and is heavily dependent on the assumptions made by the Council's actuary who values the Pension Fund and provides an estimate in this case of the shortfall in funds available to the Fund to meet all of its liabilities. Reasons for this decrease in 2024/25 include changes in demographic assumptions for both current and future pensioners, changes in financial assumptions which include a decreased discount rate increasing the net present value of projected liabilities, offset by increased investment returns. In addition, there has been an accounting adjustment under International Accounting Standard 19 (IAS 19) for the prudent treatment of surpluses in pensions funds. This adjustment is known as an 'asset ceiling' adjustment and further explanation can be found in Note 44 of the Accounts.

Future funding

A key risk affecting the Council relates to its financial position. In common with the rest of local government, the Council has seen a reduction in its core funding in recent years. However, Wandsworth Council is likely to be significantly impacted by the Government's "Fair Funding" review which has been postponed for many years but is now due to be implemented from 2026/27. This will look to redistribute funding across the country based on the relative need in each area and the total resources (government grants, Council Tax, Business Rates) available.

The relative needs formulae have been reviewed which will result in a lower share of needs assessments in 2026/27 for all London boroughs but particularly for Wandsworth which could potentially be one of the worst affected Inner London boroughs. A consultation has been launched for responses in August 2025. This review will include a full Business Rates income reset and Council tax equalisation which is expected to be significant for Wandsworth.

In addition, the Government intends to review the way integrated health and social care is funded and again the timing and detail of this remains unclear. The Council will continue to engage with Government on consultations to ensure the best possible outcomes for the Borough.

Outlook

The Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) details the current position and assumed future direction of travel for the Council's finances, including demonstrating how the Council is proactively responding to the current financial challenges of reducing government funding, inflation and increasing demographic pressures on services. The Council has a statutory duty to balance the budget year on year which can include the use of reserves, and reserve balances will continue to be reviewed annually as a result.

The current MTFS highlights the options available for meeting the anticipated funding gap. It identifies how a mix of efficiencies, economies and charge increases when combined with a planned run down of reserves will continue to allow for a balanced budget in the coming years. The overall aim of this approach is to protect, as far as is practicable, local services whilst enhancing working arrangements with other Councils and other public bodies, creating a sustainable financial position. An updated version will be published in September reflecting the continuing circumstances resulting along with other developments to the Council's finances.

Statement of Responsibilities

Responsibilities of the Council

The Council is required to:

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

Responsibilities of the Executive Director of Finance

The Executive Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

In preparing the Statement of Accounts, the Executive Director of Finance:

- selected suitable Accounting Policies, and then applied them consistently;
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent;
- complied with the Code.

The Executive Director of Finance has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date;
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities;
- reviewed internal audit reports to identify any control weaknesses or deficiencies;
- carried out regular control processes to maintain numerical accuracy within the accounts.

Certificate

I certify that the Statement of Accounts gives a true and fair view of the financial position of Wandsworth Council and group as at the 31 March 2025 and its income and expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2025.

Fenella Merry
Executive Director of Finance
30 June 2025

Date authorised for issue: This Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue on 30 June 2025 and any events up to this date are reflected in the note Events after the Balance Sheet date.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

The Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with the Code, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation (or rents). Authorities raise taxation (or rents) to cover expenditure in accordance with statutory requirements; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in both the Expenditure and Funding Analysis and the Movement in Reserves Statement.

2023-24					2024-25		
Expenditure £000	**Income £000**	**Net £000**	*Notes*		**Expenditure £000**	**Income £000**	**Net £000**
336,794	(248,272)	88,522		Children's	364,155	(258,348)	105,807
55,992	(11,383)	44,609		Environment	72,159	(12,000)	60,159
178,986	(154,466)	24,520		Finance	181,627	(147,789)	33,838
177,868	(114,488)	63,380		Health	197,390	(138,880)	58,510
60,625	(35,579)	25,046		Housing	70,089	(38,706)	31,383
209,369	(170,987)	38,382		Housing Revenue Account	262,689	(183,079)	79,610
87,979	(108,906)	(20,927)		Transport	54,539	(72,608)	(18,069)
1,107,613	**(844,081)**	**263,532**		**Cost of Services**	**1,202,648**	**(851,410)**	**351,238**
3,900	(13,683)	(9,783)	*10*	Other Operating Expenditure	8,479	0	8,479
73,501	(142,992)	(69,491)	*11*	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	101,973	(142,282)	(40,309)
0	(246,949)	(246,949)	*12*	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	0	(220,054)	(220,054)
1,185,014	**(1,247,705)**	**(62,691)**		**Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services**	**1,313,100**	**(1,213,746)**	**99,354**
		23,965	*14*	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment			18,321
		384,938	*44*	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability / asset			2,568
		408,903		**Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**			**20,889**
		346,212		**Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**			**120,243**

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the authority. The net assets of the authority (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held by the authority. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the authority 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 authority is not able to use to provide services, i.e. reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses and reserves that hold timing differences.

31 March 2024			**31 March 2025**
£000	*Notes*		**£000**
3,010,313	*14,15*	Property, Plant and Equipment	3,002,210
1,351	*16*	Heritage Assets	1,351
74,336	*17*	Investment Property	75,032
92	*18*	Intangible Assets	89
124,320	*20*	Long-Term Investments	134,416
38,565	*20*	Long-Term Debtors	17,910
3,248,977		**Long Term Assets**	**3,231,008**
419,229	*20*	Short-Term Investments	364,208
968	*24*	Assets Held for Sale	967
4,020	*19*	Inventories	2,450
156,199	*21*	Short-Term Debtors	142,495
104,417	*23*	Cash and Cash Equivalents	83,629
684,833		**Current Assets**	**593,749**
(17,819)	*20*	Short-Term Borrowing	(850)
(150,110)	*25*	Short-Term Creditors	(211,348)
(9,653)	*26*	Provisions	(6,243)
(5,356)	*39*	Grants Receipts in Advance - Revenue	(6,954)
(341)	*39*	Grants Receipts in Advance - Capital	(829)
(183,279)		**Current Liabilities**	**(226,224)**
(40,274)	*20*	Long-Term Creditors	(8,548)
(4,212)	*26*	Provisions	(3,794)
(7,225)		Other Long-Term Liabilities	(6,366)
0	*39*	Grants Receipts in Advance - Revenue	(1,317)
(5,918)	*39*	Grants Receipts in Advance - Capital	(5,849)
(57,629)		**Long Term Liabilities**	**(25,874)**
3,692,902		**Net Assets**	**3,572,659**
(780,133)	*27*	Usable Reserves	(700,885)
(2,912,769)	*28*	Unusable Reserves	(2,871,774)
(3,692,902)		**Total Reserves**	**(3,572,659)**

Fenella Merry, Executive Director of Finance — 30 June 2025

Movement in Reserves Statement

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

		General Fund Balance	Earmarked General Fund Reserves	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Un-applied Account	Total Usable Reserves	Unusable Reserves	Total Reserves
	Notes	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Balance at 31 March 2024		**(15,334)**	**(373,767)**	**(154,223)**	**(13,515)**	**(37,933)**	**(185,361)**	**(780,133)**	**(2,912,769)**	**(3,692,902)**
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	*CIES*	21,777		77,577				**99,354**		**99,354**
Other Comprehensive Income / Expenditure	*CIES*								20,889	**20,889**
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		**21,777**	**0**	**77,577**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**99,354**	**20,889**	**120,243**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	*9*	(27,196)		(53,668)	13,515	12,933	34,310	**(20,106)**	20,106	**0**
Net Increase or Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves		**(5,419)**	**0**	**23,909**	**13,515**	**12,933**	**34,310**	**79,248**	**40,995**	**120,243**
Transfers to / from Earmarked Reserves	*13*	5,732	(7,774)	2,042				**0**	0	**0**
Increase or Decrease in 2024-25		**313**	**(7,774)**	**25,951**	**13,515**	**12,933**	**34,310**	**79,248**	**40,995**	**120,243**
Balance at 31 March 2025		**(15,021)**	**(381,541)**	**(128,272)**	**0**	**(25,000)**	**(151,051)**	**(700,885)**	**(2,871,774)**	**(3,572,659)**

	Notes	General Fund Balance £000	Earmarked General Fund Reserves £000	Housing Revenue Account £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Grants Un-applied Account £000	Total Usable Reserves £000	Unusable Reserves £000	Total Reserves £000
Balance at 31 March 2023		**(14,647)**	**(371,636)**	**(153,456)**	**(20,013)**	**(102,354)**	**(185,292)**	**(847,398)**	**(3,191,716)**	**(4,039,114)**
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	*CIES*	(56,539)		(6,152)				**(62,691)**		**(62,691)**
Other Comprehensive Income / Expenditure	*CIES*								408,903	**408,903**
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure		**(56,539)**	**0**	**(6,152)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(62,691)**	**408,903**	**346,212**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	*9*	52,748		6,358	6,498	64,421	(69)	**129,956**	(129,956)	**0**
Net Increase or Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves		**(3,791)**	**0**	**206**	**6,498**	**64,421**	**(69)**	**67,265**	**278,947**	**346,212**
Transfers to / from Earmarked Reserves	*13*	3,104	(2,131)	(973)				**0**	0	**0**
Increase or Decrease in 2023-24		**(687)**	**(2,131)**	**(767)**	**6,498**	**64,421**	**(69)**	**67,265**	**278,947**	**346,212**
Balance at 31 March 2024		**(15,334)**	**(373,767)**	**(154,223)**	**(13,515)**	**(37,933)**	**(185,361)**	**(780,133)**	**(2,912,769)**	**(3,692,902)**

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the authority during the reporting period. The statement shows how the authority 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 authority are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the authority. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the authority's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (ie borrowing) to the authority.

2023-24 **£000**	*Notes*		**2024-25** **£000**
(62,691)		Net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services	99,354
(51,805)		Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for noncash movements	(158,736)
75,452		Adjustment for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities	23,560
(39,044)	*29*	**Net cash flows from operating activities**	**(35,822)**
2,123	*30*	Net cash flows from investing activities	52,232
20,246	*31*	Net cash flows from financing activities	4,378
(16,675)		**Net (increase) or decrease in cash and cash equivalents**	**20,788**
87,742		Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	104,417
104,417		**Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period**	**83,629**

Note 1 - Accounting Policies

1.1 General Principles

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2024/25 financial year and its year end position at 31 March 2025. The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit (Amendment) Regulations 2024. These regulations also require that the Accounts be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices which are supported by the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) These practices primarily comprise the following:

- The Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 (the Code).
- All relevant approved accounting standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) and the International Financial Reporting Issues Committee (IFRIC).
- Relevant statutory guidance issued by Government.

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

1.2 Going Concern

The Council's financial statements are prepared on the Going Concern basis; that is, the accounts are prepared on the assumption that the authority will continue in operational existence in the foreseeable future. The provisions in the Code and the Financial Reporting Council's Practice (Note 10) in respect of going concern reporting requirements reflect the economic and statutory environment in which local authorities operate. These provisions confirm that, as authorities cannot be created or dissolved without statutory prescription, they must prepare their financial statements on a Going Concern basis of accounting. Local authorities carry out functions essential to the local community and are themselves revenue-raising bodies (with limits on their revenue-raising powers arising only at the discretion of central government). If an authority were in financial difficulty, the prospects are thus that alternative arrangements might be made by central Government either for the continuation of the services it provides or for assistance with the recovery of a deficit over more than one financial year. As a result of this, it would not therefore be appropriate for local authority financial statements to be provided on anything other than a going concern basis. Accounts drawn up under the Code therefore assume that a local authority's services will continue to operate for the foreseeable future. Transfers of services under combinations of public sector bodies such as Government reorganisation do not negate the presumption that the financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis of accounting.

Over recent years the Covid-19 pandemic and cost of living crisis has required continuous urgent responses from the Council to put in place provisions which support residents and businesses. The Council continues to identify local challenges and to put in place schemes to support residents and businesses.

The Council has undertaken cash flow modelling through to March 2027 which demonstrates the Council's ability to work within its Capital Financing Requirement and cash management framework, with a minimum headroom more than £290m as at 31 March 2026 and £380m as at 31 March 2027.

The Council therefore concludes that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis, and that the Council will be a going concern, twelve months from 24 June 2025. This is based on its cash flow forecasting and the resultant liquidity position of the Council, taking account of the cash and short term investment balances of £578m at 24 June 2025 and the overall limit for total borrowing under the Treasury Management Policy 2025/26 of up to £210m and 2026/27 of up to £455m. There is no external borrowing as of 31 March 2025. Borrowing of £0.9m detailed on the Balance Sheet is funds held for North East Surrey Crematorium Board. This demonstrates that the Council has sufficient liquidity over the going concern through to March 2027.

1.3 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:

Income

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser, and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.

Revenue from the provision 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.

Expenditure

Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed. Where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption (and the values are material) they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.

Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.

Interest

Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure based on the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.

Debtor and creditor balances (accrual policy)

Where revenue income and expenditure has been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where debts may not be settled (i.e., collection is doubtful), the balance of debtors is written down and a charge made to revenue for the income that might not be collected.

Exceptions to this accruals policy are made where it would be impractical in terms of time and cost required and where the effect of not accruing has no material effect on the Council's Accounts.

Utility payments

Accruals are made for outstanding invoices (for example 4th quarter not paid by 31 March), but no accruals are calculated for consumption of utilities that have not been billed at 31 March. This departure from the Code is made on the basis that taking one year with another the effect of this treatment on the accounts is negligible and does not justify the additional time and cost necessary to accurately estimate consumption figures for the numerous cost centres affected.

Income from Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs)

Income received from PCNs does not directly relate to the full recorded value of notices issued due to the incidence of discount for prompt payment, disputed notices and other mitigating circumstances. Consequently, income is recognised on cash basis. The effect of this treatment, taking one year with another, is estimated to be not material.

De Minimis levels

The Council has set a general de minimis level for accruals of creditors that are calculated manually at year end to avoid additional time and cost in estimating and recording accruals. This level is reviewed annually and was set at £10k for 2024/25.

Exceptions to this de minimis rule where accruals are made in full are:

- Qualifying expenditure upon which income from Government or other grants is dependent.
- Invoices for substantially the same supply or service, from the same provider that are chargeable to the same service area are aggregated where their total is over £10k.

Revenue from contracts with service recipients

The Code stipulates that IFRS 15 applies to revenue arising from a contract where the counterparty is a service recipient. A service recipient is defined as a party that has contracted with an authority to obtain goods or services that are an output of the authority's normal operating activities in exchange for consideration.

The Code requires revenue from contracts with service recipients to be recognised in accordance with the following five steps:

- Identification of a contract with a service recipient.
- Identification of any performance obligations within the contract.
- Calculation of a transaction price.
- Allocation of the transaction price to the performance obligation.
- Recognition of revenue when the performance obligation is satisfied.

The Council has assessed the different categories of income from service recipients where there is a contract in place and where there is a performance obligation on the Council to deliver goods or services.

Most of the services delivered to service recipients are statutory services and performance obligations are satisfied throughout the year in exchange for income received. There would therefore be no material effect on the Council's financial statements of separately identifying income from these contracts that has been received but the performance obligation has not been satisfied. Revenue is recognised at the point that the service is delivered.

The total income from fees and charges is disclosed in Note 8 of the financial statements, Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature.

Income from non-exchange transactions (including Government grants and contributions, Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates) is separately disclosed in the financial statements and does not fall within the disclosure requirements of IFRS 15.

1.4 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 are readily convertible to known amounts of cash with insignificant risk of change in value (this excludes fixed term deposits as they are not highly liquid and not readily convertible to cash).

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.

1.5 Long term non-monetary assets

The following categories of non-monetary long-term assets are recognised in the accounts where their value on initial recognition or subsequent upward revaluation exceeds de minimis levels set by the Council. Expenditure that falls below these levels is charged as revenue to the relevant service line in Cost of Services in the CIES. These de minimis levels are periodically reviewed and applied to avoid administrative efforts and cost in recording and accounting for long term assets where their value in not material. The current de minimis levels for recognising these assets are:

- Land and building – £100k.
- Vehicle plant and equipment – £25k.
- Infrastructure - £25k.
- Intangible assets – £25k.

These de minimis levels are not applied where assets are financed by grants or contributions that are below these levels but are required to be applied to capital expenditure.

1.6 Exceptional Items

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the CIES or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Council's financial performance. Materiality may be affected by the context and fluctuations of the economy i.e. changes in inflation.

1.7 Prior period adjustments, changes in accounting policies and estimates and errors

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

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

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period. IAS 8 (Accounting Policies, Estimates and Errors) includes the requirement to disclose, if retrospective restatement is impractical for a particular prior period, the circumstances that led to the existence of that condition and description of how and from when the error has been corrected.

1.8 Charges to Revenue for Non-Current Assets

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding 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 there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off.
- Amortisation of intangible fixed assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise Council Tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisations. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisations are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account (CAA) in the MiRS for the difference between the two.

1.9 Employee Benefits

Benefits Payable during Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and any non-monetary benefits for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable as at 1 April 2025 being the start of the year in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services but then reversed out through the MiRS 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 because of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer’s employment before the normal retirement date or an officer’s decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are generally charged on an accruals basis in the CIES if detailed notification of redundancy has been issued before 31 March (see 1.28 Redundancy Costs below).

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

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of three separate pension schemes:

- The Teachers’ Pension Scheme administered by Capita Teachers’ Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).
- The National Health Service (NHS) Pension Scheme administered by NHS Pensions.
- The LGPS, administered by the Council, or for some employees by the London Pension Fund Authority (LPFA).

All schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees worked for the Council. However, the arrangements for the teachers' and NHS scheme mean that liabilities for these benefits cannot ordinarily be identified specifically to the Council. The scheme is therefore accounted for as if it was a defined contribution scheme and no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet. Education and Children's Services line in the CIES is charged with the employer's contributions payable to Teachers' Pensions in the year. The relevant service line(s) in the CIES are charged with the employer's contributions payable to NHS Pensions in the year.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

Following the passing of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Wandsworth and Richmond Fund Merger) Regulations 2016 – SI 2016/1241, LB Richmond is no longer an administering authority of the LGPS.

The Council is now a scheduled employer in the Wandsworth Council Pension Fund and Wandsworth Council is the administering body for that Fund. The Wandsworth Council Pension Fund Accounts are presented in Wandsworth Council's Statement of Accounts only on this basis. The merged Fund provides the same benefits to members and employers as all other LGPS Funds.

For the 2024/25 accounts, the Council received actual pension data from the Actuary to the end of March.

The LGPS is accounted for as a defined benefits scheme: the liabilities of the pension fund attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method – i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.
Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate based on the indicative rate of return on 20-year gilts adjusted for credit spread.

The assets of the Pension Fund are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:

- Quoted securities – current bid price.
- Unquoted securities – professional estimate.
- Unitised securities – current bid price.
- Property – market value.
- Infrastructure – professional estimate.
- Private Debt – professional estimate.
- Bonds – 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 a result of years of service earned this year – allocated in the CIES to the services for which the employees worked.
  - Past service cost – the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier years – debited to the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services in the CIES.
  - Interest cost – the expected increase in the present value of liabilities during the year as they move one year closer to being paid – debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

- Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability (asset) that arises from the passage of time - charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the CIES.

- Re-measurements of the net defined benefit liability (asset) comprising:

  - Actuarial gains and losses – changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation resulting from: a) experience adjustments (the effects of differences between the previous actuarial assumptions and what has occurred) and b) the effects of changes in actuarial assumptions – charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
  - 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.

- Contributions paid to the Wandsworth Council Pension Fund – cash paid as employer's and employees' contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities.

- Benefits Paid (payments to discharge liabilities directly to pensioners) – a charge to the Pension Fund, reimbursed from the Council where there are unfunded discretionary benefits.

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

Discretionary Benefits

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

1.10 Fair value measurement

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

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

The fair value is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest. When measuring the fair value of a non-financial asset, the Council considers a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

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

Inputs to the valuation techniques are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, as follows:

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

1.11 Financial Instruments

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For most borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the CIES is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the CIES, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. The Council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the CIES to the net charge required against the General Fund balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the MiRS.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are generally classified into three types:

- Amortised Cost – assets with contractual terms that give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding. The asset is held within a business model with the objective of collecting contractual cash flows and not for trading.
- Fair Value through other Comprehensive Income – assets that are held within a business model with the objective of both collecting contractual cash flows and selling financial assets. In addition, the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise to specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.
- Fair Value through Profit or Loss - assets that do not meet the amortised cost or fair value through other comprehensive income definition of cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest and are held within a business model with the objective of collecting contractual cash flows and not for trading.

In Wandsworth, financial assets that were previously loans and receivables are now amortised cost and those that were available for sale are now fair value through other Comprehensive Income.

Amortised Cost

Assets at amortised cost 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. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

Where assets are identified as impaired because of an expectation that future cash flows might not take place because the borrower could default on their obligations under the contract, the asset is written down and a charge made to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. An assessment of credit risk is crucial in measuring any losses.

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

Fair Value through Profit and Loss

Fair Value through profit and loss assets are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured and carried at fair value.

The fair value measurements of the financial assets are based on the following principles:

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

Changes in fair value are recognised in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services as they arise in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

IFRS 9 specifies how an entity should classify and measure financial assets, financial liabilities, and some contracts to buy or sell non-financial items. Local authorities were exempt from applying IFRS 9 due to a statutory override issued by Government in 2018. This has been extended for existing pooled fund investments until 1 April 2029. The override allows the Council to record fair value movements on pooled investments in the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account to prevent impact on the General Fund, therefore mitigating potential budget risks. New pooled fund investments made after 1 April 2024 are subject to full compliance with IFRS 9. This does not apply to the Council at present.

Any gains and losses that arise on the de-recognition of the asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES, along with any accumulated gains or losses previously recognised in the Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account.

Where fair value cannot be measured reliably, the instrument is carried at cost (less any impairment losses).

Expected credit loss model

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

The authority does not anticipate any losses on transactions with any public sector body (central or local government, joint committees, waste authorities, NHS etc) as they are backed by the Government, or where sufficient security has been provided (e.g. charge on a property for social care debt).

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

The authority assesses small value similar loans as a group to avoid undue cost or effort to support the measurement of lifetime expected losses on an individual instrument basis.

Foreign Currency Translation

Where the Council has entered into a transaction denominated in a foreign currency, the transaction is converted into sterling at the exchange rate applicable on the date the transaction was effective. Where amounts in foreign currency are outstanding at the year-end, they are reconverted at the spot exchange rate at 31 March. Resulting gains or losses are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

1.12 Government Grants and Contributions

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

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

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

Monies advanced as grants and contributions 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-ringfenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the CIES.

Where capital grants are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund balance in the MiRS. 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 CAA once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

Grants that cannot be directly allocated to a service area are credited to Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income.

1.13 Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council has elected to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The levy commenced on 1 November 2012 and is charged on any development over 100 square metres, at differential rates depending on location in the borough, with the appropriate planning consent. The Council charges for and collects the levy, which is a planning charge. The income from the levy is used to fund the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure (to include transport, schools, public health care facilities, public open space and leisure provision) to support the development of the area.

CIL is received without outstanding conditions; it is therefore recognised at the commencement date of the chargeable development in the CIES in accordance with the accounting policy for Government grants and contributions set out above.

In addition, the Council collects a separate CIL on behalf of the Mayor of London. This is payable to Transport for London (TfL), except for a 4% administration fee which is credited to the CIES. CIL collected on behalf of other bodies is treated as an agency transaction and as such only net cost of administration will be reported in the Council's Accounts.

1.14 Heritage Assets

The Council is required to report on and separately identify Heritage Assets on its Balance Sheet. Heritage Assets can be tangible or intangible and are defined as assets with historical, cultural, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that are held and maintained principally for their contribution to knowledge and culture.

Recognition

The Council will recognise all Heritage Assets on the Balance Sheet where the cost of obtaining a valuation is commensurate to the benefit of the users of the accounts. If the cost of obtaining a valuation is assessed as being disproportionate to the benefit of the user, the existence of the asset will be disclosed in the notes to the accounts along with relevant information. The de minimis levels applied to all Non-Current Assets will be applied to this asset class. Heritage Assets that do not meet the de minimis criteria are not disclosed in the Council's Accounts.

Where a Heritage Asset is operational this will be treated as Property, Plant and Equipment rather than as a Heritage Asset.

1.15 Intangible Assets

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

Internally generated assets are capitalised where it is demonstrable that the project is technically feasible and is intended to be completed (with adequate resources being available) and the Council will be able to generate future economic benefits or deliver service potential by being able to sell or use the asset. Expenditure is capitalised where it can be measured reliably as attributable to the asset and is restricted to that incurred during the development phase (research expenditure cannot be capitalised).

Expenditure on the development of websites is not capitalised if the website is solely or primarily intended to promote or advertise the Council's goods or services.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost. The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life to the relevant service line(s) in the CIES. An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired – any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the CIES. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund balance in the MiRS and posted to the CAA and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10k) the Capital Receipts Reserve (CRR).

1.16 Inventories

The Council recognises all inventories (stock) that have a value over £10,000 as at 31 March 2025. The Council initially recognises inventory when it has control of it and when it expects to have a right to the future economic benefits/service potential. All inventories are measured at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Where there are large numbers of items of inventory that are ordinarily interchangeable, the Council uses either first-in, first-out (FIFO) or the weighted average cost method of stock measurement.

1.17 Investment Property

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

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, based on the amount at which the asset could be exchanged in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year end, unless the carrying amount does not differ materially from that which would be determined using fair value at the Balance Sheet date. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

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 MiRS and posted to the CAA and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10k) the CRR.

Investment Properties have been valued by the Council's valuation contractor and categorised as Level 2 under the fair value hierarchy and recurring using significant observable inputs. The valuations have been based upon the market approach using current market conditions and recent sales prices and other relevant information for similar assets in the local area.

Typical valuation inputs include:

- Market rental and sales values.
- Yields.
- Void and letting periods.

- Size, configuration, proportions and layout.
- Location, visibility and access.
- Condition.
- Lease covenants.
- Obsolescence.

The Council's investment property portfolio is not affected by IFRS 16 as detailed in accounting policy 1.19.

1.18 Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the CIES 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 MiRS from the General Fund balance to the CAA then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of Council Tax.

1.19 Leases

The Council as Lessee

The authority classifies contracts as leases based on their substance. Contracts and parts of contracts, including those described as contracts for services, are analysed to determine whether they convey the right to control the use of an identified asset, through rights both to obtain substantially all the economic benefits or service potential from that asset and to direct its use.

Leases are recognised as right-of-use assets with a corresponding liability at the date from which the leased asset is available for use (or the IFRS 16 transition date of 1 April 2024, if later). The leases are typically for fixed periods more than one year but may have extension options.

The authority initially recognises lease liabilities measured at the present value of lease payments, discounting by applying the authority's incremental borrowing rate wherever the interest rate implicit in the lease cannot be determined.

The right-of-use asset is measured at the amount of the lease liability, adjusted for any prepayments made, plus any direct costs incurred to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or restore the underlying asset on the site on which it is located, less any lease incentives received. However, for peppercorn, nominal payments or nil consideration leases, the asset is measured at fair value.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated straight-line over the shorter period of remaining lease term and useful life of the underlying asset as at the date of adoption.

The lease liability is subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method. The liability is remeasured when:

- there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in index or rate.
- there is a change in the group's estimate of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee.
- the authority changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option; or
- there is a revised in-substance fixed lease payment.

When such a remeasurement occurs, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, with any further adjustment required from remeasurement being recorded in the income statement.

Low value and short lease exemption

As permitted by the Code, the authority excludes leases:

- for low-value items. These are defined as below the values set out in accounting policy 1.5 stating de minimis levels for non-monetary assets.
- with a term shorter than 12 months (comprising the non-cancellable period plus any extension options that the authority is reasonably certain to exercise and any termination options that the authority is reasonably certain not to exercise).

Lease expenditure

Expenditure in the CIES includes interest, straight- line depreciation, any asset impairments and changes in variable lease payments not included in the measurement of the liability during the period in which the triggering event occurred. Lease payments are debited against the liability. Rentals for leases of low-value items or shorter than 12 months are expensed.

Depreciation and impairments are not charges against Council Tax, as the cost of non-current assets is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are therefore appropriated to the capital adjustment account from the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of that asset on the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss disposal. A gain, representing the Council’s net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the CIES also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal), matched by a lease (long-term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property – applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received), and

- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

The gain credited to the CIES on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund balance to the CRR in the MiRS. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the MiRS. When the future rentals are received, the element for the capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point, the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the CRR.

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

Operating Leases

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

1.20 Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Recognition

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

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price;
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management; and
- the initial estimate of the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located.

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 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.

Donated assets are measured initially at fair value. The difference between fair value and any consideration paid is credited to the Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income line of the CIES, unless the donation has been made conditionally. Until conditions are satisfied, the gain is held in the Donated Assets Account. Where gains are credited to the CIES, they are reversed out of the General Fund balance to the CAA in the MiRS.

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

- Dwellings – current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV–SH).
- Infrastructure and community assets and assets under construction – depreciated historical cost.

- Operational assets – determined using the basis of existing use value or depreciated replacement cost.
- Surplus assets - the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective.
- All other assets – current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value – EUV).

Where there is no market-based evidence of fair value because of the specialist nature of an asset, Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) is used as an estimate of fair value.

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

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but not less frequently than every 5 years. In addition, all assets are assessed at each year end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired.

The Council's freehold and leasehold properties have been valued by the external valuers identified below.

- Valuations of HRA dwellings, garages and hostel accommodation have been carried out by members of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) employed by Wilks Head and Eve in accordance with the advice set out in the "Guidance on Stock Valuation for Resource Accounting".
- Valuations of other operational and investment properties were carried out by members of the RICS employed by Wilks Head and Eve in accordance with the Appraisal and Valuation Standards of RICS. Not all the properties were inspected as this was neither practicable nor considered by the Borough Valuer to be necessary for the purpose of the valuations.

Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. 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 CIES.

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 CAA.

Impairment

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

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for as follows:

- Where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains).

- Where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the CIES.
- Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the CIES 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, heritage assets, and community assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

Depreciation is calculated on the following bases:

- Operational property assets – straight-line allocation over the useful life of the property as estimated by the valuer
- HRA Assets – depreciated based on the componentised weighted remaining useful life of beacon properties.
- Vehicles, plant and equipment – straight-line allocation over expected life of the asset as estimated by a suitably qualified officer on acquisition.
- Infrastructure – straight-line allocation over 20 years.

Where a Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, this is adjusted for by the valuer who provides a composite asset and asset life which represents the weighted average of the components.

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 CAA.

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 CIES. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previous losses recognised in the surplus or deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as held for sale (adjusted for depreciation, 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.

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the CIES as part of the gain or loss on disposal.

Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the CIES also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the CAA.

Amounts received for a disposal more than £10k are categorised as capital receipts. A proportion of receipts relating to housing disposals are payable to Government. The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the CRR and can then only 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 MiRS.

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 CAA from the General Fund Balance in the MiRS.

1.21 Infrastructure Assets

In January 2023 CIPFA prescribed a temporary statutory override be applied to infrastructure assets up to and including the 2024/25 financial year. In 2025, Government extended the override to 31 March 2029. As a result, Infrastructure Assets are reported separately from other Property, Plant and Equipment, and do not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation.

1.22 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

<u>Provisions</u>

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the CIES in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, considering relevant risks and uncertainties.

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

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

<u>Contingent Liabilities</u>

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.

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.

1.23 Reserves

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by transferring amounts out of the General Fund balance in the MiRS. 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 CIES. The reserve is then transferred back into the General Fund balance in the MiRS so that there is no net charge against Council Tax for the expenditure.

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

1.24 VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC). VAT receivable is excluded from income.

1.25 Accounting for schools

Revenue Income and Expenditure

The Council includes all revenue income and expenditure and resulting assets and liabilities (e.g. debtors, creditors, reserves etc.) arising from maintained schools as part of its Accounts. Revenue income and expenditure incurred by Academies and Free schools are not consolidated into the Council’s Accounts (as they are directly funded from the Government).

Capital

The Council holds all local authority-maintained schools on the Balance Sheet. This includes foundation schools where the risks and reward of ownership are considered to lie with the Council. Voluntary aided schools are excluded from the Balance Sheet as the Council does not have the level of control over the sites to recognise them as assets. The same principle applies to academies. Capital expenditure on schools not on the Council’s Balance Sheet, such as voluntary aided schools, is treated as Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute (REFCUS). This represents capital spend relating to assets not owned by the Council and is reported through the CIES.

1.26 Council Tax and Business Rates

The Council acts as an agent, collecting Council Tax and Business Rates on behalf of the major preceptors (including Government for Business Rates) and, as a principal, collecting Council Tax and Business Rates for itself. Billing authorities (the Council) are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of Council Tax and Business Rates. Under the legislative framework for the collection fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and Government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of Council Tax and Business Rates collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for Council Tax and Business Rates

The Council Tax and Business Rates income included in the CIES is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of Council Tax and Business Rates that must be included in the Council's General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the CIES and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the MiRS, The Balance Sheet includes the Council's share of the end of year balances in respect of Council Tax and Business Rates relating to arrears, impairment allowances for doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

1.27 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 events can be identified:

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

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

1.28 Long Term Contracts

Long term contracts are accounted for on the basis of charging the surplus or deficit on the Provision of Services with the value of works and services transferred to the service recipient under the contract during the financial year.

1.29 Redundancy Costs

The Council raises a provision for redundancy costs when communication of the decision to involved parties has been made, therefore giving a valid expectation that closure of employment will take place. If a detailed notification of redundancy has been issued before 31 March but the amount has not yet been paid, a liability is recognised in the accounts as an accrual.

Note 2 - Accounting Standards Issued, Not Adopted

The Code requires changes in Accounting Policy to be applied retrospectively unless alternative transitional arrangements are specified. The Council is 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 by the Code, and therefore not required to be adopted by the Council.

The changes to the measurement of non-investment assets within the 2025/26 Code include adaptations and interpretations of IAS 16 (Property, Plant and Equipment) and IAS 38 (Intangible Assets). These include setting out three revaluation processes for operational property, plant and equipment, requiring indexation for tangible non-investment assets and a requirement to value intangible assets using the historical cost approach. These have the same effect as requiring a change in accounting policy due to an amendment to standards, however from 2025/26 and throughout the transition period (the first full revaluation cycle), authorities are not required to follow the requirements.

All other accounting changes introduced by the 2025/26 Code either are expected to not affect the Council or are presentational.

Note 3 - Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the Accounting Policies, the Council has made certain judgements about transactions, relationships, and uncertainty about future events. The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

There is a high degree of uncertainty about future levels of funding for local government. However, the Council has determined that this uncertainty is not yet sufficient to provide an indication that the assets of the Council might be impaired as a result of a need to reduce levels of service provision.

In view of the economic position and the uncertainty over future funding levels, the Council has planned efficiency savings. Staffing levels have been reduced, and the cost of redundancies has generally been met from savings, flexible capital receipts and reserves.

Better Service Partnership with Richmond Council

Under the Better Service Partnership many costs (largely staff costs) are shared between the two councils. Generally, the amounts charged to each council continue to be calculated by service area and apportioned according to each council's requirement for the Better Service Partnership. A schedule is prepared and reviewed annually and details the apportionment (and methodology) of the shared costs. Full details on the basis for sharing costs was approved by the Council in April 2016 and can be found at the following link at Item 8 Appendix A:
https://democracy.wandsworth.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=296&MId=5203&Ver=4

The majority of costs are split between the two councils based upon the latest annual budget apportionments in each council unless they do not work jointly, in which case costs are charged directly to the respective council. Non salary costs have not been charged as part of the Better Service Partnership as in the main they are clearly attributable to a sovereign council unless relating to staffing in which case the costs follow the same apportionment as the staff they relate to.

The Council has a 100% owned subsidiary, Wandsworth BC Trading Limited. However, the turnover of the subsidiary is not sufficiently material to include in the Council's Group Accounts.

During the 2024/25 financial year the Council had a joint venture with Taylor Wimpey UK Limited, Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP. The principal activity of the LLP centres around the regeneration of the York Road estate. The LLP’s accounts have been consolidated as part of the Council’s Group Accounts. The LLP's structure was changed in December 2024. Taylor Wimpey have ceased to be a partner, and the Council now own 99% of the LLP. The remaining 1% is owned by Winstanley York Road Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Council. The LLP is therefore treated as a subsidiary in the 2024/25 Group Accounts as the Council has substantial control over the entity.

Note 4 - Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation 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. Judgements may be impacted by inflation and transactions that may have not been previously considered material may become material due to increased value.

There are a number of items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2025 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year:

Property, Plant and Equipment

The Council has historically carried out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at fair value is revalued at least every five years. In addition, the Council reviews groups of properties on an annual basis to assess any significant changes that would require a revaluation within the five-year period. Fair value as applied to relevant assets will depend upon the property market. Assets are depreciated over their 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. If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying value of assets falls. A 1% increase in depreciation has an impact of £0.6m.

The main factors affecting the property market in 2024/25 were the Bank Rate remaining high as set by the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to try and contain inflation and the UK General Election in July 2024 bringing uncertainty to market expectations. The Council's external valuers (Wilks Head & Eve) have used substantial transaction volumes and other reliable market evidence to provide reliable asset valuations.

The Council's external valuer is not aware of any specific impact to the value of assets within the portfolio. For the avoidance of doubt, the valuation is not reported as being subject to 'material valuation uncertainty' as defined by VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Valuation – Global Standards. This explanatory note has been included to ensure transparency and to provide further insight as to the market context under which the valuation opinion was prepared. Notes 14 and 15 provide further information on Property, Plant and Equipment and Note 16 on Investment Property.

Provisions

At 31 March 2025, the Council had an insurance provision of £3.2m (£4.9m in 2023/24) based on claims lodged with, and values estimated by, the Council's insurer. The Council is responsible for funding claims up to high levels of excesses. In doing this, a provision is made for claims outstanding 31 March which are more likely than not to be settled. The Council takes the expert advice in the form of a regular insurance actuarial review of the self-insurance balance to ensure it is sufficient. The total balance at the end of 2024/25 is £9.5m (£9.7m at the end of 2023/24).

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. The Council's actuary is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. For example, a one-year increase in life expectancy would result in an increase in the pension liability of £60m. However, the assumptions interact in complex ways.

During 2024/25, the Council's actuary has reported a net liability (deficit) of £6.4m (£7.2m net liability in 2023/24). Reasons for this decrease in 2024/25 include changes in demographic assumptions for both current and future pensioners, changes in financial assumptions which include a decreased discount rate increasing the net present value of projected liabilities, offset by increased investment returns. In addition, there has been an accounting adjustment under IAS 19 for the prudent treatment of surplus' in pensions funds. This adjustment is known as an 'asset ceiling' adjustment and further explanation can be found in Note 44.

Arrears

At 31 March 2025, the Council had debtors for a range of Council functions. These debts are reviewed annually, and provisions made principally based on the type and age of debt and taking into consideration the current economic climate. A prudent approach has been taken in setting sums aside with these factors in mind and this year also includes different levels for different types of debt.

Note 5 - Material Items of Income and Expense

A material item is an item of expenditure or income that is unusual in scale and non-recurring. In 2024/25, the following material items are not disclosed on the face of the CIES and therefore separately disclosed:

- In 2024/25, £9.6m of Right to Buy receipts were generated from the sale of 39 Housing Revenue Account properties (£6.6m in 2023/24 from 26 sales). Under the amended Right to Buy statutory requirements none of these receipts were required to be pooled to Government (alike to 2023/24).
- In December 2024, the Council, through the HRA, completed the acquisition of Taylor Wimpey PLC's share of the Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP referred through these accounts as the 'Joint Venture'. Because of this transaction, £17.1m of previously recognised HRA capital reimbursement debtors' invoices were cancelled and a bad debt provision of £7.1m was set against outstanding interest due from the Joint Venture to the HRA of £17.3m. Other HRA capital grants and reimbursements are immaterial in 2024/25.
- For developments within the borough the Council receives receipts from developers on an irregular basis. £12.9m of Section 106 (S106) income from the South London Mail Centre site was received in 2024/25 (£12.5m in 2023/24). A further £15.3m of CIL income was received in 2024/25 from developers across the borough (£13.8m in 2023/24).

Note 6 - Events After the Balance Sheet Date

The Statement of Accounts was authorised for issue by the Executive Director of Finance on 30 June 2025. Events taking place after this date are not reflected in the financial statements or notes. Where events taking place before this date provided information about conditions existing at 31 March 2025, the figures in the financial statements and notes have been adjusted in all material respects to reflect the impact of this information.

Note 7 - Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA) shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (i.e. Government Grants, rents, Council Tax and Business Rates) by authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with the Code. The EFA also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the Council's Service Committees. Income and expenditure accounted for under the Code is presented more fully in the CIES.

2023-24				2024-25		
Net Committee Expenditure	**Adjustments**	**Net CIES Expenditure**		**Net Committee Expenditure**	**Adjustments**	**Net CIES Expenditure**
£000	**£000**	**£000**		**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
91,831	(3,309)	88,522	Children's	97,496	8,311	105,807
47,090	(2,481)	44,609	Environment	51,310	8,849	60,159
(18,354)	42,874	24,520	Finance	(17,857)	51,695	33,838
97,354	(33,974)	63,380	Health	104,950	(46,440)	58,510
23,847	1,199	25,046	Housing	32,505	(1,122)	31,383
0	38,382	38,382	Housing Revenue Account	0	79,610	79,610
(1,885)	(19,042)	(20,927)	Transport	(728)	(17,341)	(18,069)
239,883	**23,649**	**263,532**	**Net Cost of Services**	**267,676**	**83,562**	**351,238**
(240,570)	(85,653)	(326,223)	Other Income and Expenditure	(267,363)	15,479	(251,884)
(687)	**(62,004)**	**(62,691)**	**Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services**	**313**	**99,041**	**99,354**
(539,740)			Opening Combined General Fund Balance	(543,324)		
(687)			Plus / less Surplus or Deficit on the General Fund	313		
(767)			Plus / less Surplus or Deficit on the Housing Revenue Account	25,951		
(2,130)			Plus / less movements to or from earmarked reserves	(7,774)		
(543,324)			**Total Combined General Fund Balance**	**(524,834)**		

The following table provides an analysis of the adjustments for the Expenditure and Funding Analysis:

2024-25	Net Capital Statutory Adjustments	Net Pensions Statutory Adjustments	Other Differences	Total Adjustments
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's	4,991	(628)	3,948	8,311
Environment	12,469	(63)	(3,557)	8,849
Finance	1,072	(1,329)	51,952	51,695
Health	4,176	(159)	(50,457)	(46,440)
Housing	26	(60)	(1,088)	(1,122)
Housing Revenue Account	88,885	60	(9,335)	79,610
Transport	4,096	(73)	(21,364)	(17,341)
Net Cost of Services	**115,715**	**(2,252)**	**(29,901)**	**83,562**
Other Income and Expenditure	0	(1,175)	16,654	15,479
Difference between the Statutory Charge and the Surplus or Deficit in the CIES	**115,715**	**(3,427)**	**(13,247)**	**99,041**

2023-24	Net Capital Statutory Adjustments	Net Pensions Statutory Adjustments	Other Differences	Total Adjustments
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children’s	(354)	(166)	(2,789)	(3,309)
Environment	248	(11)	(2,718)	(2,481)
Finance	145	(753)	43,482	42,874
Health	(49)	(44)	(33,881)	(33,974)
Housing	50	(18)	1,167	1,199
Housing Revenue Account	60,694	228	(22,540)	38,382
Transport	4,072	(23)	(23,091)	(19,042)
Net Cost of Services	**64,806**	**(787)**	**(40,371)**	**23,649**
Other Income and Expenditure	0	(20,707)	(64,946)	(85,653)
Difference between the Statutory Charge and the Surplus or Deficit in the CIES	**64,806**	**(21,494)**	**(105,316)**	**(62,004)**

Note 8 - Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

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

2023-24 £000	Nature of Expenditure or Income	2024-25 £000
(313,991)	Fees, charges and other service income	(332,542)
(64,441)	Interest and investment income	(40,001)
(164,100)	Income from local taxation	(184,914)
(613,008)	Government grants and contributions	(553,955)
284,070	Employee benefits expenses	302,400
57,101	Support service recharge expenditure	62,468
663,530	Other service expenses	674,613
102,981	Depreciation, amortisation and impairment	163,114
506	Interest payments	1,879
3,900	Precepts and levies	4,399
(13,682)	Gain or loss on disposal of non-current assets	4,081
(5,557)	Movement in fair value of financial instruments	(2,188)
(62,691)	**(Surplus) or Deficit for Year**	**99,354**

Note 9 - Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total CIES recognised by the Council in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to the Council to meet future capital and revenue expenditure.

2024-25	General Fund Balance	Housing Revenue Account	Capital Receipts Reserve	Major Repairs Reserve	Capital Grants Unapplied	Movement in Unusable Reserves
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources:						
Pension cost (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	3,326	101				(3,427)
Changes in Fair Value of Pooled Investments	2,188					(2,188)
Council tax and NNDR (transfers to or from the Collection Fund)	8,036					(8,036)
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences reserve)	(847)	(204)				1,051
Transfer of Schools Budget deficit to DSG Unusable Reserve	(7,311)					7,311
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(56,042)	(132,933)			(13,427)	202,402
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	**(50,650)**	**(133,036)**	**0**	**0**	**(13,427)**	**197,113**
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources:						
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	1,078	9,054	(10,133)			0
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)		(113)	113			0
Posting of Housing Revenue Account resource from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve		28,342		(28,342)		0
Borrowing or liabilities met from the Housing Revenue Account		42,084				(42,084)
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	11,354					(11,354)
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	11,022					(11,022)
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	**23,454**	**79,367**	**(10,020)**	**(28,342)**	**0**	**(64,460)**
Adjustments to Capital Resources:						
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure			23,625			(23,625)
Capital Receipts debited to the Capital Adjustment Account on Repayment of loans			(90)			90
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				41,275		(41,275)
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure					47,737	(47,737)
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	**0**	**0**	**23,535**	**41,275**	**47,737**	**(112,547)**
Total Adjustments	**(27,196)**	**(53,669)**	**13,515**	**12,933**	**34,310**	**20,106**

2023-24	General Fund Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Movement in Unusable Reserves £000
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources						
Pension cost (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	18,892	2,602				(21,494)
Financial Instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	5,557					(5,557)
Council Tax and NNDR (transfers to or from the Collection Fund)	(3,597)					3,597
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences reserve)	1,490	396				(1,886)
Transfer of Schools Budget deficit to DSG Unusable Reserve	(3,442)					3,442
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	7,651	(69,695)			(59,137)	121,181
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	**26,551**	**(66,697)**	**0**	**0**	**(59,137)**	**99,283**
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources						
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	3,253	13,062	(16,315)			0
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)		(74)	74			0
Posting of Housing Revenue Account resource from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve		26,406		(26,406)		0
Borrowing or liabilities met from the Housing Revenue Account		33,661				(33,661)
Statutory Provision for the repayment of debt (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	453					(453)
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	22,491					(22,491)
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	**26,197**	**73,055**	**(16,241)**	**(26,406)**	**0**	**(56,605)**
Adjustments to Capital Resources						
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure			22,839			(22,839)
Capital Receipts on loan repayments debited to the capital adjustment account			(100)			100
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure				90,827		(90,827)
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure					59,068	(59,068)
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	**0**	**0**	**22,739**	**90,827**	**59,068**	**(172,634)**
Total Adjustments	**52,748**	**6,358**	**6,498**	**64,421**	**(69)**	**(129,956)**

Note 10 - Other Operating Expenditure

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
3,900	Levies	4,399
(13,683)	Gains/losses on the Disposal of Non-Current Assets	4,080
(9,783)	**Total Other Operating Expenditure**	**8,479**

Note 11 - Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
506	Interest payable and similar charges	1,879
(20,707)	Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	(1,175)
(35,840)	Interest receivable and similar income	(33,321)
(7,497)	Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties and changes in their fair value	(5,460)
(5,557)	Movement in fair value of financial instruments	(2,188)
(396)	Other (Trading Accounts)	(44)
(69,491)	**Total**	**(40,309)**

Note 12 - Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
(70,167)	Council tax income	(72,720)
(93,932)	Non-domestic rates income and expenditure	(112,193)
(35,230)	Non-ringfenced government grants and contributions	(35,914)
(47,620)	Capital grants and contributions	773
(246,949)	**Total**	**(220,054)**

Note 13 - 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 2024/25.

	Balance at 1 April 2023 £000	Transfers In 2023-24 £000	Transfers Out 2023-24 £000	Balance at 31 March 2024 £000	Transfers In 2024-25 £000	Transfers Out 2024-25 £000	Balance at 31 March 2025 £000
General Fund Reserves:							
Financial Resilience Reserve	(97,046)	(5,097)	5,000	**(97,143)**	(1,391)	7,057	**(91,477)**
Pensions Resilience Reserve	(43,424)	0	850	**(42,574)**	0	850	**(41,724)**
Renewals Fund	(26,883)	(533)	1,176	**(26,240)**	(475)	1,008	**(25,707)**
Cost of Living Reserve	(8,400)	(5,000)	2,470	**(10,930)**	0	2,134	**(8,796)**
DSOs Reserve	(7,753)	(641)	470	**(7,924)**	(470)	50	**(8,344)**
Service Transformation Reserve	(11,051)	0	1,452	**(9,599)**	(1,410)	3,858	**(7,151)**
Refugee and Homelessness Reserve	(7,374)	(9,104)	9,752	**(6,726)**	(140)	1,415	**(5,451)**
Access For All	0	0	0	**0**	(4,850)	383	**(4,467)**
Other	(632)	(1,671)	1,662	**(641)**	(1,015)	882	**(774)**
Finite Services Fund	(1,410)	0	0	**(1,410)**	0	1,410	**0**
Specific Grant Reserve	(1,000)	0	0	**(1,000)**	0	1,000	**0**
Subtotal	**(204,973)**	**(22,046)**	**22,832**	**(204,187)**	**(9,751)**	**20,047**	**(193,891)**
S106 Revenue Reserves	(125,121)	(26,509)	28,962	**(122,668)**	(22,459)	14,741	**(130,386)**
Collection Fund Volatility Reserve	(15,530)	(5,214)	2,570	**(18,174)**	(6,051)	0	**(24,225)**
Education Balances	(16,290)	(13,059)	15,566	**(13,783)**	(15,010)	12,988	**(15,805)**
IFRS 9 Investment Volatility Reserve	(1,500)	(3,300)	0	**(4,800)**	(3,175)	0	**(7,975)**
Insurance Reserve	(8,222)	(1,933)	0	**(10,155)**	(1,920)	6,823	**(5,252)**
HRA Insurance Reserve	0	0	0	**0**	(4,007)	0	**(4,007)**
Total General Fund	**(371,636)**	**(72,061)**	**69,930**	**(373,767)**	**(62,373)**	**54,599**	**(381,541)**

Note 14 - Property, Plant and Equipment

Movements to 31 March 2025	**Council Dwellings**	**Land and Buildings**	**Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment**	**Community Assets**	**Surplus Assets**	**Assets Under Construction**	**Total Property, Plant and Equipment**
	£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Cost or Valuation							
at 1 April 2024	1,711,630	1,112,816	34,615	21,819	1,761	36,233	**2,918,874**
Opening Balance Adjustments	2,228	(2,228)					**0**
Additions	41,733	57,224	8,783	609	0	62,469	**170,818**
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(45,793)	7,956	0	0	(485)	0	**(38,322)**
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(100,111)	(20,744)	0	0	0	0	**(120,855)**
Derecognition – disposals	(3,468)	(9,800)	(1,803)	0	0	0	**(15,071)**
Reclassifications and transfer	4,504	(16,050)	0	0	0	11,546	**0**
at 31 March 2025	**1,610,723**	**1,129,174**	**41,595**	**22,428**	**1,276**	**110,248**	**2,915,444**
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
at 1 April 2024	(4)	(3,194)	(22,444)	0	0	0	**(25,642)**
Depreciation charge	(27,059)	(20,017)	(1,504)	0	0	0	**(48,580)**
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	11,902	8,099	0	0	0	0	**20,001**
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	15,161	1,624	0	0	0	0	**16,785**
Derecognition – disposals	0	0	971	0	0	0	**971**
at 31 March 2025	**0**	**(13,488)**	**(22,977)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(36,465)**
Net Book Value at 31 March 2025	**1,610,723**	**1,115,686**	**18,618**	**22,428**	**1,276**	**110,248**	**2,878,979**

Movements to 31 March 2024	Council Dwellings	Land and Buildings	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	Community Assets	Surplus Assets	Assets Under Construction	Total Property, Plant and Equipment
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost or Valuation							
at 1 April 2023	1,668,500	1,102,618	31,336	21,382	0	39,607	**2,863,443**
Additions	135,757	30,396	3,279	438	0	4,078	**173,948**
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	(36,684)	(9,584)	0	0	0	0	**(46,268)**
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	(70,333)	1,548	0	0	0	0	**(68,785)**
Derecognition – disposals	(2,559)	0	0	0	0	0	**(2,559)**
Reclassifications and transfer	16,948	(12,163)	0	0	1,761	(7,451)	**(905)**
at 31 March 2024	**1,711,629**	**1,112,815**	**34,615**	**21,820**	**1,761**	**36,234**	**2,918,874**
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment							
at 1 April 2023	0	(2,178)	(21,387)		0	0	**(23,565)**
Depreciation charge	(25,211)	(9,615)	(1,056)	0	0	0	**(35,882)**
Depreciation written out to the Revaluation Reserve	14,820	7,570	0	0	0	0	**22,390**
Depreciation written out to the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	10,387	1,028	0	0	0	0	**11,415**
at 31 March 2024	**(4)**	**(3,195)**	**(22,443)**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**(25,642)**
Net Book Value at 31 March 2024	**1,711,625**	**1,109,620**	**12,172**	**21,820**	**1,761**	**36,234**	**2,893,232**
Net Book Value at 31 March 2023	**1,668,499**	**1,100,442**	**9,949**	**21,381**	**0**	**39,607**	**2,839,878**

Capital Commitments

At 31 March 2025, the Council had entered into a number of on-going contracts for the construction or enhancement of property, plant and equipment. The table below shows the details of outstanding contractual commitments over £0.5m.

2023/24 £000	Capital Scheme	2024-25 £000
0	Primary School - Nine Elms	34,291
0	Atheldene Regeneration	31,587
0	The Alders Regeneration	17,296
0	Paddock at Broadwater Primary	7,059
0	Randall Close Regeneration	6,020
0	Platt Estate (North & South) Regeneration	3,761
0	Wendlesworth Estate Window Renewals	3,343
0	Putney Vale Regeneration	3,302
0	William Willison Window Renewals	2,419
0	Alton Estate Kitchens & Bathrooms	2,160
0	Hazelhurst Estate Kitchens & Bathrooms	2,113
2,877	Boroughwide Sprinkler Installations	1,931
0	Cambalt Road Window Renewals	1,823
0	59 Arnal Crescent Regeneration	1,574
0	Winstanley Estate Lift Refurbishment	1,346
0	Boroughwide Sheltered Bathroom Upgrades	1,094
0	Ashburton Estate Hayward Gardens Lift Refurbishment	1,048
0	Battersea High Street Roof Renewals	884
0	Holborn Estate Kitchens & Bathrooms	708
0	Patmore Street Regeneration	560
1,632	Northcote Library Site Development	0
1,310	Boroughwide Sheltered Electrical Upgrades	0
1,007	Wendlesworth Estate	0
950	Henry Prince Estate	0
876	Argyle (Glen Albyn) Chobham Gardens	0
712	Fitzhugh Estate	0
621	Winstanley Estate	0
9,985		**124,319**

Effects of Changes in Estimates

The Council has not made any material changes to its accounting estimates for Property, Plant and Equipment during the year.

Revaluations

The Council has historically carried out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at fair value is revalued at least every five years. In addition, the Council reviews groups of properties on an annual basis to assess any significant changes that would require a revaluation within the five-year period. Fair value as applied to relevant assets will depend upon the property market. Assets are depreciated over their 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. If the useful life of assets is reduced, depreciation increases and the carrying value of assets falls. A 1% increase in depreciation has an impact of £0.6m.

The main factors affecting the property market in 2024/25 were the Bank Rate remaining high as set by the Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) to try and contain inflation and the UK General Election in July 2024 bringing uncertainty to market expectations. The Council's external valuers (Wilks Head & Eve) have used substantial transaction volumes and other reliable market evidence to provide reliable asset valuations.

The Council's external valuer is not aware of any specific impact to the value of assets within the portfolio. For the avoidance of doubt, the valuation is not reported as being subject to 'material valuation uncertainty' as defined by VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Valuation – Global Standards. This publication reference has been included to ensure transparency and to provide further insight as to the market context under which the valuation opinion was prepared.

Valuations of land and buildings were carried out by our external valuers with an effective valuation date of 31 March 2025 in accordance with the methodologies and basis of estimation set out in the professional standards of RICS.

Note 15 – Infrastructure Assets

In accordance with the temporary relief offered by the Update to the Code on Infrastructure Assets, this note does not include disclosure of gross cost and accumulated depreciation for infrastructure assets because historical reporting practices and resultant information deficits mean that this would not faithfully represent the asset position to the users of the financial statements. The Council has chosen not to disclose this information as the previously reported practices and resultant information deficits mean that gross cost and accumulated depreciation are not measured accurately and would not provide the basis for the users of the financial statements to take economic or other decisions relating to infrastructure assets.

2023-24		**2024-25**
£000		**£000**
109,995	At 1 April	117,083
16,813	Additions	16,608
(9,727)	Depreciation	(10,460)
117,081	**at 31 March**	**123,231**

Infrastructure Assets and other Property, Plant and Equipment are combined on the Balance Sheet as follows:

2023-24		**2024-25**
£000		**£000**
117,081	Infrastructure Assets	123,231
2,893,232	Other Property, Plant and Equipment	2,878,979
3,010,313	**at 31 March**	**3,002,210**

Depreciation is charged on Infrastructure assets on a straight-line basis.

Note 16 - Heritage Assets

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

There is no formal policy for the acquisition, preservation, management and disposal of civic regalia. The Council would however have regard to upholding the dignity of the Office of the Mayor. Various items have mainly been presented to the Council by well wishers or external bodies. Items have rarely been purchased, and there are no records of any disposals. The assets are stored either in the vault or in the Mayor's parlour.

The insurance listing constitutes a register of the assets and the assets are measured at valuation and are not subject to depreciation. The valuations are at retail replacement value for insurance purposes as at 7 March 2019. They were carried out by JEMS, a firm of independent specialist appraisers and international jewellery consultants. There has been no movement in the carrying amount of the heritage assets since the valuations.

The Council is of the opinion that the costs of identifying and obtaining valuations for other potential heritage assets, such as the statue of King Edward VII at Tooting Broadway Underground Station, statues and sculptures in parks and open spaces and other artefacts held, would be disproportionate in terms of the benefits derived by the users of the Accounts.

Note 17 - Investment Properties

31 March 2024 £000	**Investment Property Income and Expenditure**	**31 March 2025 £000**
(4,185)	Rental income from investment property	(4,807)
(4,185)	**Net (gain)/loss**	**(4,807)**

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

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

31 March 2024 Non-Current £000	**Investment Properties Movements in Year**	**31 March 2025 Non-Current £000**
70,111	Opening Balance	74,336
9	Acquisitions	42
3,312	Net gains/losses from fair value adjustments	654
904	Transfers to / from Property Plant & Equipment	0
74,336	**Balance at the end of the year**	**75,032**

The fair value of the Council's investment property is measured annually at each reporting date. The Council's external valuer is not aware of any specific impact to the value of assets within the portfolio. For the avoidance of doubt, the valuation is not reported as being subject to 'material valuation uncertainty' as defined by VPS 3 and VPGA 10 of the RICS Valuation – Global Standards. This publication reference has been included to ensure transparency and to provide further insight as to the market context under which the valuation opinion was prepared.

Valuations of land and buildings were carried out by our external valuers with an effective valuation date of 31 March 2025 in accordance with the methodologies and basis of estimation set out in the professional standards of RICS.

Note 18 – Intangible Assets

The Council accounts for its software as an intangible asset. During 2024/25 the Council procured schools and housing software totalling £0.1m.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
0	**Net Carrying amount at Start of Year**	**92**
95	Additions	0
(3)	Amortisation for the period	(3)
92	**Net Carrying Amount at the end of the year**	**89**

Note 19 - Inventories

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

	Consumable Stores		Work in Progress		Total	
	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000	2023-24 £000	2024-25 £000
Balance outstanding at start of year	804	883	3,627	3,137	4,431	4,020
Purchases	2,925	2,060	3,572	1,420	6,497	3,480
Recognised as an expense in the year	(2,846)	(2,142)	(4,062)	(2,908)	(6,908)	(5,050)
Balance Outstanding at Year End	**883**	**801**	**3,137**	**1,649**	**4,020**	**2,450**

Note 20 - Financial Instruments

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

	Non-Current Financial Assets				
	Investments		Debtors		Total
	31 Mar 24 £000	31 Mar 25 £000	31 Mar 24 £000	31 Mar 25 £000	31 Mar 25 £000
Fair value through profit and loss	124,320	124,416	0	0	**124,416**
Amortised Cost	0	10,000	38,565	17,910	**27,910**
Total financial assets	**124,320**	**134,416**	**38,565**	**17,910**	**152,326**

	Current Financial Assets				
	Investments		Debtors		Total
	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amortised cost	419,229	364,208	109,666	79,752	443,960
Total financial assets	**419,229**	**364,208**	**109,666**	**79,752**	**443,960**

	Non-Current Financial Liabilities						
	Borrowing		Creditors		Other		Total
	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amortised cost	0	0	(40,274)	0	0	(2,199)	(2,199)
Other	0	0	0	0	0	(6,349)	(6,349)
Total financial liabilities	**0**	**0**	**(40,274)**	**0**	**0**	**(8,548)**	**(8,548)**

	Current Financial Liabilities				
	Borrowing		Creditors		Total
	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 24	31 Mar 25	31 Mar 25
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amortised cost*	(17,819)	(850)	(98,948)	(133,018)	(133,868)
Total financial liabilities	**(17,819)**	**(850)**	**(98,948)**	**(133,018)**	**(133,868)**

*There is no external borrowing in 2024/25. £0.9m detailed is funds held for North East Surrey Crematorium Board.

Income, Expenses, Gains and Losses shown in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services		
	2023-24	2024-25
	£000	£000
Net gains or losses on		
Financial assets measured at fair value	(5,557)	(2,188)
Total Net Gains or Losses	**(5,557)**	**(2,188)**
Interest Revenue:		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	(35,840)	(33,321)
Total Interest Revenue	**(35,840)**	**(33,321)**
Interest expense	**506**	**1,879**

Note 21 - Debtors

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
86,837	Trade Receivables	52,141
8,837	Prepayments	8,727
11,306	Housing Benefits	9,171
6,002	Other Local Authorities	18,390
18,206	Other Entities and Individuals	8,979
9,750	NHS Bodies	21,760
15,261	Central Government Bodies	23,327
156,199	**Total**	**142,495**

Note 22 - Debtors for Local Taxation

The past due but not impaired amount for local taxation (Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates) can be analysed by age as follows:

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
131	Less than three months	197
394	Three to six months	592
789	Six months to one year	1,183
5,486	More than one year	4,486
6,800	**Total**	**6,458**

Note 23 - Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of cash and cash equivalents shown on the Balance Sheet is made up of the following elements:

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
958	Cash and Bank balances	5,179
103,459	Short Term Deposits	78,450
104,417	**Total Cash and Cash Equivalents**	**83,629**

Note 24 - Assets Held for Sale

31 March 2024 Non-Current £000		31 March 2025 Non-Current £000
1,054	Balance outstanding at start of year	968
(86)	Revaluations	(1)
968	**Balance at the end of the year**	**967**

Note 25 – Creditors

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(26,879)	Trade payables	(20,014)
(22,364)	Central Government Bodies	(33,547)
(45,928)	Other Local Authorities	(79,569)
(2,508)	NHS Bodies	(2,723)
(52,431)	Other Entities and Individuals	(75,495)
(150,110)	**Total Creditors**	**(211,348)**

Note 26 – Provisions

Current Provisions

2024-25	Central Insurance Fund £000	Tree Root Claims £000	Business Rates Appeals £000	Total £000
Opening balance	(3,915)	(352)	(5,386)	(9,653)
Increase in provision during year	(253)	(5)	(1,203)	(1,461)
Utilised during year	1,081	0	3,380	4,461
Unused amounts reversed	410	0	0	410
Closing Balance	**(2,677)**	**(357)**	**(3,209)**	**(6,243)**

2023-24	Central Insurance Fund £000	Tree Root Claims £000	Business Rates Appeals £000	Total £000
Opening balance	(3,062)	(341)	(4,248)	(7,651)
Increase in provision during year	(968)	(11)	(13,706)	(14,685)
Utilised during year	115	0	12,568	12,683
Closing Balance	**(3,915)**	**(352)**	**(5,386)**	**(9,653)**

Long Term Provisions

2024-25	Central Insurance Fund	Tree Root Claims	Other Provisions	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening balance	(967)	(3,164)	(81)	(4,212)
Increase in provision during year	0	(45)	0	(45)
Unused amounts reversed	463	0	0	463
Closing Balance	**(504)**	**(3,209)**	**(81)**	**(3,794)**

2023-24	Central Insurance Fund	Tree Root Claims	Other Provisions	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening balance	(3,536)	(3,069)	(81)	(6,686)
Increase in provision during year	0	(95)	0	(95)
Unused amounts reversed	2,569	0	0	2,569
Closing Balance	**(967)**	**(3,164)**	**(81)**	**(4,212)**

Notes to the Provisions

The Council does not have external insurance for all potential risks and accordingly has established an insurance provision mainly to meet liability claims currently up to £531,108 of each loss. The provision is mainly based on advice from the Council's insurer. The timing of payment is uncertain as liability claims, in particular, can take many years to be settled.
The Council provides for claims resulting from damage caused by Council trees on the highway. Claims can take several years to settle and the balance on the provision is to meet the cost of outstanding claims.

2023-24	Total Provisions	2024-25
£000		£000
(14,337)	Opening balance	(13,865)
(14,780)	Increase in provision during year	(1,506)
12,683	Utilised during year	4,461
2,569	Unused amounts reversed	873
(13,865)	**Closing Balance**	**(10,037)**

Note 27 – Usable Reserves

Movements in the Council's usable reserves are detailed in the MiRS.

Capital Receipts Reserve

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

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(20,013)	Balance 1 April	(13,515)
(16,315)	Capital Receipts in year	(10,133)
74	Transfer to revenue reserves for disposals	113
(100)	Capital receipts on loan repayments	(90)
22,839	Capital Receipts used for financing	23,625
(13,515)	**Balance 31 March**	**0**

Major Repairs Reserve

The Council is required to maintain a Major Repairs Reserve, which controls an element of the capital resources limited to being used on capital expenditure on HRA assets or the financing of historical capital expenditure by the HRA. The balance shows the capital resources that have yet to be applied at 31 March 2025.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(102,354)	Balance 1 April	(37,933)
(26,406)	Depreciation and Amortisation	(28,342)
90,827	Application to finance capital expenditure	41,275
(37,933)	**Balance 31 March**	**(25,000)**

Capital Grants Reserve

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

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(185,292)	Balance 1 April	(185,361)
(59,137)	Capital grants recognised in year	(13,427)
59,068	Capital grants and contributions applied	47,737
(185,361)	**Balance 31 March**	**(151,051)**

Note 28 - Unusable Reserves

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(1,097,596)	Revaluation Reserve	(1,059,382)
(1,847,583)	Capital Adjustment Account	(1,842,081)
7,225	Pension Reserve	6,366
(4)	Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve	(4)
2,843	Collection Fund Adjustment Account	(5,193)
5,636	Accumulated Absences Account	6,687
2,846	Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account	658
13,864	DSG Unusable Reserve	21,175
(2,912,769)	**Total**	**(2,871,774)**

Revaluation Reserve

The revaluation reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its property, plant and equipment (and intangible assets).

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(1,132,538)	Balance 1 April	(1,097,596)
(88,158)	Upward revaluation of assets	(56,740)
112,123	Downward revaluation of assets and impairment losses not charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	75,061
23,965	**Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services**	**18,321**
10,657	Difference between fair value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	9,938
320	Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	9,955
10,977	**Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account**	**19,893**
(1,097,596)	**Balance 31 March**	**(1,059,382)**

Capital Adjustment Account

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

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(1,728,549)	Balance 1 April	(1,847,583)
45,610	Charges for depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	59,040
57,368	Revaluation losses on non-current assets	104,069
3	Amortisation of intangible assets	5
18,955	Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	25,841
2,559	Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	14,101
124,495	Reversal of Items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	203,056
(10,977)	Adjusting Amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(19,893)
113,518	**Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year**	183,163
(22,839)	Use of Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(23,625)
(59,069)	Capital Grants and Contributions credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement that have been applied to capital financing	(47,737)
(90,827)	Use of Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(41,275)
(453)	Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(11,354)
(22,491)	Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(11,022)
(195,679)	**Capital financing applied in year:**	(135,013)
(33,661)	Borrowing or liabilities met from the HRA	(42,084)
(3,312)	Movements in the market value of Investment Properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(654)
100	Capital Receipts debited to the Capital Adjustment Account on Repayment of loans	90
(1,847,583)	**Balance 31 March**	**(1,842,081)**

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.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(356,219)	**Opening Balance**	7,225
384,938	Remeasurements of the net defined benefit (liability)/asset	2,568
7,718	Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	27,056
(29,212)	Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(30,483)
7,225	**Balance 31 March**	**6,366**

Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve

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

31 March 2024 £000		**31 March 2025 £000**
(4)	Balance 1 April	(4)
0	Transfer to the Capital Receipts Reserve upon receipt of cash	0
(4)	**Balance 31 March**	**(4)**

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates income in the CIES as it falls due from payers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

31 March 2024 £000		**31 March 2025 £000**
(754)	Balance 1 April	2,843
3,597	Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(8,036)
2,843	**Balance 31 March**	**(5,193)**

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year.

31 March 2024 £000		**31 March 2025 £000**
7,521	**Balance 1 April**	5,636
(7,521)	Settlement or cancellation of accrual made at the end of the preceding year	(5,636)
5,636	Amounts accrued at the end of the current year	6,687
(1,885)	Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in year in accordance with statutory requirements	1,051
5,636	**Balance 31 March**	**6,687**

Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account

The Pooled Investment Funds Adjustment Account contains the gains or losses made by the authority arising from increases in the value of its Pooled Investments that are measured at fair value through the CIES.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
8,404	**Balance 1 April**	2,846
(5,558)	Changes in fair value of pooled investments	(2,188)
2,846	**Balance 31 March**	**658**

Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account

The Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account holds accumulated deficits relating to the schools' budget. Where the authority has incurred a deficit on its schools' budget in years beginning 1 April 2020 ending 31 March 2026, the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) Regulations do not allow for such amounts to be included in the General Fund and instead must be held in this adjustment account.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
10,423	Balance 1 April	13,864
3,441	Increase / (Reduction) of Dedicated Schools Grant Deficit	7,311
13,864	**Balance 31 March**	**21,175**

Note 29 - Cash Flow from Operating Activities

The cash flows for operating activities include the following items:

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(29,356)	Interest received	(28,597)
509	Interest paid	1,879
(28,847)	**Total**	**(26,718)**

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

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(45,610)	Depreciation	(59,040)
(57,368)	Impairment and downward valuations	(104,069)
(3)	Amortisation	(5)
(315)	(Increase)/decrease in creditors	9,305
25,289	Increase/(decrease) in debtors	23,482
(412)	Increase/(decrease) in inventories	(1,569)
21,494	Movement in pension liability	3,427
(2,559)	Carrying amount of non-current assets and non-current assets held for sale, sold or derecognised	(14,101)
7,679	Other non-cash movements charged to the surplus or deficit on provision of services	(16,166)
(51,805)	**Total**	**(158,736)**

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

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
16,315	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	10,133
59,137	Any other items for which the cash effects are investing or financing cash flows	13,427
75,452	**Total**	**23,560**

Note 30 - Cash Flow from Investing Activities

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
190,648	Purchase of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	158,328
90,485	Purchase of short-term and long-term investments	934,484
371	Other payments for investing activities	179
(16,315)	Proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets	(10,067)
(219,500)	Proceeds from short-term and long-term investments	(984,229)
(43,566)	Other receipts from investing activities	(46,463)
2,123	**Net cash flows from investing activities**	**52,232**

Note 31 - Cash Flow from Financing Activities

31 March 2024		31 March 2025
£000		**£000**
(375)	Cash receipts of short-term and long-term borrowing	(556)
0	Cash payments for the reduction of outstanding liabilities relating to leases	10,889
17,562	Repayments of short-term and long-term borrowing	17,525
3,059	Other payments for financing activities	(23,480)
20,246	**Net cash flows from financing activities**	**4,378**

Note 32 – Reconciliation of Liabilities from Financing Activities

	31 March 2024	Financing cash flows	Other non-cash changes	31 March 2025
	£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Short-term borrowing	(17,819)	16,969	0	(850)
Finance Leases	0	10,889	(28,756)	(17,867)
Total liabilities from financing activities	**(17,819)**	**27,858**	**(28,756)**	**(18,717)**

Note 33 - Agency Services

In 2024/25, there have been no income streams constituting an agency relationship which individually are over £1m (none in 2023/24).

Various other grants, previously classified as agency relationships have ended and therefore are not included.

Note 34 - Pooled Budgets

Pooled Funding Schemes are administered by Joint Commissioning Bodies (JCBs), whose purpose is to agree and monitor the funding and expenditure of each pooled budget area. This includes agreeing funding budgets each year and monitoring the expenditure against these quarterly, as well as agreeing appropriate service policies and actions, and reporting on outturn positions. Representatives from each partner organisation attend the JCBs and reports are provided for discussion/information.

The Council has two pooled budget agreements under S75 of the NHS Act 2006 as at 31 March 2025. These are:

Better Care Fund (BCF)

The BCF was established by the Government to provide funds to local areas to support the integration of health and social care and to seek to achieve the national conditions and local objectives, shifting the focus of care from hospital to community provision. As a result, the Council entered into a S75 agreement in 2015/16 with Wandsworth CCG to establish a pooled fund and this incorporates the existing pooled budget arrangements created in 2014/15. The fund is now being invested in a number of established and new local schemes to support all areas to implement the high impact change model for managing transfer of care. In addition, Wandsworth Council, received additional funding for Improved Better Care Fund (iBCF). This was for meeting adult social care needs; reducing pressures on the NHS, by improving the delay in discharges from hospital to care; and ensuring the local social care provider market is supported. The Winter Pressures grant is now included in the iBCF allocation.

2023-24 £000	Better Care Fund	2024-25 £000
(26,139)	Authority Funding	(26,657)
(17,830)	Partner Funding	(18,839)
(43,969)	Total Pooled Funding	(45,496)
26,139	Authority Expenditure	26,657
17,830	Partner Expenditure	18,839
43,969	Expenditure	45,496
0	**Net Surplus/Deficit on the Pooled Budget**	**0**
0	**Authority Share of the Net Surplus / Deficit**	**0**

Joint Integrated Community Equipment Service

The current S75 agreement commenced on the 1st October 2017 and operates between the Council, Central London Community Healthcare (CLCH) and St George's University NHS Trust. In 2023/24 this moved under an Integrated Care Board (ICB). The pooled fund for 2024/25 has a net surplus of £0.6m (£0.3m surplus in 2023/24). Health partners are recharged as per their spend and all expenditure incurred is recovered in full. Any surplus (or deficit) falls therefore to the Council and is charged to the General Fund.

2023-24 £000	Joint Integrated Community Equipment Service	2024-25 £000
(555)	Authority Funding	(718)
(2,507)	Partner Funding	(2,648)
(3,062)	Total Pooled Funding	(3,366)
277	Authority Expenditure	71
2,507	Partner Expenditure	2,648
2,784	Expenditure	2,719
(278)	**Net Surplus/Deficit on the Pooled Budget**	**(647)**
(278)	**Authority Share of the Net Surplus / Deficit**	**(647)**

Note 35 - Members’ Allowances

The Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 as amended provide for the circumstances in which allowances are payable to Members, and to the maximum amounts payable in respect of certain allowances. The Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year:

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
1,104	Allowances	1,145
1,104	**Total Members' Allowances**	1,145

Note 36 - Officers' Remuneration

The Council entered into the SSA with LB Richmond from 1 October 2016. During 2024/25 the SSA was renamed as Richmond and Wandsworth Better Service Partnership. All tables represent Wandsworth's proportion of the salary costs with the remaining balance being charged to LB Richmond.

As prescribed by the Code the tables below set out:

- senior officer remuneration where this exceeds £150,000 including those who report to the Chief Executive detailed by name. During 2024/25 a review was undertaken of senior officer job titles, where a change has occurred, the descriptive note numbers correspond between 2024/25 and 2023/24 years.
- the bandings of officers whose Better Service Partnership salary share is £50,000 or more per year; and
- analysis of exit packages paid during the year.

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

2024-25	*Notes*	**Salary & Other Payments** £	**Employers Pension Contributions** £	**Total** £
Interim Chief Executive - B. Reilly	*1*	160,771	30,707	**191,478**
Former Chief Executive – M. Jackson	*2*	98,688	0	**98,688**
Executive Director of Children's Services and Interim Deputy Chief Executive - A. Popovici	*3*	211,321	11,586	**222,907**
Executive Director of Environment and Community Services - P. Chadwick	-	138,267	26,409	**164,676**
Executive Director of Finance - F. Merry	-	129,750	24,782	**154,532**
Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health - J. DeSouza	-	127,601	24,372	**151,973**
Assistant Chief Executive - J. Evans	-	102,318	19,543	**121,861**
Executive Director of Change and Innovation – S. Olsen	*4*	113,643	21,706	**135,349**
Director of Practice	*5*	164,133	31,349	**195,482**
Director of Education	*6*	158,501	30,274	**188,775**
Director of Housing Management	*7*	157,946	30,168	**188,114**
Director of Business and Resources (Children's Services)	*8*	161,079	0	**161,079**
Director of Public Health	-	100,694	19,232	**119,926**
		1,824,712	**270,128**	**2,094,840**

2023-24	Notes	Salary & Other Payments £	Employers Pension Contributions £	Total £
Executive Director of Housing and Regeneration - B. Reilly	*1*	150,111	28,671	**178,782**
Chief Executive – M. Jackson	*2*	177,309	0	**177,309**
Executive Director of Children's Services - A. Popovici	*3*	214,210	40,897	**255,107**
Executive Director of Environment and Community Services - P. Chadwick	-	133,267	25,454	**158,721**
Executive Director of Finance - F. Merry	-	125,657	23,990	**149,647**
Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health - J. DeSouza	-	116,891	22,326	**139,217**
Assistant Chief Executive (Policy and Performance) - J. Evans	-	99,822	19,066	**118,888**
Deputy Director of Children's Services	*5*	158,448	30,264	**188,712**
Assistant Director Education	*6*	150,131	28,675	**178,806**
Assistant Director (Housing Management)	*7*	151,816	28,997	**180,813**
Assistant Director Business and Resources	*8*	152,573	0	**152,573**
Assistant Director (Regeneration and Development)	-	158,448	30,264	**188,712**
Deputy Director of Environment and Community Services	-	113,221	16,007	**129,228**
Director of Public Health	-	96,860	18,500	**115,360**
Assistant Director of Change and Customer Experience	-	98,507	18,815	**117,322**
		2,097,271	**331,926**	**2,429,197**

Note 1 – B Reilly acted as Interim Chief Executive (from his substantive post of Executive Director of Housing and Regeneration) between 17 October 2024 to 13 April 2025.

Note 2 – The former Chief Executive left the organisation in October 2024.

Note 3 – A Popovici acted as Interim Deputy Chief Executive (from her substantive post of Executive Director of Children's Services) between 17 October 2024 to date. The Executive Director of Children's Services post works solely for Wandsworth however the role of Interim Deputy Chief Executive is charged across the Better Service Partnership.

Note 4 – The Executive Director of Change and Innovation joined the Better Service Partnership on 15 April 2024.

Note 5 – This post works solely for Wandsworth and was renamed in 2024/25 from Deputy Director of Children's Services to Director of Practice.

Note 6 – This post works solely for Wandsworth and was renamed in 2024/25 from Assistant Director Education to Director of Education.

Note 7 – This post works solely for Wandsworth and was renamed in 2024/25 from Assistant Director (Housing Management) to Director of Housing Management.

Note 8 – This post works solely for Wandsworth and was renamed in 2024/25 from Assistant Director Business and Resources to Director of Business and Resources (Children's Services).

Officer Remuneration Banding

The number of employees, including teaching staff, whose remuneration was more than £50,000 is shown in the following table.

These figures include redundancy/ compensation payments in both years, as required by legislation. The table also includes the officers disclosed in the Senior Officer table above, where Wandsworth's proportion of costs is greater than £50,000. Several officers with a salary greater than £50,000 employed by the Better Service Partnership are excluded from the table above as Wandsworth's element of the costs are below £50,000. The table below does not include employer's pension contributions.

2023-24 Number of Employees				2024-25 Number of Employees		
School Staff	**Other Staff**	**Total**		**School Staff**	**Other Staff**	**Total**
108	148	**256**	£50,001 to £55,000	106	207	**313**
98	118	**216**	£55,001 to £60,000	96	148	**244**
96	58	**154**	£60,001 to £65,000	25	100	**125**
43	41	**84**	£65,001 to £70,000	22	48	**70**
16	26	**42**	£70,001 to £75,000	23	34	**57**
28	14	**42**	£75,001 to £80,000	11	18	**29**
14	18	**32**	£80,001 to £85,000	13	14	**27**
11	8	**19**	£85,001 to £90,000	8	16	**24**
10	13	**23**	£90,001 to £95,000	5	8	**13**
7	6	**13**	£95,001 to £100,000	6	15	**21**
5	4	**9**	£100,001 to £105,000	4	8	**12**
5	0	**5**	£105,001 to £110,000	3	6	**9**
3	1	**4**	£110,001 to £115,000	2	2	**4**
5	2	**7**	£115,001 to £120,000	0	0	**0**
1	1	**2**	£120,001 to £125,000	0	0	**0**
2	1	**3**	£125,001 to £130,000	1	3	**4**
0	1	**1**	£130,001 to £135,000	0	0	**0**
0	0	**0**	£135,001 to £140,000	0	1	**1**
1	0	**1**	£140,001 to £145,000	0	0	**0**
0	4	**4**	£150,001 to £155,000	0	0	**0**
0	2	**2**	£155,001 to £160,000	0	2	**2**
0	0	**0**	£160,001 to £165,000	0	3	**3**
0	0	**0**	£170,001 to £175,000	1	0	**1**
0	1	**1**	£175,001 to £180,000	0	0	**0**
0	1	**1**	£210,001 to £215,000	0	1	**1**
453	**468**	**921**	**Total**	**326**	**634**	**960**

Exit Packages

The number and cost of exit packages are included in the following table:

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of exit packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band (£)	
	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25
£0-£20,000	1	9	20	15	21	24	127,557	219,148
£20,001 - £40,000	0	2	11	4	11	6	285,656	178,678
£40,001 - £60,000	1	2	1	1	2	3	99,653	158,917
£60,001 - £80,000	1	0	1	1	2	1	60,292	133,920
£80,001 - £100,000	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	183,828
£100,001 - £150,000	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	231,053
£150,001 - £200,000	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	497,461
Total	**3**	**17**	**33**	**24**	**36**	**41**	**573,158**	**1,603,005**
Add: Amounts provided for in CIES not included in bandings							5,055	(11,456)
Total cost included in CIES							**578,213**	**1,591,549**

The Council terminated the contracts of a number of employees in 2024/25, incurring liabilities of £1.6m (£0.6m in 2024/25). The total cost of £1.6m for 2024/25 in the table above is for exit packages that have been agreed, accrued for and charged to the Council's CIES in the current year.

Note 37 - External Audit Costs

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

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
326	Fees payable to external auditors for the current year scale fee	326
19	Fees payable to external auditors for previous years additional fee	197
26	Fees payable in respect of other services provided by external auditors	17
371	**Total**	**540**

The Council's auditors Ernst & Young LLP continue to submit requests to the Public Sector Audit Appointments (PSAA) for authority to increase the additional fees charged. Additional fees for 2020/21 and 2021/22 have been agreed and paid. Fees for the 2022/23 limited scope audit are still being discussed with Government and the Financial Reporting Council (FRC). For 2023/24 and 2024/25 the PSAA has agreed an increase to councils' scale fees nationally, for recurring approved fee variations which are consolidated into new scale fees. Additional fees for 2023/24 and 2024/25 have not been disclosed by EY at present.

Note 38 - Dedicated Schools Grant

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant income provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). DSG is ring-fenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget as defined in the School Finance and Early Years (England) Regulations 2024. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget (ISB), which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2024/25 are:

DSG Receivable for 2024-25	Central Expenditure	Individual Schools Budget	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Final DSG for year before Academies and high needs recoupment			(290,485)
Academy and high needs figure recouped for year			103,054
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment			**(187,431)**
Plus: Brought forward from previous year			0
Less: Carry forward to following year (pre-agreed)			0
Initial budget distribution for year	**(38,915)**	**(148,516)**	**(187,431)**
In Year Adjustments	(197)	115	(312)
Final budget distribution for year	**(39,112)**	**(148,401)**	**(187,743)**
Less: Actual central expenditure	50,414		50,414
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		144,640	144,640
Carry forward to 2025-26	**11,302**	**(3,761)**	**7,311**
Plus: Carry forward to 2024-25 (pre-agreed)			0
Total DSG Carried Forward to 2025-26			**7,311**
Opening DSG Unusable Reserve Balance			13,864
Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at the end of 2024-25			7,311
Net DSG Position at the end of 2024-25			**21,175**

DSG Receivable for 2023-24	Central Expenditure	Individual Schools Budget	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Final DSG for year before Academies and high needs recoupment			(271,648)
Academy figure recouped for year			99,893
Total DSG after academy recoupment			**(171,755)**
Plus: Brought forward from previous year			0
Less: Carry forward to following year (pre-agreed)			0
Initial budget distribution for year	**(58,600)**	**(113,154)**	**(171,755)**
In Year Adjustments	574	(205)	369
Final budget distribution for year	**(58,026)**	**(113,359)**	**(171,386)**
Less: Actual central expenditure	62,018		62,018
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		112,809	112,809
Carry forward to 2023-34	**3,992**	**(550)**	**3,441**
Plus: Carry forward to 2023-24 (pre-agreed)			0
Total DSG Carried Forward to 2023-24			**3,441**
Opening DSG Unusable Reserve Balance			10,423
Addition to DSG Unusable Reserve at the end of 2022-23			3,441
Net DSG Position at the end of 2022-23			**13,864**

Note 39 - Grant Income

Grants and contributions charged to Taxation and Non-Specific Grant income

31 March 2024		31 March 2025
£000		£000
(35,230)	Non-specific revenue grants	(35,914)
(28,173)	Capital grants and contributions - General Fund	(2,282)
(19,447)	Capital grants and contributions - Housing Revenue Account	3,055
(82,850)	**Total**	**(35,141)**

Grants and contributions charged to Net Cost of Services

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(171,103)	Dedicated Schools Grant	(186,131)
(68,220)	Rent Allowance Subsidy	(60,145)
(46,234)	Rent Rebate Subsidy	(44,833)
(16,985)	Improved Better Care	(33,611)
(30,371)	Public Health Grant	(31,774)
(20,851)	Non-HRA Rent Rebate Subsidy	(22,631)
(62,477)	Section 106 Contributions	(22,114)
(25,624)	Social Care Grant	(16,985)
(9,207)	Leaseholder Reimbursements	(10,807)
(9,154)	Better Care Fund	(9,672)
(8,149)	Health Authority Contributions	(8,415)
(6,325)	Pupil Premium Grant	(6,384)
(5,978)	Homelessness Prevention Grant	(6,002)
(3,038)	Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund*	(5,676)
(4,139)	Household Support Grant	(4,295)
(2,381)	Adult Social Care Discharge Fund	(3,969)
(1,409)	Mayor of London's Free School Meals	(3,402)
0	Schools Core Budget	(2,770)
(1,466)	Disabled Facilities Grant	(2,446)
(1,026)	School's NNDR	(2,180)
(1,205)	Teachers Pay Additional Award	(1,993)
(2,263)	Asylum Seekers Grant	(1,971)
(2,005)	Adult Education Funding	(1,913)
(1,846)	Universal Infant Free School Meals Grant	(1,898)
(1,383)	Rough Sleeping Initiative	(1,891)
(1,284)	Sixth Form Funding	(1,314)
(1,228)	Housing Benefit Admin Subsidy	(1,278)
0	Ukraine Tariff Grant	(1,204)
(1,420)	Supporting Families Grant	(1,141)
(1,040)	Recovery Premium*	(535)
(608)	Covid-19 Test and Trace Contain Outbreak Management Fund	(316)
(2,669)	Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	0
(1,973)	Market Sustainability and Improvement Fund - Workforce Fund	0
(1,249)	Early Years Supplementary Grant	0
(12,588)	Other Government Grants and Contributions under £1m	(15,842)
(3,260)	Non-Government Grants & Contributions under £1m	(3,277)
(530,158)	**Total**	**(518,815)**

The Council has received several grants and contributions that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that may require the monies to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year-end are as follows:

Grants Receipts in Advance (Revenue Grants) - Current Liabilities

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
0	Section 278 Contributions	(1,848)
0	Afghan Refugee Grant	(1,135)
(1,117)	Section 106 Contributions	(1,051)
(4,239)	Other Grants	(2,921)
(5,356)	**Total**	**(6,955)**

Grants Receipts in Advance (Capital Grants) - Long Term Liabilities

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
0	Food Waste Collection Grant	(2,930)
0	Schools Devolved Formula Grant	(2,409)
(3,060)	S278 Capital	0
(1,618)	Free Schools	0
(1,240)	Other Grants	(510)
(5,918)	**Total**	**(5,849)**

Grants Receipts in Advance (Revenue Grants) - Long Term Liabilities

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
0	Section 278 Revenue Contributions	(1,317)
0	**Total**	**(1,317)**

Grants Receipts in Advance (Capital Grants) - Current Liabilities

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(341)	Section 106 Contributions	(829)
(341)	**Total**	**(829)**

Note 40 - 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 significant influence over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework, within which the Council operates, provides a significant part 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 and Housing Benefits). Grants receipts outstanding at 31 March 2025 are show in Note 39.

North East Surrey Crematorium Board (NESCB)
The Board currently is composed of 10 councillors and 2 substitute councillors from three London Borough councils: Merton, Sutton, and Wandsworth. Councillors A. Critchard, R. Birchall, S. Apps, T. Belton and A. Graham were appointed by the Council. Mr M. Davies (Financial Controller) is Treasurer to the Board. Mr P. Guilliotti (Director of Financial Services) is Auditor to the Board.

The Board had regular transactions with the Council, and interim payments were made to the Council to reimburse costs incurred on the Board's behalf. At 31st March 2025 the Council had a £0.9m 7-day notice loan outstanding from the Board.

Western Riverside Waste Authority (WRWA)

The Authority is composed of 8 members from 4 London Boroughs: Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, Lambeth, and Wandsworth. Councillors J. Gasser and L. Cooper were appointed by the Council. Ms K. Burston (Director of Finance - Financial Management) and Mrs A. Attoe (Chief Accountant) were Deputy Treasurers to the Authority during 2024/25. Mr P. Guilliotti was Head of Audit to the Authority.

During the year there were; gross refuse disposal charges of £13.6m (netted off by £0.3m returned to Wandsworth from WRWA for a reserves share in August 2024), levy payments of £1.4m; and £1.2m of investment income, paid to WRWA. WRWA paid Wandsworth £0.1m in administration charges in 2024/25.

Enable Leisure and Culture

Enable provide leisure services for the Council. Councillors G. Humphries and S. Apps are trustees. During the year, the Council received £2.8m for services from Enable. The Council paid £1.9m for services provided by Enable.

St George's University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

St George's Hospital is located within the Borough, in Tooting. Councillor S. Worrall is the Council representative on the St George's NHS Trust board. £1.6m was paid to St George's for service provision and £4m m of income was received in 2024/25.

Achieving for Children (AfC)

Achieving for Children delivers social care, education and health services to children and young people in RB Kingston, RB Windsor and Maidenhead and LB Richmond. Mr J. DeSouza (Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Public Health) is a Non-Executive Director on the AfC Board. The Council received £0.6m for service provision and grant recoupment. £0.4m was paid to AfC for special educational needs grants.

Members and Officers

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of Members' allowances and expenses paid in the year is shown in Note 34. During the year, works and services to the net value of £1.7m (£0.9m in 2023/24) were commissioned from companies, voluntary and similar organisations in which Members declared an interest. Contracts were entered in full compliance with the Council's standing orders. The relevant members did not take part in any discussion or decision relating to the grants. Details of all these transactions are recorded in the register of members interest which is open to public inspection at the town hall during office hours.

Note 41 - Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

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

Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
162,349	Opening Capital Financing Requirement	142,850
	Capital Investment:	
190,761	- Property Plant and Equipment	170,818
9	- Investment Property	42
95	- Intangible Assets	0
18,955	- Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	25,841
21	- Capital Loans and investments	179
209,841	**Total Capital Spending**	**196,880**
	Sources of Finance:	
(22,839)	- Capital receipts	(23,625)
(59,069)	- Government Grants and other contributions	(47,737)
(90,827)	- Major repairs reserve	(41,275)
	Sums set aside from revenue:	
(22,491)	- Direct revenue contributions	(11,022)
(33,661)	- Borrowing or liabilities met from the HRA	(42,084)
(453)	- Minimum revenue provision	(11,354)
(229,340)	**Total Sources of Finance**	**(177,097)**
142,850	**Closing Capital Financing Requirement**	**162,633**

Explanation of movements in year

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(19,044)	Increase in underlying need to borrow	47,744
(453)	Other movements	(11,354)
(19,497)	**Increase/(decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement**	**36,390**

Note 42 - Leases

The Council's lease contracts compromise lease of operational land and buildings only. As required by IFRS 16, any material leases are included on the Council's balance sheet as a Right of Use asset, with a corresponding liability. These assets and liabilities are outlined in the tables below. Any leases below the materiality threshold are disclosed within the Transactions under Leases table below.

Authority as Lessee - Operating Leases

Right of Use Assets

This table shows the change in values of Right of Use Assets held under leases by the Council.

	£000 Land and Buildings
Balance at 1 April 2024	28,756
Depreciation	(10,525)
Balance at 31 March 2025	**18,231**

Maturity Analysis of Lease Liabilities

This table shows the outstanding obligations under lease agreements as at 31 March 2025. The lease liabilities are due to be settled over the following time bands

	31 March 2025 £000
Less than one year	(11,519)
One to five years	(5,552)
More than five years	(796)
Outstanding Obligations (Lease Liabilities)	**(17,867)**

Transactions Under Leases

The Council incurred the following expenses and cash flows in relation to leases in 2024/25.

	31 March 2025 £000
Repayment of Principal	10,889
Interest expense on lease liabilities	1,664
Expense relating to short term leases	
Short Term Property Leases	772
Total Expense	**13,325**

Cashflow – Minimum Lease Payments

Minimum Lease payments for 2024/25 are shown in the below table.

	31 March 2025 £000
Property Leases	167
Short Term Property Leases	13,011
Minimum Lease Payments	**13,178**

Authority as Lessor - Operating Leases

Council assets generate rent from operating leases, for which £8.3m was received in 2024/25 (£7.5m in 2023/24). These assets are mostly investment properties valued at £75m (£69.4m in 2023/24) and are not subject to depreciation.

The minimum lease payments due to the Council in future years are set out below:

31 March 2024 £000		**31 March 2025 £000**
6,598	Not later than one year	7,043
27,234	Later than one year and not later than five years	22,610
8,759,085	Later than five years	61,891
92,917	**Total**	**91,544**

Note 43 - Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Council makes contributions towards 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 same time the employees earn their future entitlement.

Teachers employed by the Council are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE). The scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement and the Council contribute toward the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The scheme has in excess of 10,000 participating employees and consequently the Council is not able to identify its share of the underlying financial position and performance of the scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes, it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme. In 2024/25 the Council paid £12.5m (£10.1m in 2023/24) to Teachers' Pensions in respect of teachers' retirement benefits.

Some statutorily transferred staff are members of the NHS Pension Scheme. The scheme is unfunded and is administered by NHS Pensions, part of the NHS Business Services Authority which is an arm’s length body of Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC). The pension cost charged to the Council is the contribution rate set by NHS Pensions on the basis of a notional fund and is therefore accounted for as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2024/25, the Council paid £0.1m (£0.1m in 2023/24) to NHS Pensions in respect of members retirement benefits.

Note 44 - Defined Benefit 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. Policy is determined in accordance with the Pensions Fund Regulations. The investment managers of the fund are appointed by Wandsworth Council Pensions Committee.

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

The Council recognises a charge to Council Tax based on the cash payable in the year, and the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits calculated under IAS 19 is reversed out of the General Fund via the MiRS. The following transactions have been made in the CIES and the General Fund Balance via the MiRS during the year.

Discretionary post-retirement benefits on early retirement are an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. There are no plan assets built up to meet these pension liabilities.

In 2023/24 and 2024/25 the Council adopted an asset ceiling in reporting its net liability as required by IAS 19 which only allows an asset to be recognised to the extent that the employer can gain economic benefits from the surplus. Economic benefit can be gained in two ways – either via a refund, or via a reduction in future contributions. The limit to the net asset is known as the asset ceiling. Under IFRIC 14, scheduled bodies such as councils cannot use the option of getting a refund due to participation in the LGPS and the fact that the refund must be unconditional. The asset ceiling adjustment is calculated by the Council’s actuary. The Council is therefore limited to the option of a reduction in future contributions by paying primary contributions at a lower rate than the accounting service cost, which means staff are remunerated in form of a pension accrual while paying less than the value of that accrual.

The latest triennial valuation on 31 March 2022 covers the three years up to the 31 March 2025. The latest valuation set the Council’s contribution rate to 16% of pay, including community schools, from 1 April 2023 (previously 19.1% under the 2019 valuation).

The asset ceiling adjustment is calculated by the Council’s actuaries, and the in-year movement is shown in the Reconciliation of Change in Impact of Asset Ceiling table below.

2023-24 Council £000	2023-24 LPFA £000	2023-24 Total £000	General Fund Transactions	2024-25 Council £000	2024-25 LPFA £000	2024-25 Total £000
			Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement			
			Cost of Services			
			Service cost comprising:			
26,204	129	26,333	Current service cost	26,325	105	26,430
756	251	1,007	Past service cost	606	6	612
1,069	16	1,085	Administration expenses	1,172	17	1,189
(20,250)	(457)	(20,707)	Net interest expense / income	(1,167)	(8)	(1,175)
7,779	**(61)**	**7,718**	**Total charged to Surplus and Deficit on Provision of Services**	**26,936**	**120**	**27,056**

£000	£000	£000	Other post-employment benefits charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	£000	£000	£000
			Re-measurement of the net defined benefit liability comprising:			
(162,464)	(2,374)	(164,838)	Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	33,599	936	34,535
4,196	133	4,329	Actuarial gains and losses - experience	(3,191)	(115)	(3,306)
(18,748)	(574)	(19,322)	Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	(3,473)	(104)	(3,577)
(25,335)	(18)	(25,353)	Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	(171,874)	(3,181)	(175,055)
577,471	12,651	590,122	Change in effect of Asset Ceiling	147,491	2,480	149,971
375,120	**9,818**	**384,938**	**Total charged to Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**	**2,552**	**16**	**2,568**
382,899	**9,757**	**392,656**	**Total charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**	**29,488**	**136**	**29,624**

2023-24 Council £000	2023-24 LPFA £000	2023-24 Total £000	Movement in Reserves Statement	2024-25 Council £000	2024-25 LPFA £000	2024-25 Total £000
(7,779)	61	(7,718)	Reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(26,936)	(120)	(27,056)
			Actual amount charged against the general fund balance for pensions in the year:			
28,932	280	29,212	Employers' contributions payable to scheme	30,424	59	30,483

2023-24 Council £000	2023-24 LPFA £000	2023-24 Total £000	Pensions Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet	2024-25 Council £000	2024-25 LPFA £000	2024-25 Total £000
(1,338,847)	(42,779)	(1,381,626)	Present value of the defined obligation	(1,197,806)	(37,995)	(1,235,801)
1,908,924	55,599	1,964,523	Fair value of plan assets	1,945,068	53,832	1,998,900
(577,471)	(12,651)	(590,122)	Impact of Asset Ceiling	(753,720)	(15,745)	(769,465)
(7,394)	**169**	**(7,225)**	**Net (liability) / asset arising from the defined benefit obligation**	**(6,458)**	**92**	**(6,366)**

2023-24 Council £000	2023-24 LPFA £000	2023-24 Total £000	Movement in the Value of Scheme Assets	2024-25 Council £000	2024-25 LPFA £000	2024-25 Total £000
1,686,380	53,792	1,740,172	Opening Balance	1,908,924	55,599	1,964,523
84,144	2,509	86,653	Interest income	94,396	2,614	97,010
			Re-measurement gain / (loss):			
162,464	2,374	164,838	The return on plan assets, excluding the amount included in the net interest expense	(33,599)	(936)	(34,535)
28,932	280	29,212	Contributions from employer	30,424	59	30,483
11,379	40	11,419	Contributions from employees into the scheme	11,660	34	11,694
(63,306)	(3,380)	(66,686)	Benefits / transfers paid	(65,565)	(3,521)	(69,086)
(1,069)	(16)	(1,085)	Administration expenses	(1,172)	(17)	(1,189)
1,908,924	**55,599**	**1,964,523**	**Closing value of scheme assets**	**1,945,068**	**53,832**	**1,998,900**

2023-24 Council £000	2023-24 LPFA £000	2023-24 Total £000	Movements in the Fair Value of Scheme Liabilities	2024-25 Council £000	2024-25 LPFA £000	2024-25 Total £000
(1,339,807)	(44,146)	(1,383,953)	Opening Balance	(1,338,847)	(42,779)	(1,381,626)
(26,204)	(129)	(26,333)	Current service cost	(26,325)	(105)	(26,430)
(63,894)	(2,052)	(65,946)	Interest cost	(64,471)	(1,992)	(66,463)
(11,379)	(40)	(11,419)	Contributions from scheme participants	(11,660)	(34)	(11,694)
			Re-measurement gains and losses:			
(4,196)	(133)	(4,329)	- Actuarial gains / (losses) - experience	3,191	115	3,306
18,748	574	19,322	- Actuarial gains / (losses) from changes in demographic assumptions	3,473	104	3,577
25,335	18	25,353	- Actuarial gains / (losses) from changes in financial assumptions	171,874	3,181	175,055
(756)	(251)	(1,007)	Past service cost	(606)	(6)	(612)
63,306	3,380	66,686	Benefits / transfers paid	65,565	3,521	69,086
(1,338,847)	**(42,779)**	**(1,381,626)**	**Balance as at 31 March**	**(1,197,806)**	**(37,995)**	**(1,235,801)**

Council £000	LPFA £000	Total £000	Reconciliation of Change in Impact of Asset Ceiling	Council £000	LPFA £000	Total £000
0	0	0	**Opening Impact of asset ceiling**	577,471	12,651	590,122
0	0	0	Interest on impact of asset ceiling	28,758	614	29,372
577,471	12,651	590,122	Actuarial gains and losses	147,491	2,480	149,971
577,471	**12,651**	**590,122**	**Closing impact of asset ceiling**	**753,720**	**15,745**	**769,465**

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charges made against Council Tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund and HRA via the MiRS. The transactions in the preceding table have been made in the CIES and the General Fund Balance via the MiRS during the year. The table above shows the amount included in the Balance Sheet arising from the Council's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plans.

2023-24 Council £000	%	Asset Allocation	2024-25 Council £000	%
67,134	3.52%	Cash and cash equivalents	74,997	3.86%
1,113,247	58.32%	Equities	1,114,931	57.32%
284,909	14.93%	Corporate Bonds	290,067	14.91%
249,858	13.09%	Property	264,368	13.59%
193,776	10.15%	Multi-Asset Funds	200,705	10.32%
1,908,924	**100.00%**	**Scheme assets**	**1,945,068**	**100.00%**

2023-24 LPFA £000	%	Asset Allocation	2024-25 LPFA £000	%
871	1.57%	Cash and cash equivalents	1,259	2.34%
33,664	60.55%	Equities	31,751	58.98%
5,086	9.15%	Property	4,906	9.11%
6,387	11.49%	Infrastructure	6,140	11.41%
9,591	17.25%	Target Return Portfolio	9,776	18.16%
55,599	**100.00%**	**Scheme assets**	**53,832**	**100.00%**

Basis of Estimating Assets and Liabilities

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

The Council scheme and the LPFA scheme have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham, an independent firm of actuaries, based upon the latest triennial valuation, as at 31 March 2022.

Data reports received from the actuary for 2024/25 are based on actuals to 31 March 2025.

Expected Return on Assets

For accounting periods from 1 January 2013, the expected return and the interest cost has been replaced with a single net interest cost, which effectively sets the expected return equal to the discount rate.

	Council		SSA		LPFA	
	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25	2023-24	2024-25
Longevity at 65 for current pensioners						
- Men	20.8	20.7	20.8	20.7	20.3	20.3
- Women	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.3	23.4	23.4
Longevity at 65 for future pensioners						
- Men	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.0	22.3	22.3
- Women	24.7	24.7	24.7	24.7	25.2	25.2
Rate of inflation (RPI)	3.25%	3.20%	3.15%	3.10%	3.40%	3.35%
Rate of inflation (CPI)	2.90%	2.90%	2.90%	2.85%	2.95%	2.95%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90%	3.90%	3.90%	3.85%	3.95%	3.95%
Rate of increase in pensions	2.90%	2.90%	2.90%	2.85%	2.95%	2.95%
Rate for discounting scheme liabilities	4.90%	5.75%	4.95%	5.85%	4.85%	5.62%
Take up of converting annual pension to lump sum	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%	50.00%	0.00%

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

		Council			**LPFA**	
	£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Adjustment to discount rate	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**
Present Value of Total Obligation	1,181,440	1,197,806	1,214,559	37,635	37,995	38,362
Projected Service Cost	18,280	18,964	19,668	88	89	91
Adjustment to long term salary increase	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**
Present Value of Total Obligation	1,198,783	1,197,806	1,196,835	38,010	37,995	37,981
Projected Service Cost	18,964	18,964	18,964	89	89	89
Adjustment to pension increases & deferred revaluation	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**	**0.10%**	**0.00%**	**-0.10%**
Present Value of Total Obligation	1,214,045	1,197,806	1,181,936	38,356	37,995	37,640
Projected Service Cost	19,697	18,964	18,252	91	89	88
Adjustment to mortality age rating assumption	**+ 1 Year**	**None**	**-1 Year**	**+ 1 Year**	**None**	**-1 Year**
Present Value of Total Obligation	1,244,674	1,197,806	1,153,004	40,080	37,995	36,033
Projected Service Cost	19,698	18,964	18,246	93	89	86

The Accounts include an Enhanced Pension Fund reserve designated to cover the teachers' pension liabilities which fall outside the statutory pension schemes for Council employees.

Impact on the Council's cash flows.

The liabilities above show the underlying commitment that the Council has as an employer to pay retirement benefits as they fall due valued on an IAS 19 basis. The total liability of £6.4m has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded on the Balance Sheet. An IAS 19 valuation uses more prudent assumptions than those used in the triennial valuation which sets the cash contributions required over the subsequent 3 years. These statutory funding and valuation arrangements mean that the Council's position as an employer in the Fund remains healthy.

The objectives of the Wandsworth Pension Fund are to keep employer's contributions at as constant a rate as possible while prudently managing any surplus or deficit.

The Council is the Administering Authority for the Wandsworth Fund and so would become liable to fund any shortfall in pension benefits should the situation arise. The whole Fund's position, on both an IAS 19 (PF Note 28) and Triennial valuation basis (PF Note 27), is reported in the Pension Fund Accounts.

Note 45 - Contingent Liabilities

Contingent liabilities relate to possible expenditure arising from a past event that has not been recognised in the Statement of Accounts due to the probability that a transfer of economic benefits will not arise or cannot be reliably estimated as the possible liability is dependent on the outcome of something happening in the future. A review is undertaken annually to identify any potential liabilities.

At 31 March 2025, the Council had some outstanding legal and insurance cases which could give rise to a liability in the future. If the cases do give rise to a liability these costs will be met from the insurance provision (based on total value of all outstanding cases) or from in year budgets, however the Council are not expecting any material cases.

Note 46 - Contingent Assets

Contingent assets relate to possible income arising from a past event that has not been recognised in the Statement of Accounts due to the probability that a transfer of economic benefits will not arise or cannot be reliably estimated. The right to the potential asset is dependent on something happening in the future. A review is undertaken annually to identify potential contingent assets.

There were no contingent assets outstanding as at 31 March 2025.

Note 47 - Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

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

- Credit risk - the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council.
- Liquidity risk - the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meets its commitments to make payments.
- Market risk - the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates, fair value, and stock market movements.

The Council's overall risk management programme focuses on the unpredictability of financial markets and seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the resources available to fund services. Risk management is carried out by a central Accountancy Team within the Financial Management Division, under policies approved by the Council in the annual Treasury Management Strategy.

Credit Risk

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

<u>Fixed Term Deposits</u>

This risk is minimised through the Council's Treasury Management Policy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria. The Treasury Management Policy also imposes a maximum sum to be invested with a financial institution located within each category. During the year treasury management is regularly reviewed at the monthly treasury management team meeting. The 2024/25 policy (as amended in December 2024) was as follows:

a) up to £50m with UK on non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1+ short-term, AA- long-term, and a short-term watch that is not negative, (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's), and where generally no more than £30m is placed for periods longer than 6 months;

b) up to £100m with other UK local authorities or precepting authorities;

c) up to £20m for a maximum of 6 months with UK or non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1+ short-term, AA- long-term, and a short-term watch that is negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's);

d) up to £20m with UK or non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1+ short-term, A long-term, and a short-term watch that is not negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's);

e) up to £10m for a maximum of 6 months with UK or non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1+ short-term, A long-term, and a short-term watch that is negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's);

f) up to £10m with UK or non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1 short-term, A long-term, and a short-term watch that is not negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's);

g) up to £5m for a maximum of 6 months with UK or non-UK institutions with a Fitch credit rating of at least F1 short-term, A+ long-term, and a short-term watch that is negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's);

h) up to £10m with UK or non-UK institutions for a maximum of 3 months where 2 out of 3 credit rating agencies have a Fitch credit rating of at least F1 short-term, A long-term, and a short-term watch that is not negative (or equivalent under Moody's or Standard and Poor's); and,

i) up to £50m with banks owned 20% or more by the UK Government (e.g. NatWest Group). Included in this limit is any balance held in notice funds held with these institutions.

In addition to the above criteria, investments with banks shall not exceed the following percentage parameters:

j) No more than 40% of total investments shall be held in banks as fixed term deposits (this excludes those banks owned 20% or more by the UK Government (e.g. NatWest Group).

k) No more than 30% of total investments shall be held in overseas banks as fixed term deposits.

l) No more than 10% of total investments shall be held in one overseas sovereign country in relation to fixed term deposits

The above investment criteria is regarded as maximum levels and due regard is given to market conditions. Restrictions on the above limits may be placed from time to time on a temporary basis by the Executive Director of Finance or, in her absence, the Director. Any such temporary restrictions applied would be reported to Finance Committee, the Executive and the Council.

Money Market Funds and Short Dated Income Funds

Investments may also be placed directly in commercial sterling money market funds (MMFs) with AAA ratings or short dated income funds with AA ratings. Investments shall be placed in accordance with the following criteria:

a) MMFs may be either short-dated funds with daily liquidity or slightly longer dated funds with short notice periods. The choice of funds is to be determined at the monthly Treasury Management meetings within the Finance Department. Daily operation of the funds is managed by the Treasury Management Team.

b) The maximum overall limit for the use of MMFs and short dated funds shall be 50% of total investments.

c) The maximum limit for each counterparty with AAA rating shall be £50m.

d) The Federated +1-day MMF may exceed £50m to allow for capital appreciation which may take an initial investment over that value. However, principal investment (including net investments and divestments) must remain under £50m. This capital value will be formally reviewed at the monthly Treasury Management Meeting with the Executive Director of Finance .

e) Each MMF shall have a minimum AAA credit rating from one of the 3 main credit rating agencies and, if the fund has more than 1 rating, each rating shall be AAA.

f) Each short-dated income fund shall have as a minimum AA credit rating from one of the three main credit rating agencies.

g) The maximum investment placed in any fund shall not exceed £50m in total assets under management in the fund.

h) For an AA rated short-dated income fund, the maximum investment in any fund shall not exceed £5m, or 7.5% of assets under management, whichever is the lower.

i) Short-dated income funds held at a bank which is 20% or more owned by the UK Government (e.g. NatWest Group) are exempt from the MMF criteria f) to h) but are subject to the restrictions detailed in Fixed Term Deposits criteria i) above.

Property Funds

Up to £50m may be placed in a Property Fund that is set up under a scheme approved by HM Treasury so that it does not count as capital expenditure. Total investments in a Property Fund should not be greater than 5% of total investments, or greater than 10% of the lowest cash flow projection over 3 years (inclusive of the year of investment), when placed.

Covered Bonds

Up to £50m may be placed in a Covered Bond with a maturity period of no longer than 3 years and a credit rating of AAA from at least one of the three credit rating agencies. If the bond issuer is one of the institutions on the Council’s investment list this investment will not count against the limit for that counterparty.

Joint Venture Loans

Loans may be made by any Joint Venture arrangement, development partner or vehicle set up for the purpose of regenerating the Council’s housing estates. This may be in either cash or backed by property assets. Any such investment shall not exceed £50m per investment/ loan type and £125m in total.

Loans to Staff Mutuals, other service providers and Voluntary organisations

Loans of up to £5m may be made at market rates of interest with terms determined by the Executive Director of Finance.

Longer Term Investments

Investments may be made up to an aggregate limit of £150m for around 5 years, subject to meeting the criteria that investments do not count as capital expenditure. Investments could include Individual Corporate Bonds (grade BBB and above), Fixed Income Funds, Equity Funds, and mixed asset funds (including Multi Asset Credit). In addition, investments may be made in products akin to those currently used by the Pension Fund. Where practicable, suitable hedging arrangements will be made on all such investments; however, it is recognised that hedging (outside a fund) against downside risk will often be cost-prohibitive therefore risk management will focus on diversification. The total amount invested with any one manager shall not exceed £35m unless capital appreciation takes an initial investment over that value. Any new investment should not make the cumulative investments higher than 25% of total investments or 25% of the lowest cash flow projection over 3 years (inclusive of the year of investment) when placed.

Business Improvement Districts (BIDS)

Loans may be made to Wandsworth based BIDS for start-up loans at up to market rates of interest to an overall maximum limit of £1m.

Other counterparty debtors

Counterparties are assessed, taking into account their financial position, past experience and other factors, with individual credit limits being set in accordance with internal ratings in accordance with parameters set by the Council. The Council has no material long-term debtors. The Council manages the risk of non-payment through the use of specific provisions against categories of debtors.

Liquidity Risk

The Council has a comprehensive cash flow management system that seeks to ensure that cash is available as it is needed. There is no significant risk that it will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments. The Council sets limits on the proportion of its fixed rate borrowing during specified periods. The Council has no borrowing as at 31 March 2025.

Liquidity Risk	**31 March 2024** **£000**	**31 March 2025** **£000**
Less than one year	17,202	0
Between one and two years	0	0
Total	**17,202**	**0**

Interest Rate Risk

The Council borrowed £223.6m at a fixed rate of 1.69% from PWLB on 28 March 2012 towards the cost of the HRA subsidy system buy out. This loan has been repaid in full in

March 2025. In 2024/25, the Council has taken no new external borrowing for the General Fund or HRA, therefore, there has been no effect from high interest rates.

The Council is exposed to risk in terms of its exposure to interest rate movements on its investments especially on Multi Asset and Property Funds which can become volatile in a high-interest rate environment. The Treasury Management Team has an active strategy for assessing interest rate exposure that is used to update budget monitoring during the year and consider any adverse changes.

Note 48 – Group Relationships

Shared Services

The Better Service Partnership with LB Richmond

As detailed in the Narrative Report, Wandsworth Council and LB Richmond formed a shared staffing arrangement from 1 October 2016. In 2024 this was renamed to the Better Service Partnership. Where Wandsworth Council has entered into specific relationships with LB Richmond and its existing partners, these are detailed below.

South London Legal Partnership (SLLP)

First formed in 2011, the South London Legal Partnership is now London's first five-borough shared legal service. Working on behalf of the London Boroughs of Merton, Richmond, Kingston, Sutton and Wandsworth, the service is hosted by LB Merton but governed by a joint board which oversees the delivery of services. Wandsworth is directly charged via an hourly rate for the service.

The aim of the service is to provide more resilient and higher quality legal services than those provided by each authority individually, assuming that future savings will need to be made to the budgets of all local authorities. The service is ISO 9001:2015 accredited and provides the full remit of local authority legal services to the Directorates of all councils as well as advice to Councillors, the committees of the councils and to schools. The Council paid £3.6m in 2024/25 (£3.5m in 2023/24) to LB Merton for this service.

Internal Audit and Investigations Service (IAIS)

Internal Audit is delivered by the South West London Audit Partnership (SWLAP) which is a five Borough shared audit service covering the London Boroughs of Merton, Richmond, Sutton, Kingston, and Wandsworth – with Richmond and Wandsworth Better Service Partnership being the host. The audit service is largely provided by the in-house audit team however specialist audit services are procured through the Croydon framework contract which is currently provided by Mazars.

Fraud work is undertaken by the South West London Fraud Partnership (SWLFP) which is a shared service covering the same five boroughs and again led by the Wandsworth Better Service Partnership . Both the shared audit and fraud services are overseen by the Shared Service Board which includes the Section 151 officers from each of the constituent Councils or their delegated representatives. The partnering boroughs are charged based on time spent and an agreed audit day rate. The Council’s net spend was £0.5m on the IAIAS in 2024/25 (£0.4m in 2023/24).

Pension Administration Services

The Pension Shared Service is a five-borough service that administers the LGPS for the London Boroughs of Camden, Merton, Richmond, Waltham Forest and Wandsworth, with Wandsworth Council as the host. The Council incurred expenditure of £2.7m and recovered £1.4m from other local authorities in 2024/25 in relation to this service (£2.7m expenditure and £1.5m recovered in 2023/24).

Other

The Council has a wholly owned Local Authority Trading Company (Wandsworth BC Trading Limited) with the Council as the sole shareholder. The Council’s view is this does not form part of Group Accounts for the year 2024/25.

During the 2024/25 financial year the Council had a joint venture with Taylor Wimpey UK Limited, Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP. The principal activity of the LLP centres around the regeneration of the York Road estate. The LLP’s accounts have been consolidated as part of the Council’s Group Accounts. The LLP's structure was changed in December 2024. Taylor Wimpey have ceased to be a partner, and the Council now own 99% of the LLP. The remaining 1% is owned by Winstanley York Road Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Council. The LLP is now treated as a subsidiary within the Group Accounts, as the Council has substantial control over the entity. Winstanley York Road Ltd is not consolidated within the Group Accounts as it is not material.

There are no other material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities.

Collection Fund

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. This statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of Council Tax, Business Rates (National Non-Domestic Rates or NNDR) and the Business Rates Supplement (BRS).

31 March 2024					31 March 2025			
Business Rates	**Business Rates Supplement**	**Council Tax**	**Total**	**Collection Fund**	**Business Rates**	**Business Rates Supplement**	**Council Tax**	**Total**
£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**		**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
				INCOME:				
		(133,918)	(133,918)	Council Tax Receivable			(143,871)	(143,871)
(109,947)			(109,947)	Business Rates Receivable	(148,705)			(148,705)
(7,507)			(7,507)	Transitional Protection Payments Receivable	(2,423)			(2,423)
	(2,938)		(2,938)	Business Rates Supplements receivable		(3,964)		(3,964)
		(761)	(761)	Transfer from General Fund re Covid Hardship			(26)	(26)
(117,454)	**(2,938)**	**(134,679)**	**(255,071)**	**Total amounts to be credited**	**(151,128)**	**(3,964)**	**(143,897)**	**(298,989)**
				EXPENDITURE:				
				Apportionment of Previous Year Surplus/Deficit:				
647			647	Central Government	(6,455)			(6,455)
588		2,082	2,670	Wandsworth Borough Council	(5,868)		2,017	(3,851)
726		1,751	2,477	Greater London Authority	(7,237)		1,825	(5,412)
				Precepts, demands and shares:				
35,342			35,342	Central Government	36,303			36,303
32,129		68,698	100,827	Wandsworth Borough Council	33,003		71,378	104,381
39,626		61,220	100,846	Greater London Authority	40,703		67,652	108,355

				Business Rate Supplement:				
	2,861		2,861	Payment to levying authority's Business Rate Supplement Revenue Account		3,714		3,714
	7		7	Administrative Costs		8		8
				Charges to Collection Fund:				
(107)		1,332	1,225	Write-offs of uncollectable amounts	(1,646)		763	(883)
1,499	70	649	2,218	Increase/(decrease) in allowance for impairment	(386)	242	1,451	1,307
3,794			3,794	Increase/(decrease) in allowance for appeals	(7,256)			(7,256)
436			436	Charge to General Fund for allowable collection costs for non-domestic rates	427			427
				Transfers to General Fund:				
12,723			12,723	Designated Area Payments	40,505			40,505
127,403	**2,938**	**135,732**	**266,073**	**Total amounts to be debited**	**122,093**	**3,964**	**145,086**	**271,143**
9,949	**0**	**1,053**	**11,002**	**(Surplus)/Deficit arising during the year**	**(29,035)**	**0**	**1,189**	**(27,846)**
5,179	**0**	**(4,263)**	**916**	**(Surplus)/Deficit b/f at 1 April**	**15,128**	**0**	**(3,210)**	**11,918**
15,128	**0**	**(3,210)**	**11,918**	**(Surplus)/Deficit c/f at 31 March**	**(13,907)**	**0**	**(2,021)**	**(15,928)**

Notes to the Collection Fund

The following table shows the calculation of the Council Tax Base

2024-25

Band	Valuation band limits	Calculated no of dwellings	Ratio to band D	Equated No of dwellings
	£	No		No
A	Up to and including - 40,000	3,974	6/9	2,649
B	40,001 - 52,000	8,899	7/9	6,922
C	52,001 - 68,000	29,598	8/9	26,309
D	68,001 - 88,000	29,833	9/9	29,833
E	88,001 - 120,000	22,954	11/9	28,055
F	120,001 - 160,000	17,570	13/9	25,379
G	160,001 - 320,000	13,793	15/9	22,988
H	More than - 320,001	2,834	18/9	5,669
			(4,434)	(4,434)
			Plus Ministry of Defence Properties	144
			Council tax base	**143,514**

2023-24

Band	Valuation band limits	Calculated no of dwellings	Ratio to band D	Equated No of dwellings
	£	No		No
A	Up to and including - 40,000	4,037	6/9	2,691
B	40,001 - 52,000	8,774	7/9	6,824
C	52,001 - 68,000	29,665	8/9	26,368
D	68,001 - 88,000	29,651	9/9	29,651
E	88,001 - 120,000	22,338	11/9	27,302
F	120,001 - 160,000	16,766	13/9	24,217
G	160,001 - 320,000	13,543	15/9	22,572
H	More than - 320,001	2,797	18/9	5,594
			Adjustment	(4,357)
			Plus Ministry of Defence Properties	145
			Council tax base	**141,006**

The rateable value of non-domestic properties at 31 March 2025 was £368.9m (£340.9m for 31 March 2024).

The Business Rates multiplier for 2024/25 was 54.6p (up 3.4p from 2023/24) and the small business multiplier for 2024/25 was 49.9p (no change since 2020/21).

Housing Revenue Account

Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement

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

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
	Expenditure	
44,081	Repairs & Maintenance	56,102
75,480	Supervision & Management	79,850
322	Rents, Rates, Taxes and other charges	861
85,216	Depreciation, impairments and revaluation losses of non-current assets	115,081
2,861	Movement in the allowance for bad debts	9,358
207,960	**Total Expenditure**	**261,252**
	Income	
(122,017)	Dwelling rents	(132,037)
(3,806)	Non-dwelling rents	(3,978)
(35,920)	Charges for services and facilities	(36,224)
(9,244)	Other	(10,840)
(170,987)	**Total Income**	**(183,079)**
36,973	**Net Expenditure or Income of HRA Services as included in the whole authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**	**78,173**
1,409	HRA share of other amounts included in the whole authority Net Expenditure of Continuing Operations but not allocated to specific services	1,437
38,382	**Net Expenditure of HRA Services**	**79,610**
(10,430)	(Gains)/loss on sale of HRA Fixed Assets	4,327
2,956	Interest Payable and Similar Charges	3,645
(14,783)	HRA Interest and Investment Income	(12,899)
(2,830)	Net interest on the defined benefit liability/asset	(161)
(19,447)	Capital Grants and Contributions	3,055
(6,152)	**(Surplus) or Deficit for Year on HRA Services**	**77,577**

The statement incorporates £13.0m (£11.1m in 2023/24) of expenditure classified as Revenue funded by Capital under Statute mainly relating to capital expenditure on housing estates attributable to leasehold properties, fully funded by leaseholder contributions or government grant, and also grants made to existing Council tenants to assist them in purchasing properties in the private sector freeing the vacated property for other prospective Council tenants. Overall rent arrears in relation to existing and former tenants of Council dwellings (and including other accounts linked to HRA properties) are incorporated into the consolidated figures for the Council, and stood at £17.2m as at 31 March 2025 (£15.0m as at 31 March 2024), against which a cumulative provision for bad debts of £12.7m as at 31 March 2024 (£10.7m as at 31 March 2024) has been established.

Movement on the HRA Statement

2023-24 £000	Movement on the HRA Statement	2024-25 £000
(153,456)	**Balance on the HRA at the end of the previous year**	**(154,223)**
(6,152)	(Surplus) or Deficit on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement	77,577
6,359	Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute	(53,668)
207	**Net (increase) or decrease on the HRA**	**23,909**
(974)	Transfers to / (from) Reserves	2,042
207	(Increase) / decrease on the HRA for the year	23,909
(154,223)	**Balance on the HRA at the end of the current year**	**(128,272)**

2023-24 £000	Adjustment between accounting basis	2024-25 £000
(62,131)	Transfers to/(from) the Capital Adjustment Account	(85,332)
10,504	Gain or (loss) on sale of non-current assets	(4,214)
2,602	Contributions to or (from) the Pension Reserve	101
(74)	Transfers to/(from) the Capital Receipts Reserve	(113)
398	Transfers to/(from) the Accumulated Absences Account	(204)
26,406	Transfers to/(from) Major Repairs Reserve	28,342
28,654	Transfers to/(from) Capital Grants Unapplied	7,752
6,359	**Net additional amount required by statute to be debited or (credited) to the HRA Balance for the year**	**(53,668)**

Notes to the HRA Accounts

Note 1 - Analysis of Council Housing Stock

31 March 2024				31 March 2025		
Flats	**Houses**	**Total**	**Property / Tenancy**	**Flats**	**Houses**	**Total**
14,026	2,472	16,498	Social Rent	14,112	2,470	16,582
468	137	605	Affordable Rent	477	138	615
208	0	208	Shared Dwellings / Multi Occupied Rent	180	0	180
42	47	89	Equity Share	42	45	87
15,607	45	15,652	Long Lease Sold	15,588	46	15,634
30,351	**2,701**	**33,052**	**Total**	**30,399**	**2,699**	**33,098**

Note 2 – Housing Revenue Account Capital Funding

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
(14,379)	Borrowing	(50,448)
(12,988)	Capital Receipts	(6,236)
(90,827)	Major Repairs Reserve	(41,275)
(28,654)	Government grants and other contributions	(7,752)
(146,848)	**Total funding**	**(105,711)**

Note 3 - Balance Sheet Value of HRA Assets

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
	Operational Assets	
1,711,625	Dwellings	1,610,722
107,051	Other Land and Buildings	88,582
0	Infrastructure Assets	1,281
0	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	282
	Non-Operational Assets	
17,606	Assets under Construction	49,462
	Investment Assets	
15,969	Investment Property	17,515
1,852,251	**Total**	**1,767,844**

The vacant possession value of dwellings within the HRA at 31 March 2025 was £6.4bn (£6.8bn at 31 March 2024). The Balance Sheet value is lower because nearly all the dwellings are occupied and because the rents for secure tenancies are below market value.

Revaluation

HRA operational assets were valued by the Council's valuer as at 31 March 2025. This annual valuation gave an overall unrealised decrease in value of £125.5m. This included £38.7m revaluation loss decreasing the Revaluation Reserve and £86.7m loss shown as a cost in the Income and Expenditure statement.

Note 4 – Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
(25,211)	Council Dwellings	(27,059)
(1,195)	Other Land & Buildings	(1,283)
(26,406)	**Total**	**(28,342)**

Note 5 – Transactions relating to retirement benefits

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
(58)	Current Service Cost	(186)
286	Past Service Costs	246
(2,830)	Net interest expense / income	(161)
(2,602)	**Total charged to Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement**	**(101)**

Note 6 – Total Capital Receipts generated during the year

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
0	Land	(199)
(12,279)	Council Houses	(7,700)
(783)	Other Property	(1,155)
(13,062)	**Total**	**(9,054)**

Consolidated Group Accounts

Introduction

This section of the Statement of Accounts details the group financial statements for the Council. These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 (the Code) published by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the aim of the Group Accounts is to provide the reader with an overall view of the material economic activities that the Council controls.

The Council has to prepare group accounts where it has any interests in Subsidiaries, Associates and any Joint Controlled Ventures, subject to consideration of materiality and using uniform Accounting Policies. Each year assessments are made of the Council's relationship with its partners and where an external body is assessed as having a group relationship (in accounting terms), group accounts are prepared.

Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP

During the 2024/25 financial year the Council had a joint venture with Taylor Wimpey UK Limited, Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP. The principal activity of the LLP centres around the regeneration of the York Road estate. The LLP's accounts have been consolidated as part of the Council's Group Accounts. The LLP's structure was changed in December 2024. Taylor Wimpey have ceased to be a partner, and the Council now own 99% of the LLP. The remaining 1% is owned by Winstanley York Road Ltd, a company wholly owned by the Council. The LLP is therefore treated as a subsidiary in the 2024/25 (consolidated) Group Accounts as the Council has substantial control over the entity.

The Council properties remain legally owned by the Council. The properties are accounted for within the Housing Revenue Account in the 2024/25 Accounts as they are being used to provide short term temporary accommodation. The Council has continued to recognise these properties within its assets as at 31 March 2025. The properties form part of the Council Dwellings balance and have been valued accordingly.

The Accounting Policies of Winstanley and York Road Regeneration LLP are the same as the Council's and as the notes to the Group Accounts when published are not materially different from those of the Council, no additional notes will be disclosed.

Group Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

2023-24 Restated				2024-25		
Expenditure	**Income**	**Net**		**Expenditure**	**Income**	**Net**
£000	**£000**	**£000**		**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
336,794	(248,272)	88,522	Children's	364,155	(258,348)	105,807
55,992	(11,383)	44,609	Environment	72,159	(12,000)	60,159
178,986	(154,466)	24,520	Finance	181,627	(147,789)	33,838
177,868	(114,488)	63,380	Health	197,390	(138,880)	58,510
60,625	(35,579)	25,046	Housing	70,089	(38,706)	31,383
194,971	(156,589)	38,382	Housing Revenue Account	261,797	(183,079)	78,718
87,979	(108,906)	(20,927)	Transport	54,539	(72,608)	(18,069)
1,093,215	**(829,683)**	**263,532**	**Cost of Services**	**1,201,756**	**(851,410)**	**350,346**
3,900	(13,683)	(9,783)	Other Operating Expenditure	8,479	0	8,479
73,501	(142,992)	(69,491)	Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure	101,973	(142,282)	(40,309)
0	(246,949)	(246,949)	Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income	0	(220,054)	(220,054)
1,170,616	**(1,233,307)**	**(62,691)**	**Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services**	**1,312,208**	**(1,213,746)**	**98,462**
		534	Share of the Surplus / Deficit of Joint Ventures			18,134
		(62,157)				**116,596**
		23,965	Surplus or deficit on revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment			18,321
		384,938	Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability / asset			2,568
		408,903	**Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**			**20,889**
		346,746	**Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure**			**137,485**

Group Balance Sheet

31 March 2024 Restated £000		31 March 2025 £000
3,010,313	Property, Plant and Equipment	3,017,243
1,351	Heritage Assets	1,351
74,336	Investment Property	75,032
92	Intangible Assets	89
124,320	Long-Term Investments	134,416
38,565	Long-Term Debtors	17,910
3,248,977	**Long Term Assets**	**3,246,041**
419,229	Short-Term Investments	364,208
968	Assets Held for Sale	967
4,020	Inventories	2,451
156,199	Short-Term Debtors	147,231
104,417	Cash and Cash Equivalents	84,881
684,833	**Current Assets**	**599,738**
(17,819)	Short-Term Borrowing	(850)
(150,110)	Short-Term Creditors	(216,645)
(9,653)	Provisions	(6,243)
(5,356)	Grants Receipts in Advance - Revenue	(6,954)
(341)	Grants Receipts in Advance - Capital	(829)
(183,279)	**Current Liabilities**	**(231,521)**
(40,274)	Long-Term Creditors	(8,548)
(4,212)	Provisions	(3,794)
0	Long-Term Borrowing	(42,135)
(7,225)	Other Long-Term Liabilities	(6,366)
(5,918)	Grants Receipts in Advance - Capital	(1,317)
(9,169)	Share of Joint Venture Liabilities	(5,849)
(66,798)	**Long Term Liabilities**	**(68,009)**
3,683,733	**Net Assets**	**3,546,249**
(780,133)	Usable Reserves	(700,886)
(2,912,769)	Unusable Reserves	(2,871,774)
9,169	Share of Joint Venture Reserves	26,411
(3,683,733)	**Total Reserves**	**(3,546,249)**

Fenella Merry, Executive Director of Finance 30 June 2025

Group Movement in Reserves Statement

	WBC Usable Reserves £000	WBC Unusable Reserves £000	Authorities Share of Joint Venture Reserves £000	Total Group Reserves £000
Balance at 31 March 2024	**(780,134)**	**(2,912,769)**	**9,169**	**(3,683,734)**
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	99,354	0	(892)	98,462
Other Comprehensive Income / Expenditure		20,889	18,134	39,023
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	**99,354**	**20,889**	**17,242**	**137,485**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	(20,106)	20,106	0	0
Increase or Decrease in 2024-25	**79,248**	**40,995**	**17,242**	**137,485**
Balance at 31 March 2025	**(700,886)**	**(2,871,774)**	**26,411**	**(3,546,249)**

	WBC Usable Reserves £000	WBC Unusable Reserves £000	Authorities Share of Joint Venture Reserves - Restated £000	Total Group Reserves £000
Balance at 31 March 2023	**(847,399)**	**(3,191,716)**	**8,635**	**(4,030,480)**
Surplus or deficit on the provision of services	(62,691)	0	534	(62,157)
Other Comprehensive Income / Expenditure		408,903	0	408,903
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	**(62,691)**	**408,903**	**534**	**346,746**
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations	129,956	(129,956)	0	0
Increase or Decrease in 2023-24	**67,265**	**278,947**	**534**	**346,746**
Balance at 31 March 2024	**(780,134)**	**(2,912,769)**	**9,169**	**(3,683,734)**

Group Cash Flow Statement

2023-24 £000		2024-25 £000
(62,157)	Net (surplus) or deficit on the provision of services	116,596
(52,339)	Adjustment to surplus or deficit on the provision of services for noncash movements	(177,230)
75,452	Adjustment for items included in the net surplus or deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities	23,560
(39,044)	**Net cash flows from operating activities**	**(37,074)**
2,123	Net cash flows from investing activities	52,232
20,246	Net cash flows from financing activities	4,378
(16,675)	**Net (increase) or decrease in cash and cash equivalents**	**19,536**
87,742	Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	104,417
104,417	**Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period**	**84,881**

Independent Auditor’s Report to the Members of Wandsworth Borough Council

To follow

Pension Fund Accounts

Wandsworth Fund Account

2023/24 £000		Note	2024/25 £000
	Dealing with Members, Employers and Others Directly Involved in the Fund		
(78,447)	Contributions receivable	*Note 8*	(84,113)
(6,038)	Transfers In from Other Pension Funds	*Note 9*	(9,699)
(84,485)			(93,812)
94,013	Benefits payable	*Note 10*	102,689
59,667	Payments to and on account of Leavers	*Note 11*	13,861
153,680			116,550
69,195	**Net (Additions)/Withdrawals from Dealings with Members**		**22,738**
13,864	Management Expenses	*Note 12*	14,202
83,059	**Net (Additions)/Withdrawals including Fund Management Expenses**		**36,940**
	Returns on Investments		
(67,428)	Investment income	*Note 13*	(62,732)
279	Taxes on income	*Note 13*	296
(336,732)	(Profit)/Loss on Disposal of Investments and Changes in the Value of Investments	*Note* 16	(51,093)
(403,881)	**Net Returns on Investments**		**(113,529)**
(320,822)	**Net (Increase)/Decrease in the Net Assets Available for Benefits During the Year**		**(76,589)**
(2,760,645)	Opening Net Assets of the Fund		(3,081,467)
(3,081,467)	**Closing Net Assets of the Fund**		**(3,158,056)**

Net Assets Statement

31 March 2024 £000		Note	31 March 2025 £000
	Investment Assets		
2,994,376	- Investment Assets		3,057,783
102,951	- Cash Deposits with FM		98,673
(19,452)	Investment Liabilities		(1,624)
3,077,875	**Total Net Investments**	*Note 15*	**3,154,832**
	Long term Assets		
300	- CIV Long Term Capital (Founders' Shares)	*Note 29*	300
2,870	- Long Term Debtor	*Note 29*	2,858
3,081,045	**Total Long Term Assets**		**3,157,990**
	Current Assets		
1,260	- Cash Deposits with Bank (incl. Cash in Transit)	*Note 30*	1,183
1,815	- Current Assets (excl. bank)	*Note 30*	1,990
3,075			**3,173**
(2,653)	**Current Liabilities**	*Note 30*	(3,107)
(2,653)			**(3,107)**
3,081,467	**Net Assets of the Fund Available to fund Benefits at the end of the Reporting Period**		**3,158,056**

Note: The Fund's financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the period end. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed at Note 28.

Notes to the Wandsworth Pension Fund Accounts

Note 1 Description of the Fund

The Wandsworth Pension Fund (the Fund) is part of the LGPS and is administered by Wandsworth Council.

a) General

The scheme is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013. The Fund is administered in accordance with the following secondary legislation:

- the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- the Local Government Pension Scheme (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended)
- the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

It is a contributory defined benefit pension scheme administered by Wandsworth Council to provide pensions and other benefits for pensionable employees of Wandsworth Council, Richmond Council, and a range of other scheduled and admitted bodies. Teachers, police officers and firefighters are not included as they come within other national pension schemes. The Fund is overseen by the Joint Pensions Committee, which is a committee of Wandsworth Council, and includes representatives from both Wandsworth and Richmond Councils since these councils' funds were merged by Statutory Instrument 2016/1241.

b) Membership

Membership of the LGPS is voluntary and employees are free to choose whether to join the scheme, remain in the scheme or make their own personal arrangements outside the scheme.

Organisations participating in the Wandsworth Pension Fund include the following:

- Scheduled bodies, which are automatically entitled to be members of the Fund.
- Admitted bodies, which participate in the Fund under the terms of an admission agreement between the Fund and the employer. Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable and similar not-for-profit organisations, or private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.
- Designated bodies, where the employer has been designated by a scheduled body as being eligible for membership.

Membership details are set out below:

31 March 2024		31 March 2025
71	**Number of Employers with Active Members**	**71**
	Number of Employees in the Fund	
8,114	Councils (LBRuT & WBC)	7,998
3,164	Other Employers	3,294
11,278	**Total**	**11,292**
	Number of Pensioners (including dependents)	
10,258	Councils (LBRuT & WBC)	10,406
1,146	Other Employers	947
11,404	**Total**	**11,353**
	Number of Deferred Pensioners	
16,333	Councils (LBRuT & WBC)	16,133
3,796	Other Employers	3,689
20,129	**Total**	**19,822**
42,811	**Total Number of Members in the Fund**	**42,467**

c) Funding

Benefits are funded by contributions and investment earnings. Contributions are made by active members of the Fund in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and ranged from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2025. Employers' contributions are set based on triennial actuarial funding valuations. The last such valuation was at 31 March 2022 which completed early in 2023 with the new contribution rates applied from 1st April 2023. The employer primary contribution rates set at that valuation range from 17.4% to 30% of pensionable pay with an overall Fund primary rate of 20%.

d) Benefits

Prior to 1 April 2014, pension benefits under the LGPS were based on final pensionable pay and length of pensionable service. From 1 April 2014, the scheme became a career average scheme, whereby members accrue benefits based on their pensionable pay in that year at an accrual rate of 1/49th. Accrued pension is adjusted annually in line with the Consumer Prices Index.

A range of other benefits are also provided including early retirement, disability pensions and death benefits, as explained on the LGPS website www.lgpsmember.org

Note 2 Basis of Preparation

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Fund's transactions for the 2024/25 financial year and its financial position at 31 March 2025. The Accounts have been prepared in accordance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2024/25 (the Code) which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as amended for the UK public sector. The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis (see Note 3)

Paragraph 3.3.4.3 of the Code requires disclosure of the impact of any accounting standards issued but not yet adopted. This disclosure is made in Note 36.

The Accounts report on the Net Assets available to pay pension benefits. They do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year, nor do they take into account the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. The Code gives administering authorities the option to disclose this information in the Net Assets Statement, in the Notes to the Accounts or by appending an actuarial report prepared for this purpose. The Fund has opted to disclose this information in Note 28.

Note 3 Going Concern

The accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Wandsworth Pension Fund remains a statutory open scheme, with a strong covenant from the participating employers and is therefore able to take a long-term outlook when considering the general investment and funding implications of external events. All LGPS funds are required to have a Triennial Valuation, where the actuary estimates the net present value of likely future pension payments (taking into account likely pay growth, inflation and longevity) and compares this to the net present value of assets (taking into account growth in market value, reinvestment of returns and so on). This gives a net funding position which is used to decide what contributions are needed for the next 3 years to move towards an acceptable position over up to 20 years (this Fund uses 12 years). The next valuation will use membership and investment data at 31 March 2025, with valuation work taking place during 2025 and the final results being reported to Joint Pensions Committee in March 2026. The Fund and employer accounts for 2024/25 include the contributions agreed at the 2022 valuation.

The Fund's 2022 valuation gave a 116% funding level after allowing for a 10% volatility reserve (approx. £0.3bn). This position is an improvement on the 105% funding at the 31st March 2019 valuation, after allowing for the volatility reserve. The volatility reserve gives the Fund added resilience to any market volatility reducing the risk to its long-term financial position. The funding level being over 100% provides a buffer for adverse differences between experience over the next 3 years and assumptions made for the valuation. The key assumptions in the valuation are a discount rate of 4.4% and long-term average CPI inflation of 2.9%.

The investment return required in the valuation of 4.4% (4.5% for 2019) is a long-term assumption taking into account market volatility and is comparable to the actual return of 4.43% over the 3 years to March 2022. The annual return to 31st March 2025 reported to June Committee was +3.08% (the Fund's benchmark was +5.28%), and total assets valued at £3.2bn.

In the short term, the Fund is dependent on cash flows to make pension payments required by LGPS regulations.

The Fund recognises it is cash flow negative in dealings with members and therefore has existing plans in place to cover this cash deficit from investment returns and potentially liquidation of assets if needed in later years. The going concern assumption therefore also considers the medium-term position of the Fund. The Fund sets a 3 year cash flow budget every March which shows estimated income and outgoings and returns on investments which can be used to maintain liquidity or for reinvestment as needed. The Fund held £99.9m in cash at 31 March 2025 (see Note 26) and currently has a 65% target asset allocation to liquid assets (equity 55% and bonds 10% with actual value of £2.1bn at 31 March 2025 per Note 15 which could be liquidated quickly if needed. This demonstrates the Fund's short and medium term going concern status.

Richmond and Wandsworth councils represented 72% of regular employer contributions to the Fund during 2024/25, and as administering authority, Wandsworth is the funder of last resort. The Fund therefore received the majority of its income from public bodies backed by the government, as well as having recourse to one of these bodies for short term lending if needed, giving a high level of certainty over cashflows. The Fund has the power to borrow to fund benefit payments or for investment when repayment can be made within 90 days under Statutory Instrument 2016/946.

Note 4 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Fund Account – revenue recognition

a) Contribution income

Normal contributions are accounted for on an accruals basis as follows:

- Employee contribution rates are set in accordance with LGPS regulations, using common percentage rates for all schemes which rise according to pensionable pay.
- Employer contributions are set at the percentage rate recommended by the fund actuary for the period to which they relate.

Employer deficit funding contributions are accounted for on the basis advised by the Fund actuary in the rates and adjustment certificate issued to the relevant employing body. Additional employers' contributions in respect of ill-health and early retirements are accounted for in the year the event arose. Any amount due in the year but unpaid will be classed as a current financial asset. Amounts not due until future years are classed as long-term financial assets.

b) Transfers to and from other schemes

Transfers in and out relate to members who have either joined or left the fund.
Individual transfers in/out are accounted for when received or paid. Transfers in from members wishing to use the proceeds of their additional voluntary contributions (Note 31) to purchase scheme benefits are accounted for on a cash receipts basis and are included in Transfers In (Note 9). Bulk (group) transfers are accounted for in accordance with the terms of the transfer agreement. Where the agreement sets a date for the transfer, estimated values are recognised on this date where estimation is possible. Where no date is set, or accurate estimation is not possible, transfers are recognised on a cash basis.

c) Investment income

Interest income is recognised in the Fund Account as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination. Dividend income is recognised on the date the shares are quoted ex-dividend. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as a current financial asset. The Fund does not currently own any directly held shares or bonds. Distributions from pooled funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as a current financial asset. Rental income is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, and any lease incentives granted are also pro-rated over the lease term. Contingent rents based on the future amount of a factor that changes other than with the passage of time, such as turnover rents, are only recognised when contractually due. The Fund does not currently own any directly held property. Changes in the value of investments (including investment properties) are recognised as income and comprise all realised and unrealised profits/losses during the year.

Fund Account – expense items

d) Benefits payable

Pensions and lump-sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as current liabilities, providing that payment has been approved.

e) Taxation

The Fund is a registered public service scheme under Section 1(1) of Schedule 36 of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin, unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a Fund expense as it arises.

f) Management expenses

The Fund discloses its pension fund management expenses (which includes fees charged by the LCIV) in accordance with the CIPFA guidance Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Expenses (2016), as shown below. All items of expenditure are charged to the fund on an accruals basis as follows:

Administrative expenses	The overall costs of the pensions administration team (including staffing, accommodation, management and other overheads) are analysed and the proportion of these costs relating to administering the Fund are charged as expenses to the Fund.
Oversight and governance	All staff costs associated with governance and oversight are charged to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Investment management expenses	Investment fees are charged directly to the Fund as part of management expenses and are not included in, or netted off from, the reported return on investments. Where fees are netted off quarterly valuations by investment managers, these expenses are shown in Note 12 and grossed up to increase the quarterly income to be gross of fees. Fees charged by external investment managers and the custodian are agreed in the respective mandates governing their appointments. Broadly, these are based on the market value of the investments under their management and therefore increase or reduce as the value of these investments change. In addition the fund has paid performance related fees to Oakhill (MAC) and JP Morgan (Infrastructure). Where an investment manager's fee note has not been received by the year-end date, an estimate based upon the market value of their mandate as at the end of the year is used for inclusion in the fund account. The proportion of the time spent by Council officers on investment management activity is recharged to the Fund.

Net Assets Statement

g) Financial assets

LCIV Long Term Capital represents regulatory capital of the London CIV (LCIV) which is the London LGPS investment pool, and the investment is not repayable on demand. This is not an investment, this is a regulatory requirement to enable the Fund to participate in LCIV's pooling arrangements. Fair value at 31 March 2025 is cost as the shares are not tradable but can be redeemed for face value if the Fund were to withdraw from LCIV. This value includes both Wandsworth and Richmond shares due to the Funds having merged in 2016. Investments accessed via the LCIV are reported as such in the relevant asset class.

Investments in Private Debt and Infrastructure are recorded at fair value as reported by the relevant fund managers. Where the latest reporting period is not 31 March 2025, this value has been amended for calls and distributions since the reporting period and change in the exchange rate as the best estimate of fair value at 31 March 2025, in line with CIPFA Bulletin 05 Closure of the 2019/20 Financial Statements guidance.

All other investment assets are included in the financial statements on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset is recognised in the Net Assets Statement on the date the Fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. Any amounts due or payable in respect of trades entered into but not yet complete at 31 March each year are accounted for as financial instruments held at amortised cost and reflected in the reconciliation of movements in investments and derivatives in Note 16.
Any gains or losses on investment sales arising from changes in the fair value of the asset are recognised in the Fund Account. Any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the asset are recognised in the Fund Account.

The values of investments as shown in the Net Assets Statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS 13. For the purposes of disclosing levels of fair value hierarchy, the Fund has adopted the classification guidelines recommended in Practical Guidance on Investment Disclosures (PRAG/Investment Association, 2016).

h) Freehold and leasehold properties
Properties are valued as at the year-end date by independent external valuers on a fair value basis, see Note 19 for more details. The Fund only holds property investments via pooled vehicles.

i) Foreign currency transactions
Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of transaction. End-of-year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.
Some pooled vehicles have internal currency hedging and in these cases the overall value shown for the investment will reflect the impact of the hedging; otherwise the value of open currency hedges will be shown separately to any related investments.

j) Derivatives
The Fund uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to specific risks arising from its investment activities, including currency exposure. The Fund does not hold derivatives for speculative purposes. The Fund does not use hedge accounting, showing derivative values and movements separate from the assets whose risks they are offsetting.

k) Long Term Debtors
Where the Fund makes a tax payment on behalf of a pensioner (under 2016 or other regulations) this payment is carried as a long term debtor. The debt is recovered by reducing their benefit payments by an actuarially assessed amount, and written down to the Fund Account over the relevant duration (see Note 29).

l) Cash and cash equivalents
Cash comprises cash in hand, cash in transit, demand deposits and money market funds, including amounts held by the Fund's external managers. All cash balances are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

Cash equivalents are pooled funds similar to liquidity money market funds. The Fund has not held any cash equivalents during this or the prior year.

m) Loans and receivables
Financial assets classed as amortised cost are carried in the Net Asset Statement at the value of outstanding principal receivable at the year-end date plus accrued interest.

n) Financial liabilities
A financial liability is recognised in the Net Assets Statement on the date the Fund becomes legally responsible for that liability. The Fund recognises financial liabilities relating to investment trading at fair value and any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability between contract date, the year-end date and the eventual settlement date are recognised in the fund account as part of the change in value of investments.

Other financial liabilities classed as amortised cost are carried in the net asset statement at the value of the outstanding principal at 31 March each year. Any interest due not yet paid is accounted for on an accruals basis.

o) Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits
The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a annual basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of IAS 19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under the Code, the Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of a note to the Net Assets Statement (Note 28).

p) Additional voluntary contributions
The Fund provides an additional voluntary contribution (AVC) scheme for its members, the assets of which are invested separately from those of the Fund. AVCs are not included in the accounts in accordance with Section 4(1)(b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of funds) Regulations 2016 but are disclosed for information in Note 31.

q) Contingent assets and contingent liabilities
A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place giving rise to a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by future events.

A contingent liability arises where an event has taken place prior to the year-end has created a possible financial obligation whose existence will only be confirmed or otherwise by future events. Contingent liabilities can also arise when it is not possible at the balance sheet date to measure the value of the financial obligation reliably.

Contingent assets and liabilities are not recognised in the Net Asset Statement but are disclosed by way of narrative in the notes.

Note 5 Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

Pension Fund Liability
The net pension fund liability is re-calculated every three years by the appointed actuary, with annual updates in the intervening years. The methodology used is in line with accepted guidelines.

This estimate is subject to significant variances based on changes to the underlying assumptions which are agreed with the actuary and have been summarised in Note 27. Actuarial re-valuations are used to set future contribution rates and underpin the Fund's most significant investment management policies, for example in terms of the balance struck between longer term investment growth and short-term yield/return.

Impacts of Inflation and High Interest Rates
Inflation is a key assumption in the Fund's triennial valuation and therefore potentially impacts the valuation disclosure in Note 27 and the Going Concern assumption (Note 3). The valuation was scrutinised by Joint Pensions Committee and discussion testing the long term assumption for inflation has been minuted. The actuarial view is that while inflation is at a 40 year high this is a short term position only and therefore has a much lower impact over the long term investment horizon of the Fund. This assumption at the 2022 valuation has been matched by reductions bringing CPI down to 2.6% for March 2025. The actuary's valuation takes account of the use of September CPI to annually inflate benefit payments and again while this is projected to have an immediate impact on cashflows (see 3 year cash flow budget) the long and short term impacts are built into the relevant projections.

Likewise the current interest rate levels and likely duration at this level (which is linked to inflation assumptions) have been considered in the triennial valuation and shorter term cash flow projections (where prudence has also been considered).

Private Debt and Infrastructure investments (Level 3 Investments)
Investments in Private Debt and Infrastructure are recorded at fair value as reported by the relevant fund managers. Where the latest reporting period is not 31 March 2025, this value has been amended for calls and distributions since the reporting period in line with CIPFA Bulletin 05 Closure of the 2019/20 Financial Statements guidance.

Note 6 Assumptions Made about the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The preparation of financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts. The judgements used in assessing asset values where manager valuations at 31 March 25 are unavailable are detailed in Note 5. The Level 3 assets which rely on professional judgement due to lack of market information are valued at £432.1m (Note 23) and a 1% change in value is £4.3m.
The use of currency hedging to mitigate future exchange rate risk is detailed in Note 20.
The Fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits by way of Note 28 and the estimation and assumptions inherent in this calculation therefore has no impact on the Net Asset Statement.

Estimates and assumptions take account of historical experience, current trends and future expectations. However actual outcomes could be different from the assumptions and estimates made. The items in the Net Asset Statement for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment the following year are as follows:

Item	**Uncertainties**	**Effect if actual results differ from assumptions**
Pooled property funds	Valuation techniques are used to determine the carrying amount of pooled property funds. Where possible these valuation techniques are based on observable data but where this is not possible the fund valuer uses the best available data.	Changes in the valuation assumptions used, together with significant changes in rental growth, vacancy levels or the discount rate could affect the fair value of property-based investments by up to 10% i.e. an increase or decrease of £15.2m, on carrying values of £151.6m.
Infrastructure funds	Investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation, which relies on valuation of the underlying assets in similar way to property funds.	Changes in the valuation assumptions used, together with significant changes in rental growth, vacancy levels or the discount rate could affect the fair value of infrastructure-based investments by up to 10% i.e. an increase or decrease of £27.7, on carrying values of £277.4m.
Private debt funds	Investments are not publicly listed and as such there is a degree of estimation involved in the valuation, which relies on valuation of the underlying assets which are high yield debt instruments.	Changes in the valuation assumptions used, together with significant changes in credit rating of the counterparties could affect the fair value of debt-based investments by up to 10% i.e. an increase or decrease of £15.5m, on carrying values of £154.7m.

Note 7 Events After the Reporting Date

There were no events after the reporting date of 31 March 2025.

Note 8 Contributions Receivable

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(19,884)	**Employees' Contributions**	**(20,942)**
(58,627)	Normal Contributions	(62,079)
1,042	Deficit Recovery Contributions	497
(978)	Augmentation Contributions	(1,589)
(58,563)	**Employers' Contributions**	**(63,171)**
(78,447)	**Total Contributions by Category**	**(84,113)**
(57,447)	Councils (LBRuT & WBC)	(61,285)
(12,198)	Scheduled Bodies	(13,414)
(2,419)	Admitted Bodies	(2,445)
(6,383)	Designated Bodies	(6,969)
(78,447)	**Total Contributions by Body**	**(84,113)**

Note 9 Transfers In from Other Pension Funds

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(6,038)	Individual Transfers	(9,699)
(6,038)		(9,699)

Note 10 Benefits Payable

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
79,569	Pensions	85,994
12,483	Commutation and Lump Sum Retirement Benefits	15,460
1,961	Lump Sum Death Benefits	1,235
94,013	**Total Benefits by Category**	**102,689**
84,390	Councils (LBRuT & WBC)	91,278
3,971	Scheduled Bodies	4,929
4,325	Admitted Bodies	5,397
1,327	Designated Bodies	1,085
94,013	**Total Benefits by Body**	**102,689**

Note 11 Payments To and On Account of Leavers

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
336	Refund to Members Leaving Service	420
45,241	Group Transfers	0
14,090	Individual Transfers	13,441
59,667	**Total Payments to/on account of Leavers**	**13,861**

Richmond Upon Thames College employer transferred to the Hillingdon Pension Fund as a result of a merger with Uxbridge College, with a net asset value of £45.2m transferred during March 2024.

Note 12 Management Expenses

2023/24 £000	Management Costs	2024/25 £000
1,318	Administrative Costs	1,371
12,165	Investment Management Expenses	12,332
381	Oversight & Governance Costs	499
13,864	**Total Management Costs**	**14,202**

2023/24 Management Fees £000	2023/24 Performance Fees £000	2023/24 Total Fees £000	Detail of Investment Management Expenses	2024/25 Management Fees £000	2024/25 Performance Fees £000	2024/25 Total Fees £000
			Bonds			
229		229	Allianz (ended 8 October 2024)	109		109
			Pooled Equity			
1,291		1,291	LCIV Global Alpha Growth (Baillie Gifford)	1,410		1,410
2,170		2,170	LCIV Global Equity Focus (Longview)	2,456		2,456
167		167	Legal & General Global Equity (managed by LCIV)	186		186
26		26	LCIV fee for managing Legal & General Equity	29		29
973		973	LCIV Sustainable Equity (RBC)	1,056		1,056
			Pooled Bonds			
56		56	Janus Henderson (ended 8 October 2024)	28		28
6		6	Legal & General Bonds (managed by LCIV)	6		6
2		2	LCIV fee for managing Legal & General Bonds	2		2
0		0	LCIV Buy & Maintain All Duration Bonds (from 9 October 2024)	93		93
			Pooled Multi-Asset			
812		812	LCIV Alternative Credit (CQS)	811		811
663	384	1,047	Oakhill	685	10	695
			Pooled Property			
27		27	CCLA	25		25
122		122	Legal & General	125		125
252		252	Nuveen (UKPF) (ended 28 February 2025)	222		222
410		410	Schroders	382		382
0		0	Threadneedle TPUT (from 28 February 2025)	33		33
			Pooled Infrastructure			
569	153	722	JP Morgan	547	433	980
483		483	Pantheon	452		452
1,055		1,055	LCIV Renewable Infrastructure	1,061		1,061
492		492	Sandbrook	511		511
53		53	Octopus	84		84
			Pooled Private Debt			
165		165	Brightwood	161		161
674		674	Churchill	521		521
528		528	Permira	480		480
			Derivatives - FX Hedging for risk management			
168		168	Russell	179		179
			Central Fees			
101		101	LCIV (London regional pool) Fixed Costs	98		98
(11)		(11)	Other - Balance of Estimated Fees	2		2
11,483	**537**	**12,020**	**Total paid to Fund Managers**	**11,754**	**443**	**12,197**
		40	Custodian - Custody Fees			31
		105	Administering Authority monitoring cost			104
		12,165	**Total Investment Management Expenses**			**12,332**

Transaction costs are defined as direct incremental costs of acquiring an asset, such as broker's commission. These are only available for segregated investments. Pooled investments report returns net of these direct costs due to the nature of the investment vehicle.

Administering Authority monitoring costs are an allocation of administering authority staff costs relating to monitoring investments.

Note 13 Investment Income

Returns on investment may be in the form of cash, revaluation gain on the value of existing units or issue of new units. The table below shows only income in the form of cash recognised in the Fund Account as Investment Income. Other returns will be included in the (Profit)/Loss on Disposal of Investments and Changes in the Value of Investments which is split by asset class in Note 16.

2023/24 £000		2024/25 £000
	Income from	
	Direct Investments	
(8,272)	Bonds	(2,102)
	Pooled Investments	
(15,158)	Pooled Equity	(14,825)
(422)	Pooled Bonds *	(3,276)
(1,860)	Pooled Multi Asset Credit *	(1,507)
(6,149)	Pooled Property	(5,854)
(9,677)	Pooled Infrastructure	(10,645)
(21,731)	Pooled Private Debt	(18,993)
	Cash and Equivalents	
(4,159)	Cash Deposits	(5,530)
(67,428)	**Total Investment Income**	**(62,732)**
	Taxes on Income	
1	Overseas Withholding Tax on Bonds	0
278	Overseas Withholding Tax on Pooled Vehicles	296
279	**Total Taxes on Income**	**296**

* Balances were previously collated in a single line, which is now separated to match the detail given elsewhere in the accounts. 2023/24 balance is represented with this detail split.

The Fund moved its directly held bond investments to the LCIV pooled fund in October 2024, with the manager reducing trading in the lead up to the transfer to facilitate the asset transfer.

Property Income

The Fund only holds property under pooled vehicles. Income is disclosed in this category.

Note 14 External Audit Costs

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
81	Cost of External Audit for the year of account	112
9	Change in Prior Year Fee Adjustments	129
0	Prior year Fee Rebate (Government grant)	(12)
90		**229**

2023/24 was the first year of a new contract for external audit. The new contract price has been increased to include the costs of changes to audit requirements and other changes during the last contract which have been subject to debated additional charges in recent years. PSAA has agreed amendments to the 2020/21 and 2021/22 audit fees, and the auditor has provided proposed increases for 2022/23 and 2023/24. They have indicated that there will be a similar increase to the 2024/25 fee, and an accrual has therefore been made to match the 2023/24 adjustment.

Note 15 Investments

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
	Investment Assets	
200,299	Bonds	0
	Pooled Funds	
1,797,384	- Equity	1,809,059
75,550	- Fixed Income Bonds	315,994
312,859	- Fixed Income Multi Asset Credit	325,657
150,389	- Property	151,566
246,069	- Infrastructure	277,392
190,360	- Private debt	154,660
	Derivative Contracts	
478	- Futures	0
2,226	- Forward currency contracts	23,046
13,188	Cash Collateral	0
5,075	Investment Income Due	409
499	Amounts Receivable for Sales	0
0	Amounts Receivable for Pending Spot FX	0
2,994,376	**Other Investment Assets**	**3,057,783**
102,951	Cash Deposits	98,673
3,097,327	**Total Investment Assets**	**3,156,456**
	Investment Liabilities	
	Derivative Contracts	
(279)	- Futures	0
(3,477)	- Forward currency contracts	(1,624)
(2,508)	Amounts Payable for Purchases	0
(13,188)	Other Investment Liabilities	0
(19,452)	**Total Investment Liabilities**	**(1,624)**
3,077,875	**Net Investment Assets**	**3,154,832**

The directly held bonds managed by Allianz were transferred to an LCIV pooled bond fund in October. Allianz were actively trading and therefore had sales and purchase debtors at year end, along with pending exchange transactions and futures which are now nil.

Note 16 Reconciliation of Movements in Investments and Derivatives

Asset Category	Market Value 1 April 2023	Purchases during the year and derivative payments	Sales during the year and derivative receipts	Change in Market Value during the year	Market Value 31 March 2024
	£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Bonds	174,935	133,702	(114,881)	6,543	200,299
Pooled Equity	1,561,008	8,231	(50,878)	279,023	1,797,384
Pooled Fixed Income Bonds	71,259	276	0	4,015	75,550
Pooled Fixed Income MAC	285,390	0	(10,238)	37,707	312,859
Pooled Property	156,097	4,005	0	(9,713)	150,389
Infrastructure	207,047	49,792	(5,469)	(5,301)	246,069
Private debt	195,366	14,414	(16,035)	(3,385)	190,360
Investments excl. Derivatives	**2,651,102**	**210,420**	**(197,501)**	**308,889**	**2,972,910**
Derivative Contract:					
Futures	(373)	2,382	(2,618)	808	199
Forward Currency Contracts	10,677	49,332	(88,718)	27,458	(1,251)
	2,661,406	**262,134**	**(288,837)**	**337,155**	**2,971,858**
Other Investment Balances:					
Cash Deposits	92,497	131,273	(120,466)	(353)	102,951
Amount Receivable for Sales & Investments	405	94	0	0	499
Investment Income Due	3,974	1,149	(48)	0	5,075
Spot FX Contracts	0	54	(39)	(15)	0
Amount Payable for Purchases of Investments	(1,375)	0	(1,130)	(3)	(2,508)
Cash Collateral	7,062	7,256	(903)	(227)	13,188
Obligation to Return Cash Collateral	(7,788)	4,373	(9,948)	175	(13,188)
Total Net Investments	**2,756,181**			**336,732**	**3,077,875**
Other changes in balances recognised in the Fund Account					
Profit/(Loss) on Disposal of Investment and changes in Market Value				**336,732**	

Purchases and sales of derivatives are recognised as follows:

- Futures – on close out or expiry the variation margins are recognised as cash receipts or payments, depending on whether there is a gain or loss.
- Forward currency contracts settlements are reported as gross receipts and payments.

Asset Category	Market Value 1 April 2024	Purchases during the year and derivative payments	Sales during the year and derivative receipts	Change in Market Value during the year	Market Value 31 March 2025
	£000	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
Bonds	200,299	41,945	(117,050)	(125,194)	0
Pooled Global Equity	1,797,384	7,819	0	3,856	1,809,059
Pooled Fixed Income Bonds	75,550	150,000	(35,242)	125,686	315,994
Pooled Fixed Income MAC	312,859	0	(10,063)	22,861	325,657
Pooled Property	150,389	3,725	0	(2,548)	151,566
Pooled Infrastructure	246,069	39,507	(13,369)	5,185	277,392
Pooled Private debt	190,360	12,054	(41,984)	(5,770)	154,660
Investments excl. Derivatives	**2,972,910**	**255,050**	**(217,708)**	**24,076**	**3,034,328**
Derivative Contract:					
Futures	199	2,379	(1,478)	(1,100)	0
Forward Currency Contracts	(1,251)	62,007	(68,179)	28,845	21,422
	2,971,858	**319,436**	**(287,365)**	**51,821**	**3,055,750**
Other Investment Balances:					
Cash Deposits	102,951	225,036	(228,534)	(779)	98,673
Amount Receivable for Sales & Investments	499	0	(499)	0	0
Investment Income Due	5,075	2	(4,668)	0	409
Spot FX Contracts	0	70	(113)	43	0
Amount Payable for Purchases of Investments	(2,508)	2,506	0	2	0
Cash Collateral	13,188	4,423	(92)	(17,520)	0
Obligation to Return Cash Collateral	(13,188)	1,022	(5,361)	17,526	0
Total Net Investments	**3,077,875**			**51,093**	**3,154,832**
Other changes in balances recognised in the Fund Account					
Profit/(Loss) on Disposal of Investment and changes in Market Value				**51,093**	

Note 17 Investments Analysed by Fund Manager

Market Value 31 March 2024 £000	%		Market Value 31 March 2025 £000	%
		Pooled (London LCIV)		
		Equity		
563,765	18.3	London LGPS LCIV (Global Equity Focus Longview)	555,411	17.6
399,759	13.0	London LGPS LCIV (Global Alpha Growth Baillie Gifford)	386,850	12.3
291,549	9.5	London LGPS LCIV (Sustainable Equity Fund RBC)	295,763	9.4
		Bonds		
0	0.0	London LGPS LCIV (Buy & Maintain All Duration bonds)	273,819	8.7
		MAC		
166,856	5.4	London LGPS LCIV (Alternative Credit CQS)	181,415	5.8
		Infrastructure		
61,382	2.0	London LGPS LCIV (Renewable Infrastructure)	76,963	2.4
1,483,311	**48.2**	**Pooled total**	**1,770,221**	**56.2**
		Under Pool Management (London CIV)		
		Equity		
542,468	17.6	Legal & General (Passive equity)	571,086	18.1
		Bonds		
41,202	1.3	Legal & General (Bonds)	42,177	1.3
583,670	**18.9**		**613,263**	**19.4**
		Direct Investment in Pooled Products		
		Bonds		
205,418	6.7	Allianz (Enhanced Bonds)*	0	0.0
34,779	1.1	Janus Henderson (Pooled Bonds)	0	0.0
		MAC		
146,013	4.8	Oakhill (Multi-Asset Credit)	144,242	4.7
		Property		
41,143	1.3	Nuveen Real Estate UKPF (Pooled Property)	0	0.0
0	0.0	Threadneedle Property Unit Trust (Pooled Property)	37,751	1.2
4,052	0.1	CCLA / LAMIT (Pooled Property)	4,130	0.1
86,773	2.8	Schroders SCREF (Pooled Property)	89,732	2.8
18,585	0.6	L&G (Pooled Property)	19,952	0.6
		Infrastructure		
101,449	3.3	JP Morgan Asset Management (Infrastructure)	102,032	3.2
61,405	2.0	Pantheon Ventures (Infrastructure)	54,781	1.7
13,411	0.4	Sandbrook (Infrastructure)	18,700	0.6
12,242	0.4	Octopus (Infrastructure)	24,916	0.8
		Private Debt		
21,042	0.7	Brightwood (Private Debt)	16,694	0.5
81,904	2.7	Churchill (Private Debt)	66,741	2.1
88,624	2.9	Permira Advisors LLP (Private Debt)	71,229	2.3
		Cash and Cash Equivalents		
95,046	3.1	Northern Trust (Custodian)	99,026	3.1
(992)	0.0	Russell Investments (FX Overlay)*	21,422	0.7
1,010,894	**32.9**	**Direct total**	**771,348**	**24.4**
3,077,875	**100.0**	**Total Net Investments**	**3,154,832**	**100.0**

* Segregated assets. All other assets held via pooled vehicles

The following investments represent over 5% of the net assets of the Fund. All of these companies are registered in the UK.

Market Value 31 March 2024			Market Value 31 March 2025	
£000	**%**		**£000**	**%**
542,468	17.6	L&G (Passive equity)	571,086	18.1
563,765	18.3	London LGPS LCIV (Global Equity Focus Longview)	555,411	17.6
399,759	13.0	London LGPS LCIV (Global Alpha Growth Baillie Gifford)	386,850	12.3
291,549	9.5	London LGPS LCIV (Sustainable Equity Fund RBC)	295,763	9.4
0	0.0	London LGPS LCIV (Buy & Maintain All Duration bonds)	273,819	8.7
166,856	5.4	London LGPS LCIV (Alternative Credit CQS)	181,415	5.8
205,418	6.7	Allianz (Enhanced Bonds)	0	0.0
2,169,815	**70.5**		**2,264,344**	**71.9**

Note 18 Stock Lending

Stock lending is normally prohibited in segregated investment management agreements.

Note 19 Property Holdings

The Fund's investment in property is through pooled property funds. The Fund does not directly hold property.

Note 20 Analysis of Derivatives

Objectives and Policies for Holding Derivatives

The Fund does not invest in derivatives but holds them where appropriate alongside or instead of other assets, usually to hedge liabilities or exposures to reduce risk in the Fund. Derivatives may be used to gain exposure to an asset more efficiently than holding the underlying asset. The use of derivatives is managed in line with the investment management agreements in place between the Fund and the various investment managers.

In addition to derivatives contained within pooled vehicles (such as the Multi-Asset Credit funds) the Fund uses derivatives in :
(1) the Allianz Global Investors bond mandate, largely to mitigate "off-benchmark" risks that are a feature of the manager's permitted investment approach (investment ended October 2024)
(2) in a strategic currency hedging programme ("Passive Currency Overlay / PCO") implemented by Russell Investments, which is described under b) Forward Foreign Currency below

a) Futures

The Fund held futures as part of Allianz fund manager's interest rate risk management strategy. The directly held investment managed by Allianz was moved to a pooled investment with LCIV in October leaving no exposure to futures at 31 March 2025:

Economic Exposure £000	Market Value 31 March 2024 £000	Type	Expires	Economic Exposure £000	Market Value 31 March 2025 £000
		Assets			
20,288	465	UK Fixed Income Futures	< 1 Year	0	0
(5,308)	13	Overseas Fixed Income Futures	< 1 Year	0	0
	478	**Total Assets**			**0**
		Liabilities			
0	0	UK Fixed Income Futures	< 1 Year	0	0
(33,698)	(279)	Overseas Fixed Income Futures	< 1 Year	0	0
	(279)	**Total Liabilities**			**0**
	199	**Net Futures**			**0**

b) Forward Foreign Currency

The Pension Fund entered into a passive currency hedging programme in May 2018 to manage risk, and not for speculation purposes. Hedge instruments are purchased to manage exchange rate risk in foreign currency denominated investments only. This is to support the Fund’s choice to invest overseas to enhance diversification and achieve exposure to geographical returns outside the UK. The Fund hedges to mitigate the risk of adverse currency movement impacting this strategy.

The following arrangements were in place during 2024/25:

Financial instrument	How this has been applied to manage risk	Possible impact on future cash flows
Exchange rate hedge - Forward foreign exchange contracts	Mitigate the risk that adverse movements on foreign exchange rates will affect the carrying value and investment income relating to pooled funds including quoted overseas equities. Settlement is calculated at the contract end date based on the difference between spot rate and forward rate on a specified basket of currencies.	Note 26 shows the impact of 1% potential market movement in exchange rates. For a 10% reduction in exchange rates, the hedge would cover a loss of £107.6m (£108.7m in 2023/24).

The details of the passive currency hedging implementation within the Fund based on the currency the investment is in are as follows:

Asset Class	Methodology
Global Equity	50% of notional currency exposure is hedged using rolling up to 4-month OTC (Non-Collateralised) Currency Forwards. The currencies are hedged according to the MSCI World Index allocations (rather than by reference to underlying actual exposures, where these may differ). Proxies for certain currencies are used where considered appropriate.
Infrastructure	50% of the currency exposure is hedged using rolling up to 4-month OTC (Non-Collateralised) Currency Forwards.
Private Debt	100% of the currency exposure is hedged using rolling up to 4-month OTC (Non-Collateralised) Currency Forwards.

The accuracy of the hedge is reliant on changes to asset values being communicated in a timely manner, and it is therefore accepted that the hedge may be up to 5% variant to the target at any point.
Infrastructure and private debt managers may also use currency hedging within their pooled vehicles.

Open Forward Foreign Currency Contracts are as follows:

Settlements	Currency Bought	Local Value of Currency Bought	Currency Sold	Local Value of Currency Sold	Asset Value	Liability Value
		£000		£000	£000	£000
< 1 month	AUD	166	GBP	(80)	0	0
< 1 month	GBP	18,863	CHF	(20,835)	556	0
< 1 month	GBP	44,004	JPY	(8,301,893)	855	0
< 1 month	GBP	8,709	SEK	(117,489)	0	(368)
< 1 month	GBP	2,898	SGD	(4,814)	119	0
< 1 month	GBP	13,045	AUD	(25,649)	658	0
< 1 month	GBP	207,566	USD	(254,650)	10,265	0
< 1 month	GBP	71,720	EUR	(84,464)	923	0
< 1 month	GBP	24,326	CAD	(43,036)	1,127	0
< 1 month	GBP	28	HKD	(277)	0	0
< 1 month	HKD	5,802	GBP	(608)	0	(30)
< 1 month	JPY	129,374	GBP	(676)	0	(3)
< 1 month	USD	39,607	GBP	(30,932)	0	(245)
1-6 months	CHF	700	GBP	(622)	0	(5)
1-6 months	GBP	21,873	EUR	(26,159)	14	(123)
1-6 months	GBP	695,728	USD	(888,403)	8,190	(795)
1-6 months	GBP	11,331	JPY	(2,154,574)	57	0
1-6 months	GBP	5,457	HKD	(54,746)	0	(6)
1-6 months	GBP	6,441	CAD	(11,646)	150	0
1-6 months	GBP	7,069	CHF	(7,964)	21	0
1-6 months	GBP	612	SGD	(1,051)	3	0
1-6 months	GBP	4,341	AUD	(8,764)	107	0
1-6 months	GBP	982	SEK	(13,163)	0	(37)
1-6 months	HKD	4,825	GBP	(492)	0	(10)
1-6 months	JPY	510	GBP	(3)	0	0
1-6 months	SEK	1,492	GBP	(115)	1	0
1-6 months	SGD	106	GBP	(63)	0	(2)
1-6 months	USD	1,196	GBP	(927)	0	0
Open Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2025					**23,046**	**(1,624)**
Net Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2025						**21,422**
Prior year comparative:						
Open Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2024					**2,226**	**(3,477)**
Net Forward Currency Contracts at 31 March 2024						**(1,251)**

Note 21 Fair Value – Basis of Valuation

All investment assets are valued using fair value techniques based on the characteristics of each instrument, where possible using market-based information. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year.

LCIV Long Term Capital is not held for investment purposes, it represents the Fund’s commitment to the London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV) which was made for operational reasons to allow the Fund to access LCIV investments and obtain the benefits of pooled investment. It is therefore carried at cost.

Unquoted private debt and infrastructure are valued at fair value as reported by the relevant fund managers. Where the latest reporting period is not 31 March 2025, this value has been amended for calls and distributions since the reporting period in line with CIPFA Bulletin 05 guidance.

Assets and liabilities have been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values.

Level 1 – where the fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, comprising quoted equities, quoted bonds and unit trusts.

Level 2 – where quoted market prices are not available, or where valuation techniques are used to determine fair value based on observable data.
Level 3 – where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data.

The valuation basis for each category of investment asset is set out below:

	Basis of Valuation	Observable and Unobservable Inputs	Key Sensitivities Affecting the Valuations Provided
Level 1			
Cash Deposits	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not Required	Not Required
Cash Collateral	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not Required	Not Required
Equities	Published bid market price on the final day of the accounting period	Not Required	Not Required
Bonds	Quoted market value based on current yields	Not Required	Not Required
Short term debtors and creditors (investment and trade)	Carrying value is deemed to be fair value because of the short-term nature of these financial instruments	Not Required	Not Required
Level 2			
Pooled equity, bond and Multi Asset Credit Investments	Published bid market price on the final day of the accounting period	Not Required	Not Required
Pooled Property Investments	Closing bid price where bid and offer prices are published. Closing single price where single price published	NAV-based pricing set on a forward pricing basis	Not Required
Forward Currency Contracts	Market forward exchange rates at the year end	Exchange rate risk	Not Required
Level 3			
Pooled Private Debt	Latest available fair value provided by the manager, adjusted for cash movements subsequent to that date if appropriate.	Credit ratings and default history within the pool	Valuations could be affected by changes to expected cashflows or default in the underlying loans.
Pooled Infrastructure	Latest available fair value provided by the manager, adjusted for cash movements subsequent to that date if appropriate.	Credit ratings and default history within the pool	Valuations could be affected by changes to expected cashflows, default by counterparties or site issues.

Sensitivity of assets valued at Level 3

Having consulted with independent investment advisors, the Fund has determined that the valuation methods described above are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges, and has set out below the consequent potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March:

Asset	Potential Variation in Fair Value	Value at 31 March 2024	Potential Value on Increase	Potential Value on Decrease
	(+/-)	£000	£000	£000
Infrastructure - UK	14.4%	73,624	84,226	63,022
Infrastructure - US	14.4%	172,445	197,277	147,613
Private Debt - UK	10.6%	88,620	98,014	79,226
Private Debt - US	12.3%	101,740	114,254	89,226
		436,429	**493,771**	**379,087**

Asset	Potential Variation in Fair Value	Value at 31 March 2025	Potential Value on Increase	Potential Value on Decrease
	(+/-)	£000	£000	£000
Infrastructure - UK	11.0%	101,879	113,086	90,672
Infrastructure - US	11.0%	175,513	194,819	156,207
Private Debt - UK	10.5%	71,229	78,708	63,750
Private Debt - US	12.1%	83,431	93,526	73,336
		432,052	**480,139**	**383,965**

The potential price changes disclosed above are broadly consistent with a one-standard deviation movement in the value of the assets. As such, significant market volatility could result in larger movements in market price than set out above. The volatility assumptions displayed are based on option-implied market volatility, where available, with an allowance for the historical tendency of option-implied volatility to overestimate subsequent experienced volatility.

Note 22 Fair Value Hierarchy

The following table provides an analysis of the assets and liabilities of the Pension Fund grouped into Levels 1 to 3, based on the level at which the fair value is observable.

	31 March 2024			
	Quoted Market Price Level 1	Using Observable Inputs Level 2	With Significant Unobservable Inputs Level 3	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial Assets				
Fair value through profit and loss				
- Bonds	200,299			200,299
- Pooled Equity		1,797,384		1,797,384
- Pooled Fixed Income Bonds		75,550		75,550
- Pooled Fixed Income MAC		312,859		312,859
- Pooled Property		150,389		150,389
- Infrastructure			246,069	246,069
- Private Debt			190,360	190,360
- Derivative Assets		2,704		2,704
- Cash deposits	102,951			102,951
- Other investment assets	13,188			13,188
- Investment income due		5,075		5,075
- Amounts Receivable for Sales		499		499
	316,438	**2,344,460**	**436,429**	**3,097,327**
Financial Liabilities				
Payable for investment purchases		(2,508)		(2,508)
Other investment liabilities	(13,188)			(13,188)
Derivative liabilities		(3,756)		(3,756)
	(13,188)	**(6,264)**	**0**	**(19,452)**
Total	**303,250**	**2,338,196**	**436,429**	**3,077,875**

	31 March 2025			
	Quoted Market Price Level 1	Using Observable Inputs Level 2	With Significant Unobservable Inputs Level 3	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial Assets				
Fair value through profit and loss				
- Bonds	0	0	0	0
- Pooled Equity	0	1,809,059	0	1,809,059
- Pooled Fixed Income Bonds	0	315,994	0	315,994
- Pooled Fixed Income MAC	0	325,657	0	325,657
- Pooled Property	0	151,566	0	151,566
- Pooled Infrastructure	0	0	277,392	277,392
- Pooled Private Debt	0	0	154,660	154,660
- Derivative Assets	0	23,046	0	23,046
- Cash deposits	98,673	0	0	98,673
- Other investment assets	0	0	0	0
- Investment income due	409	0	0	409
- Amounts Receivable for Sales	0	0	0	0
	99,082	**2,625,322**	**432,052**	**3,156,456**
Financial Liabilities				
Fair value through profit and loss	0	0	0	0
Payable for investment purchases	0	0	0	0
Other investment liabilities	0	0	0	0
Derivative liabilities	0	(1,624)	0	(1,624)
	0	**(1,624)**	**0**	**(1,624)**
Total	**99,082**	**2,623,698**	**432,052**	**3,154,832**

Transfers between Levels 1 and 2

No assets have transferred between levels during the reporting period. The movement of the Allianz investment to the LCIV bond fund was recorded as a sale of directly held assets and purchase of LCIV units.

Note 23 Reconciliation of Fair Value Measurements within Level 3

The following table shows the movement between the opening and closing value of Level 3 instruments:

	Infrastructure	Private Debt	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Value 31 March 2023	**207,047**	**195,366**	**402,413**
Transfers In	0	0	**0**
Transfers Out	0	0	**0**
Purchases & Derivative Payments	49,792	14,414	**64,206**
Sales & Derivative Receipts	(5,469)	(16,035)	**(21,504)**
Unrealised Gains / (Losses)	(5,619)	(3,894)	**(9,513)**
Realised Gains / (Losses)	318	509	**827**
Value 31 March 2024	**246,069**	**190,360**	**436,429**

	Infrastructure	Private Debt	Total
	£000	£000	£000
Value 31 March 2024	**246,069**	**190,360**	**436,429**
Transfers In	0	0	**0**
Transfers Out	0	0	**0**
Purchases & Derivative Payments	39,507	12,054	**51,561**
Sales & Derivative Receipts	(13,369)	(41,984)	**(55,353)**
Unrealised Gains / (Losses)	2,494	(5,873)	**(3,379)**
Realised Gains / (Losses)	2,691	103	**2,794**
Value 31 March 2025	**277,392**	**154,660**	**432,052**

Note 24 Classification of Financial Instruments

31 March 2024			31 March 2025	
Fair Value through P&L £000	Amortised Cost £000		Fair Value through P&L £000	Amortised Cost £000
		Financial Assets		
200,299		Bonds	0	
1,797,384		Pooled Global Equity	1,809,059	
75,550		Pooled Fixed Income Bonds	315,994	
312,859		Pooled Fixed Income MAC	325,657	
150,389		Pooled Property	151,566	
246,069		Pooled Infrastructure	277,392	
190,360		Pooled Private Debt	154,660	
2,704		Derivative Contracts	23,046	
	102,951	Cash		98,673
13,188	5,075	Other Investment Balances	0	409
	499	Current Assets		0
2,988,802	**108,525**	**Total Assets**	**3,057,374**	**99,082**
		Financial Liabilities		
(3,756)		Derivative Contracts	(1,624)	
	(13,188)	Other Investment Balances		0
	(2,508)	Creditors		0
(3,756)	**(15,696)**	**Total Liabilities**	**(1,624)**	**0**
2,985,046	**92,829**	**Net Total**	**3,055,750**	**99,082**
3,077,875		**Grand Total**	**3,154,832**	

Note 25 Net Gains & Losses on Financial Instruments

All realised gains and losses arise from the sale or disposal of financial assets which have been derecognised in the financial statements.

The Fund has not entered into any financial guarantees that are required to be accounted for as financial instruments.

2023/24 £000		2024/25 £000
	Financial Assets	
308,889	Fair value through profit and loss	24,076
0	Amortised cost - Realised gain on derecognition of assets	51
0	Amortised cost - Unrealised gain	0
308,889		**24,127**
	Financial Liabilities	
28,266	Fair value through profit and loss	27,745
(423)	Amortised cost - Realised gain on derecognition of assets	(779)
0	Amortised cost - Unrealised gain	0
27,843		**26,966**
336,732	**Net Gain/(Loss) on Financial Instruments**	**51,093**

Note 26 Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

Risk and risk management

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that its assets will fall short of its liabilities (i.e. promised benefits payable to members). Risk measures for the whole Fund are covered in more detail in Note 3 Going Concern, while this note gives more detail on the risks associated with investing in financial instruments.

The aim of investment risk management is to minimise the risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund, and to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole fund portfolio. The Fund achieves this through asset diversification to reduce exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level. In addition, the Fund manages its liquidity risk to ensure there is sufficient liquidity to meet the Fund's forecast cash flows. The Fund manages these investment risks as part of its overall risk management programme.

The Fund advisors consider asset volatility and a range of potential market movements when setting the Investment Strategy and asset allocations. This includes assessing the overall volatility for any proposed asset allocations taking into account any correlation (positive and negative) between asset classes when ensuring the proposals are within the Fund's appetite for risk and the trade off between risk and the return required to achieve full funding as assessed in the triennial valuation. This is reviewed at least every 3 years (after valuation) and more frequently if there is an impairment trigger event or Members have concerns.

The Fund does not hold any fully passive investments but does invest in passive like global equity and bond funds (£613.3m or 19.4% of investments at 31 March) and has accepted the market risk required for passive like investment.

All other assets are actively managed. Active managers will be evaluating and managing risk as part of their investment decision making processes. This will include the risks related to any recent market volatility and interest rate and inflation movements. Fund managers will have access to wider information sources and professional expertise than officers and while officers will ensure they understand and challenge the processes used by fund managers in their investment decisions, they will not be over-ridden. Where investments are made via an LGPS pool (LCIV) the pool officers will be performing scrutiny and in depth reviews of fund managers processes to give further assurance.

All investment assets are carried at fair value and fund managers undertake this valuation at least quarterly so year end values will include any known impairment or gain and the impact of market sentiment on pricing.

Responsibility for the Fund's risk management strategy rests with the Joint Pensions Committee. Risk management policies are established to identify and analyse the risks faced by the Fund's operations, and reviewed regularly to ensure they reflect changes in activity and market conditions.

a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk of loss from fluctuations in equity and commodity prices, interest and foreign exchange rates and credit spreads. The Fund is exposed to market risk from its investment activities, particularly through its equity holdings. The level of risk exposure depends on market conditions, expectations of future price and yield movements and the asset mix. The objective of the Fund's risk management strategy is to identify, manage and control market risk exposure within acceptable parameters, while optimising investment return.

In general, excessive volatility in market risk is managed through the diversification of the portfolio in terms of geographical and industry sectors, asset classes and manager styles. To mitigate market risk, the Fund and its investment advisors undertake appropriate monitoring of the Fund's assets, looking at overall returns against the actuarial assumptions and the

Fund's own appetite for risk and volatility. Specific risk exposure is limited by applying risk-weighted maximum exposures to individual investments.

Other price risk

Other price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or factors affecting all such instruments in the market.

The Fund is exposed to share and derivative price risk. The Fund's investment managers mitigate this price risk through diversification and the selection of securities and other financial instruments is monitored to ensure it is within limits specified in the Fund investment strategy.

Other price risk – sensitivity analysis

In consultation with its investment advisors, the Fund has determined that the following movements in market price risk are reasonably possible for 2025/26, assuming that all other variables, in particular foreign exchange rates and interest rates, remain the same:

Asset type	Value at 31 March 2024	Potential Market Movement	Potential Value on Increase	Potential Value on Decrease
	£000	(+/-)	£000	£000
UK Fixed Interest Gilts	5,666	8.8%	6,165	5,167
UK Corporate Bonds	217,115	8.2%	234,917	199,312
Overseas Bonds	51,400	8.2%	55,616	47,185
Multi-Asset Credit	312,859	10.9%	346,961	278,757
Global Equity	1,797,384	18.4%	2,128,103	1,466,665
Pooled Property Investments	150,389	14.8%	172,647	128,132
Private Debt (UK)	88,620	10.6%	98,014	79,226
Private Debt (US)	101,740	12.3%	114,254	89,226
Infrastructure (UK)	73,624	14.4%	84,226	63,022
Infrastructure (US)	172,445	14.4%	197,277	147,613
Total value at risk	**2,971,242**		**3,438,180**	**2,504,304**

In 2023/24 the figures for bonds included some derivatives where the derivative moves with the price of the underlying asset as this gives a more complete assessment of the risk. The 2024/25 figures for bonds do not include any derivatives as this bond investment ended during 2024/25.

Asset type	Value at 31 March 2025	Potential Market Movement	Potential Value on Increase	Potential Value on Decrease
	£000	(+/-)	£000	£000
UK Fixed Interest Gilts			0	0
UK Corporate Bonds	315,994	7.1%	338,430	293,558
Overseas Bonds	0	0.0%	0	0
Multi-Asset Credit	325,657	9.6%	356,920	294,394
Global Equity	1,809,059	19.2%	2,156,398	1,461,720
Pooled Property Investments	151,566	13.0%	171,270	131,862
Private Debt (UK)	71,229	10.5%	78,708	63,750
Private Debt (US)	83,431	12.1%	93,526	73,336
Infrastructure (UK)	101,879	11.0%	113,086	90,672
Infrastructure (US)	175,513	11.0%	194,819	156,207
Total Value at Risk	**3,034,328**		**3,503,157**	**2,565,499**

Interest rate risk

The Fund invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on investments. These investments are subject to interest rate risks, which represent the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates.

The Fund’s direct exposure to interest rate movements as at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025 is set out below. These disclosures present interest rate risk based on the underlying financial assets at fair value.

Interest rate – risk sensitivity analysis
The Fund recognises that interest rates can vary and can affect both income to the Fund and the carrying value of Fund assets, both of which affect the value of the net assets available to pay benefits. Interest rates are not currently expected to move more than 100 basis points (1%) from one year to the next and experience suggests that such movements are unlikely.

The analysis below assumes that all other variables, in particular exchange rates, remain constant, and shows the effect in the year on the net assets available to pay benefits of a +/- 1% change in interest rates. An increase in interest rates will not affect the interest received on fixed interest assets but will reduce their fair value, and vice versa. Changes in interest rates do not impact on the value of cash and cash equivalent balances but they will affect the interest income received on those balances.

	Asset Value 31st March 2024 £000	Duration	Impact of 1% Increase £000	Impact of 1% Decrease £000
Asset Type				
Cash	104,211	n/a	n/a	n/a
UK Government Bonds	5,666	8.6	(489)	490
UK Corporate Bonds	217,115	5.5	(11,807)	11,807
Overseas Bonds	51,400	6.7	(3,438)	3,439
Multi-Asset Credit	312,859	0.8	(2,409)	2,409
Total	**691,251**		**(18,143)**	**18,145**

	Asset Value 31st March 2025 £000	Duration	Impact of 1% Increase £000	Impact of 1% Decrease £000
Asset Type				
Cash	98,673	n/a	n/a	n/a
UK Government Bonds *	0	n/a	0	0
UK Corporate Bonds	315,994	6.3	(19,876)	19,876
Overseas Bonds *	0	n/a	0	0
Multi-Asset Credit	325,657	2.4	(7,898)	7,898
Total	**740,324**		**(27,774)**	**27,774**

* UK Government Bonds and Overseas Bonds were held directly within the Allianz investment, which ended October 2024.

This disclosure has been expanded to include more detailed analysis as the significant recent volatility in interest rates due to the geopolitical environment suggests that more information should be shown on this risk. For bonds and similar investments, the duration needs to be applied to calculate the impact of rate changes on fixed rate investments based on time to maturity and the fixed rate.

	Interest Receivable 2023/24 £000	Impact of 1% Increase £000	Impact of 1% Decrease £000
Asset Type			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	(4,159)	(42)	42
Private Debt	(21,731)	(217)	217
Total	**(25,890)**	**(259)**	**259**

	Interest Receivable 2024/25	Impact of 1% Increase	Impact of 1% Decrease
	£000	£000	£000
Asset Type			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	(5,530)	(55)	55
Private Debt	(18,993)	(190)	190
Total	**(24,523)**	**(245)**	**245**

While the fair value of fixed interest investments will change as changes in interest rates make the fixed rate return more or less attractive to investors, the interest receivable will not change. These are therefore excluded from the second set of tables.
Private debt is included as while carrying value will not change directly with interest rate changes, the debt is variable rate and so income will change.

Currency risk
Currency risk represents the risk that future cash flows will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on any cash balances and investment assets not denominated in UK sterling. Following analysis of historical data in consultation with the Fund investment advisors, the Fund considers the likely volatility associated with foreign exchange rate movements to be not more than 10%. A 10% strengthening/weakening of the pound against the various currencies in which the fund holds investments would increase/decrease the net assets available to pay benefits as follows:

	Asset Value at 31st March 2024	Potential Market Movement	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
Assets Exposed to Currency Risk	**£000**	**(+/-)**	**£000**	**£000**
Overseas Bonds	51,400	10.0%	56,540	46,260
Global Equities	1,797,384	10.0%	1,977,122	1,617,646
US Infrastructure	172,445	10.0%	189,690	155,201
US Private Debt	101,740	10.0%	111,914	91,566
Total	**2,122,969**		**2,335,266**	**1,910,673**

	Asset Value at 31st March 2025	Potential Market Movement	Value on Increase	Value on Decrease
Assets Exposed to Currency Risk	**£000**	**(+/-)**	**£000**	**£000**
Overseas Bonds	0	0.0%	0	0
Global Equities	1,809,059	10.0%	1,989,965	1,628,153
US Infrastructure	175,513	10.0%	193,064	157,962
US Private Debt	83,431	10.0%	91,774	75,088
Total	**2,068,003**		**2,274,803**	**1,861,203**

It should be noted that the Fund has a passive currency hedging programme in place to hedge approximately a 50% proportion of overseas currency exposure on its equity and infrastructure investments and approximately 100% of currency exposure on its Private Debt investments. Therefore the gains and losses on the sterling value of overseas assets quoted above will be offset by the currency hedging arrangement, reducing the volatility associated with foreign exchange rate movements.

b) Credit risk
Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a financial transaction will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. Assets potentially affected by this risk are investment assets, cash deposits and third-party loans. The selection of high-quality counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk and the market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit risk.

The Fund has also set a limit of 15% of the total investments to be placed in any one active investment (with LCIV sub funds defined as an investment for this risk control purpose). The Fund has a limit of 25% of total investments with any single manager (with LCIV sub funds defined as a manager for this purpose).
The Fund explicitly accepts credit risk in some of its investment classes, most notably the use of high yield bonds in Multi Asset Credit funds and the Private Debt class. This risk is mitigated by use of a pooled investment vehicle, due diligence by the manager and exposure limits within each pooled vehicle.

The Fund has a 1% allocation to cash in its Investment Strategy (with a tolerance range of 0.5-3% to allow for market movements and cash flow peaks and troughs). The majority of this is held in the custodian's AAA rated money market fund, which has its own policies to ensure diversification and achieve LVNAV and AAA status. A working balance is held in the Fund's bank (NatWest) which benefits from significant government ownership.

The Fund has experienced no defaults from fund managers or bank accounts over the past five years.

Balances at 31st March 2024		Credit Rating	Balances at 31st March 2025
£000			£000
	Money Market Funds		
101,629	NTGI Global Cash Fund	AAA	98,673
	Bank Deposit Accounts		
1,322	Variation margin		0
	Bank Current Accounts		
1,260	Held with the Fund's Bank	F1	1,183
104,211	**Total Cash Held**		**99,856**

The variation margin account was used by the Fund's only segregated asset manager, Allianz, and is now nil as that investment ended in October 2024.

Credit risk may also occur if an employing body not supported by central government does not pay contributions promptly, or defaults on its obligations. The Fund has not experienced any actual defaults in recent years and the current practice is to obtain a bond or a guarantee before admitting new employers so that all contribution obligations are covered in the event of that employer facing financial difficulties. All monthly contributions due at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025 were received in accordance with a monthly payment schedule. This schedule is monitored and non-compliance with agreed schedules is raised with the employer and escalated as appropriate.

Eight admitted body employers in the Wandsworth Pension Fund have a Council guarantee to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet their pension obligations and one has given a charge on a property as security for a deferred cessation payment. These guarantees are drawn in favour of the Fund in the event of early termination of an admission agreement and payment will only be triggered in the event of employer default. No such defaults have occurred in 2023/24 or 2024/25.

c) Liquidity risk
Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Fund therefore takes steps to ensure that it always has adequate cash resources to meet its commitments. The Fund is currently cash flow negative on dealings

with members but positive taking into account investment returns being retained as cash rather than reinvested, and excluding one-off events such as large transfers.

The Fund ensures liquidity by:
- holding day to day cash in an interest-bearing account with its bank and a Money Market Fund with its custodian, both with daily liquidity
- investing in a range of assets and pooled vehicles which could be liquidated with sufficient notice to fund large planned cash outflows
- having an overdraft facility with its bank

The administering authority (Wandsworth Borough Council) is the lender of last resort to the Fund as facilitated by regulations, where the Fund does not have sufficient liquidity to meet its payment commitments.

The Fund defines liquid assets as assets that can be converted to cash within three months. As at 31 March 2025 the value of illiquid assets represented £583.6m, 18.5% of the total fund value (at 31 March 2024 this was £589.5m or 19.1% of the total fund).

Refinancing risk
The key risk is that the Fund will need to replenish a significant proportion of its financial instruments at a time of unfavourable interest rates. The Fund does not have the power to borrow long term (only to fund benefit payments or asset allocation changes with repayment within 3 months) and has not borrowed in year so has no exposure to this risk.

Note 27 Funding Arrangements

In line with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013, the Fund's actuary undertakes a funding valuation every three years for the purpose of setting employer contribution rates for the forthcoming triennial period. The last such valuation took place as at 31 March 2022. The valuation using 31 March 2025 data will be undertaken during 2025/26 with the revised Rates and Adjustments Certificate issued by the actuary in time for the new contribution rates to be paid from 1 April 2026.

The key elements of the funding policy are:
1) to ensure the long-term solvency of the fund, i.e. that sufficient funds are available to meet all pension liabilities as they fall due for payment
2) to ensure that employer contribution rates are as stable as possible
3) to minimise the long-term cost of the scheme by recognising the link between assets and liabilities and adopting an investment strategy that balances risk and return
4) to reflect the different characteristics of employing bodies in determining contribution rates where it is reasonable to do so and
5) to use reasonable measures to reduce the risk to other employers and ultimately to the council taxpayers of the administering authority from an employer defaulting on its pension obligations.

Using the agreed assumptions, the Fund had assets sufficient to cover 116% of the accrued liabilities as at 31 March 2022. This shows an improvement since the 2019 valuation where the funding level was 105%.
The Fund has achieved solvency based on current conditions at that date with some margin for adverse change. This overall position does not apply equally to all employers within the Fund with those who joined the Wandsworth Fund when the Richmond Fund was subsumed (1st October 2016) being generally less well funded and therefore requiring deficit payments.

In addition to the primary contribution rate, most employers will also pay a secondary contribution rate depending on the demographic and actuarial factors particular to each

employer. Full details of the contribution rates payable can be found in the 2022 actuarial valuation report and the funding strategy statement on the website of the Fund's Administering Authority.
The average employer's primary contribution rate across the Fund was :

Year	Rate
2020/21	19.6%
2021/22	19.6%
2022/23	19.6%
2023/24	20.0%
2024/25	20.0%

The valuation of the Fund has been undertaken using the projected unit method under which the salary increase for each member is assumed to increase until they leave active service by death, retirement or withdrawal from service. The principal assumptions were as follows:

31st March 2019		31st March 2022
% p.a.	**Assumptions as at**	**% p.a.**
3.6%	Salary Increases	3.9%
2.6%	Pensions Increases (CPI)	2.9%
4.5%	Discount Rate / Return	4.4%

Demographic assumptions

The assumed life expectancy from age 65 is as follows:

31st March 2019	Life Expectancy from age 65	31st March 2022
	Retiring Today:	
21.7 years	- Male	21.0 years
24.3 years	- Female	23.5 years
	Retiring in 20 year :	
23.1 years	- Male	22.3 years
25.8 years	- Female	24.9 years

Mortality assumptions use 2021 Continuous Mortality Investigation (CMI) Model with long term rate of improvement of 1.25% p.a. with 7.0 smoothing parameter and no initial addition to improvements.

Commutation assumption

It is assumed that future retirees will take 50% of the maximum additional tax-free lump sum.

50:50 option

Take up of 50:50 is based on historic member data.

Note 28 Actuarial Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits

In addition to the triennial funding valuation, the Fund's actuary also undertakes a valuation of the pension fund liabilities, on an IAS 19 basis every year. This uses the same base data as the funding valuation rolled forward to the current financial year, but taking account of changes in membership numbers and updating assumptions to the current year. This valuation is not carried out on the same basis as that used for setting fund contribution rates and the Fund accounts do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits in the future.

In order to assess the value of the benefits on this basis, the actuary has updated the actuarial assumptions (set out below) from those used for funding purposes (see Note 27). The actuary has also valued ill health and death benefits in line with IAS 19.

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
(2,261,201)	Present value of promised retirement benefits	(2,024,439)
3,079,135	Fair value of scheme assets (bid value)	3,156,015
817,934	**Net Asset / (Liability)**	**1,131,576**

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
466,435	**Opening Asset / (Liability)**	**817,934**
(55,607)	Current service cost	(54,713)
(13,879)	Past service costs including curtailments	(807)
131,808	Interest on assets	150,323
260,414	Return on assets less interest	(48,639)
(106,513)	Interest cost	(108,737)
53,814	Change in financial assumptions	304,052
30,721	Change in demographic assumptions	5,664
(6,123)	Experience gain/(loss) on defined benefit obligations	5,438
(1,698)	Administration expenses	(1,892)
58,562	Contributions by employer	62,953
817,934	**Closing Asset / (Liability)**	**1,131,576**

As noted above, the liabilities above are calculated on an IAS 19 basis and therefore will differ from the results of the 2022 triennial funding valuation (see Note 27) because IAS 19 stipulates a discount rate rather than a rate which reflects market rates. Other key assumptions used are:

31 March 2024 % p.a.		31 March 2025 % p.a.
4.90	Discount rate	5.80
2.90	Pension increase (CPI)	2.90
3.25	Inflation (RPI)	3.20
3.90	Salary increase	3.90

31 March 2024	Life expectancy from age 65 (years)	31 March 2025
	Retiring Today:	
20.8	- Male	20.7
23.3	- Female	23.3
	Retiring in 20 years :	
22.0	- Male	22.0
24.7	- Female	24.7

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. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.

The effects on the net pension liability of changes in individual assumptions can be measured. For instance:

- a 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in the pension liability of £28.1m

- a 0.1% increase in assumed earnings inflation would result in an increase of the pension liability of £1.6m
- a 0.1% increase in assumed pension increases and deferred revaluation would result in an increase in the pension liability of £27.9m
- a one-year increase in assumed life expectancy would increase the liability by approximately £68.5m.

Virgin Media Ruling
In June 2023, the UK High Court (Virgin Media Limited v NTL Pension Trustees II Limited) ruled that certain historical amendments for contracted-out defined benefit schemes were invalid if they were not accompanied by the correct actuarial confirmation. The judgment has now been upheld by the Court of Appeal.
The Local Government Pension Scheme is a contracted out defined benefit scheme and amendments have been made during the period 1996 to 2016 which could impact member benefits. Work is being performed by the Government Actuary's Department as the Local Government Pension Scheme actuary to assess whether section 37 certificates are in place for all amendments and some of these have been confirmed however, at the date of these financial statements, the full assessment is not complete.
The most recent LGPC Bulletin 257 - Nov 2024 states that HM Treasury is currently assessing the implications for all public service pension schemes, however, HM Treasury do not believe the Virgin Media case expressly addresses whether confirmation is required for public service pension schemes. We understand their view to be that the relevant amendments in the LGPS would have been made by legislation – and therefore would remain valid until revoked or repealed by subsequent legislation, or declared void by a court.
The Fund's actuary's view when producing the IAS26 report was that at this point in time there remains insufficient information to assess the potential impact, so we are unable to quantify it. On 5 June 2025 the Department for Work and Pensions issued a response to this case, committing to introduce legislation to give affected pension schemes the ability to retrospectively obtain written actuarial confirmation that historic benefit changes met the necessary standards, leaving scheme obligations unaffected. As a result, Wandsworth Pension Fund does not consider it necessary to make any allowance for the potential impact of the Virgin Media case in the disclosure of the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits in its financial statements.

Note 29 Long Term Assets

LCIV Long Term Capital

31 March 2024 £000	LCIV Long Term Capital	31 March 2025 £000
300	Founders' Shares (original regulatory capital)	300
0	B Shares (increased regulatory capital)	0
300		**300**

All London Boroughs were required to deposit regulatory capital with LCIV as a regulatory requirement to enable the Fund to participate in LCIV's pooling arrangements. The shares are not tradable but can be redeemed for face value if the Fund were to withdraw from LCIV and so are carried at cost.

This value includes both Wandsworth and Richmond shares due to the Funds having merged in 2016. LCIV confirmed by letter in October 2021 that although the Fund holds 2 boroughs' allocations of initial regulatory capital contribution of £150k, as a "combined shareholder" it has a single vote and would only make a single borough's contribution to increased regulatory capital should this be needed.

Long Term Debtors

31 March 2024 £000		31 March 2025 £000
	Long Term Debtors	
2,739	Opening Balance	2,870
277	Lifetime tax allowance paid in year	140
(146)	Recovery from pension in year	(152)
2,870		**2,858**

Note 30 Current Assets & Liabilities

Balance at 31 March 2024 £000		Balance at 31 March 2025 £000
	Current Assets	
1,260	Cash at Bank	**1,183**
1,215	Contributions Due	1,159
213	Contributions Due from Richmond & Wandsworth	455
129	VAT recovery due	54
197	Overpaid Pensions	221
61	Sundry Debtors	101
1,815		**1,990**
	Current Liabilities	
(3)	Unpaid Benefits	(10)
(190)	Fund Managers' fees	(147)
(1,095)	Amount Due to Richmond & Wandsworth	(1,205)
(1,136)	Amount Due to HMRC	(1,393)
(84)	Pensions Due to Estate of deceased pensioner	(85)
(145)	Sundry Creditors	(267)
(2,653)		**(3,107)**

Note 31 Additional Voluntary Contributions

Some staff choose to invest in Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs) with the Prudential, Clerical Medical or Utmost Life and Pensions. AVCs are entirely separate from the Fund Accounts but are reported here in a note in accordance with Regulation 4(1)(b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

Contributions Paid 2023/24 £000	Market Value 31 March 2024 £000	Provider	Contributions Paid 2024/25 £000	Market Value 31 March 2025 £000
50	610	Clerical Medical	98	486
0	506	Utmost	0	471
854	3,485	Prudential	1,630	4,957
904	**4,601**	**Total**	**1,728**	**5,914**

Prudential market value includes potential final bonus, although this is not guaranteed.

Note 32 Agency Services

The Wandsworth Pension Fund pays discretionary awards to former employees of London Borough of Richmond and some associated employers of the ex-LB Richmond Fund to which this Fund is the successor body. The amounts paid are fully reclaimed from the employer bodies. These payments all relate to historic decisions. New discretionary awards are funded by capitalised strain costs paid by the employer at the point of award and the number and value of these payments should therefore decline over time.

The amount paid on behalf of LB Richmond for 2024/25 was £0.867m (£0.848m in 2023/24), with payments on behalf of other employers totalling £115k in 2024/25 (£84k in 2023/24).

Note 33 Related Party Transactions

Governance (Control of the Fund)

In 2016/17 the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames (RuT) Pension Fund was merged into the Wandsworth Borough Council (WBC) Pension Fund to facilitate a shared staffing arrangement now called the Better Service Partnership (BSP) being set up by the two councils. Under the BSP all former LBR and WBC staff are jointly employed by both councils.

This merged Fund is controlled by the Joint Pensions Committee with six councillors appointed by WBC and three councillors by RuT. Of the nine councillors serving on the Committee at year end, one had a deferred benefit in the scheme. Each member of the Pension Fund Committee is required to declare their interests.

In addition, of the 6 Local Pension Board members during the year, Richard Perry and John Deakins were active members and Chris Jones, Hilary Galloway and Peter Quirk were pensioners in the Fund during 2024/25.

Wandsworth Council and Richmond Council under the Better Service Partnership (BSP)

Wandsworth Pension Fund is administered by Wandsworth Council. Consequently, there is a strong relationship between the Council and the Pension Fund.

The key officers responsible for the Pension Fund are all jointly employed as part of the BSP:

- Mrs F Merry (Executive Director of Finance)
- Mr P Guilliotti (Director of Finance - Financial Services)
- Mr M Doyle (Assistant Director of Pensions Shared Service)
- Ms C Baxter (Head of Pension Fund & Insurance Accounting)

They are all active members of the LGPS as BSP employees. The BSP is also the single largest employer of active members of the Pension Fund. All contributions owing to and due from the Fund were paid in year.

There are also transactions between the Fund and BSP in respect of the services provided in administering and governance of the Fund, and with the Councils as employers in the Fund.

The Councils' charges for administration of and the provision of associated services to the Fund are included in the totals in Note 12.

This includes an element of the salary of the Executive Director of Finance. Their total remuneration is disclosed in the administering authority's accounts due to their role, and this amount is also shown below. As part of their role relates to the management of the Fund, the appropriate proportion of this is included in the administration charges to the Fund (see Note 12).

2023/24	Salary (including fees and allowances)	Employers pension contribution	Remuneration including pension contributions
Executive Director of Finance - F. Merry	125,657	23,990	149,647

2024/25	Salary (including fees and allowances)	Employers pension contribution	Remuneration including pension contributions
Executive Director of Finance - F. Merry	129,750	24,782	154,532

The Fund is controlled by Joint Pensions committee which has membership from both councils. The employer's contributions made by both councils and the BSP in year are as follows:

2023/24	WBC	RuT	SSA
Employer's contributions	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
- Normal	8,266	5,398	29,861
- Deficit	(1,783)	715	(762)
- Augmentation (Strain costs)	200	1	619
Total	**6,683**	**6,114**	**29,718**

2024/25	WBC	RuT	BSP
Employer's contributions	**£000**	**£000**	**£000**
- Normal	8,223	5,565	32,361
- Deficit	(1,737)	737	(826)
- Augmentation (Strain costs)	255	70	950
Total	**6,741**	**6,372**	**32,485**

Due to the strong relationship between the Council and the Pension Fund, it is deemed necessary to declare Councillor Govindia’s interest as non-executive director of the London CIV. The Fund’s investments via the LCIV pool are disclosed in Note 17. Under LGPS regulations, the Fund is required to invest via an available regional pool where such exists and offers investments in line with the Fund’s investment strategy. As a result of the recent Fit for the Future consultation, further regulations are anticipated which would require LGPS funds to move all their investments to a regional pool.

Note 34 Key Management Personnel

Elected Members do not receive additional allowance for their role in the Pension Fund, although the Chair of Joint Pensions Committee is entitled to a Special Responsibility Allowance of £2,991pa (£2,918.20 in 2023/24) to cover the additional duties of the role per the agreed Members Allowances Scheme.

Local Pensions Board members are entitled to claim £200 attendance allowance per meeting, so may receive up to £600 per year.

Officers do not receive additional remuneration for their role in the Pension Fund. The charge made by Wandsworth Council for administering the Fund incudes the cost of officers, and is disclosed in Note 12.

Note 35 Contingent Liabilities and Contractual Commitments

Contractual Commitments

Outstanding capital commitments (investments) at 31 March 2025 were £115m ($149m), compared to £156m ($197m) at 31 March 2024. These commitments relate to outstanding call payments due on unquoted limited partnership funds held in the infrastructure and private debt parts of the portfolio. The amounts 'called' by these funds are irregular in size and timing starting from the date of each original commitment until the funds are fully subscribed.

Contingent Liabilities
Eight admitted body employers in the Wandsworth Pension Fund have a Council guarantee to guard against the possibility of being unable to meet their pension obligations. For one ceased employer, cessation costs have been allowed to be spread into the future, but a charge is held on property they own to mitigate the risk, which is currently minimal due to improved funding levels at the 2022 valuation. These guarantees are drawn in favour of the Pension Fund in the event of early termination of an admission agreement and payment will only be triggered in the event of employer default. No such defaults have occurred in 2024/25 or 2023/24.

Contingent Assets
The Fund is party to a class action complaint against BHP Billiton Ltd. (BHP) relating to financial losses suffered from holding BHP stock where BHP made intentionally false representations thereby failing in their duty to notify the market of significant information. The potential recovery is estimated at around $263k to $759k by Grant & Eisenhofer who are representing the applicants.

Note 36 Accounting Standards Issued but Not Adopted

The CIPFA Bulletin 19 Closure of the 2024/25 Financial Statements introduces changes in Accounting Policies which need to be disclosed in the 2024/25 financial statements per the 2024/25 Code. The Fund is required to disclose information relating to the expected impact of the accounting changes on the financial statements next year.

The following standards are issued but no adopted and are not expected to directly impact the Fund accounts due to the nature of the Fund or its investments:

a) IAS 21 The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rate (Lack of Exchangeability) issued in August 2023. The amendments to IAS 21 clarify how an entity should assess whether a currency is exchangeable and how it should determine a spot exchange rate when exchangeability is lacking, as well as require the disclosure of information that enables users of financial statements to understand the impact of a currency not being exchangeable. While the Fund invests globally, this is via pooled investments and the Fund is only directly exposed to US dollar exchange rate (see Note 20) which is freely exchangeable and therefore this will have no direct impact on the Fund.

b) IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts issued in May 2017. IFRS 17 replaces IFRS 4 and sets out principles for recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of insurance contracts. The Fund does not write insurance contracts. The Fund's investments with Legal and General are via insurance contracts which are carried at fair value and therefore should not be impacted.

c) The changes to the measurement of non-investment assets within the 2025/26 Code include adaptations and interpretations of IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment and IAS 38 Intangible Assets. These include setting out three revaluation processes for operational property, plant and equipment, requiring indexation for tangible non-investment assets and a requirement to value intangible assets using the historical cost approach. The Pension Fund only holds investment assets (including property) indirectly via pooled funds and cash and therefore the Fund should not be impacted.

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members of Wandsworth Pension Fund

To follow

Glossary

AAA FITCH RATING

Highest credit quality - 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

AA FITCH RATING

Very high credit quality - 'AA' ratings denote a very low expectation of credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for timely payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

A FITCH RATING

High credit quality - 'A' ratings denote a low expectation of credit risk. The capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is considered strong. This capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions than is the case for higher ratings.

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 authority in monetary terms. Assets are categorised as either current or non-current.

- A current asset will be consumed or cease to have material value within the next financial year (e.g. cash and stock).
- A non-current asset provides benefits to the authority 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 authority's financial affairs.

BALANCE SHEET

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

BORROWING

Using cash provided by another party to pay for expenditure, on the basis of an agreement to repay the cash at a future point, usually incurring additional interest charges over and above the original amount.

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 authority intends to carry out over a specific period of time.

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 authority 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.

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT

The account of the authority 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.

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 authority'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 authority'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.

CREDITOR

Amount owed by the authority 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.

DEBTOR

Amount owed to the authority 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 authority'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 authority's discretionary powers such as the Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996.

EQUITY

The authority'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.

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.

FAIR VALUE

The fair value of an asset is the price at which it could be exchanged in an arm's length transaction.

GOING CONCERN

The concept that the Statement of Accounts is prepared on the assumption that the authority 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 authority. These grants may be specific to a particular scheme or may support the revenue spend of the authority in general.

HOUSING BENEFIT

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

IMPAIRMENT

A reduction in the value of a fixed asset to below its recoverable amount, the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and its value in use.

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

Fixed assets belonging to the authority 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 Authority'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.

INVENTORY (STOCK)

Items of raw materials and stores an authority has procured and holds in expectation of future use. Examples are consumable stores, raw materials and products and services in intermediate stages of completion.

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.

LEASE LIABILITY

A financial obligation to make lease payments, recognized on the balance sheet under IFRS 16.

LIABILITY

A liability is where the authority 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.
- 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 authority 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.

LONG-TERM CONTRACT

A contract entered into for the design, manufacture or construction of a single substantial asset or the provision of a service (or a combination of assets or services which together constitute a single project), where the time taken to substantially complete the contract is such that the contract activity falls into more than one accounting period.

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 authority.

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 authority’s borrowings less cash and liquid resources.

NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NNDR)

The Non-Domestic Rate is a levy on businesses, based on a national rate in the pound set by Government and multiplied by the assessed rateable value of the premises they occupy. In England it is collected by the authority on behalf of itself, Government and major preceptors.

NON-OPERATIONAL ASSETS

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

OPERATIONAL ASSETS

Fixed assets held and occupied, used or consumed by the authority 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.

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 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.

RATEABLE VALUE

The annual assumed rental of a hereditament, which is used for NNDR purposes.

RELATED PARTIES

Related Parties are defined by IAS 24. For the Council's purposes related parties are deemed to include the authority's Members, the Chief Executive, its Directors and their close family and household members.

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Material transactions of nature or value between the authority and related parties are shown to ensure that stakeholders are aware when these transactions occur and implications of such.

REMUNERATION

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

RESERVES

The accumulation of surpluses, deficits and appropriations over past years. Reserves of a revenue nature are available and can be spent or earmarked at the discretion of the authority. Some capital reserves such as the fixed asset restatement account cannot be used to meet current expenditure.

RESIDUAL VALUE

The net realisable value of an asset at the end of its useful life.

RETIREMENT BENEFITS

All forms of consideration given by an employer in exchange for services rendered by employees that are payable after the completion of employment.

REVENUE EXPENDITURE

The day-to-day expenses of providing services.

REVENUE EXPENDITURE CAPITALISED UNDER STATUTE

Expenditure which ordinarily would be revenue but is statutorily defined as capital. Examples of REFCUS include grants of a capital nature to voluntary organisations and back pay expenditure capitalised under Secretary of State Direction.

RIGHT OF USE ASSET

An asset that represents a lessee's right to use a leased asset for the lease term, recognized on the balance sheet under IFRS 16

TRUST FUNDS

Funds administered by the authority for such purposes as prizes, charities, specific projects and on behalf of minors.

USEFUL ECONOMIC LIFE (UEL)

The period over which the authority will derive benefits from the use of a fixed asset.